



United Methodist  
Church of Summit



17 Kent Place Boulevard

Summit, NJ 07901

(908) 277-1700

[office@umcsummit.org](mailto:office@umcsummit.org)

[umcsummit.org](http://umcsummit.org)

[www.facebook.com/UnitedMethodistChurchofSummit](https://www.facebook.com/UnitedMethodistChurchofSummit)

Pastor: Rev. Laura Steele

Director of Music: JoAnne Teubner Prussak

**December 26th, 2021**  
**Hymn Sing**

*Welcome to the United Methodist Church of Summit! We invite you to join us on a journey of faith, worshiping and serving God.*

**PRELUDE** *Voluntary on "Noel"*

**GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PREPARATION OF HEARTS AND MINDS FOR WORSHIP**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP:** *(please rise as you are able)* Lou Steele

Leader: Shout to the Lord your praises!

**People: Sing to the Lord the joy of this day!**

Leader: For God's might and power have been established in the universe!

**People: God's transforming love beckons us. A Savior is born!**

Leader: Come, let us worship the God whose Light bursts forth into darkness!

**People: Let us praise the God of salvation and grace. AMEN.**

**\*CENTERING PRAYER:** *(in unison)*

God of hope and light, your good news has been emblazoned across the skies, the great starry night of Jesus' birth, sung by angels, celebrated by shepherds, witnessed by animals. You have given to us a new chance, a reminder of your continual love for us. Be with us in this worship, we pray. Guide our thoughts, our lives, our spirits. Heal and restore us. For we ask this in Jesus' Name. AMEN.

**\*OPENING HYMN:** *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing* UMH #240  
*(please remain standing as you are able)*

**CHILDREN'S MOMENT** Natalie Palacio, CYF Minister

**ANTHEM** *"Glory in the Highest"*  
Contemporary Ensemble

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE** Rev. Laura Steele

**SCRIPTURE:** Lou Steele

Old Testament: Isaiah 63:7-9 (NIV)

New Testament: Matthew 2:13-23 (NIV)

**HYMN SING** *(the congregation is invited to suggest favorite hymns for us to sing)*

**OFFERING**

**MUSIC FOR MEDITATION**

*Voluntary on "Let There Be Peace on Earth"*

**\*DOXOLOGY** *(please rise as you are able)*  
*"Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"* UMH #95

**\*CLOSING HYMN:** *(please rise as you are able)*  
*Angels We Have Heard on High*

UMH #238

**\*BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE** *Voluntary on "Joy to the World"*

***\* Please rise in body or spirit as you are able.  
Hearing Aid Receivers and Large Print Hymnals are available from our ushers.***

### **In Our Thoughts and Prayers**

Leroy, Joan D, Rick Picorale, Gregory Carter, Baby William Joseph Kenny and family for healing and strength, Jane McKinley, Kathy Whipps (Alison's mom), family of Dara Callender, Walter, Doug, Jonathan, Tina Marie, those struggling with mental health, Family Promise Team, Ken Green, Rosa Smith, Christine Zotti, Betty, Madison, all those suffering from the effects of COVID-19.

### **Schedule for Week of December 26th**

#### **Sunday, December 26th**

9:00am Instrumentalists (Sanctuary)  
9:30am *Chancel Choir – Resumes January 23*  
9:30am *Christian Drama Club – Resumes January 23*  
10:30am In-person/online Worship  
10:45am Sunday School (2nd floor)  
11:30am Coffee Hour (Social Hall)  
11:30am *Bell Choir – Resumes January 23*  
12:00pm *Singing Believers – Resumes January 23*  
12:15pm *Contemporary Ensemble – Resumes January 23*  
6:00pm *Youth Group – Resumes January 23*  
7:30-8:30pm Pilgrim Group (Basement)

#### **Monday, December 27th**

7:30-8:30pm Pilgrim Group (Basement)  
7:45-9:30pm GA (Chapel and Fellowship Room)

#### **Tuesday, December 29th:**

7:30-8:30pm Pilgrim Group (Basement)

#### **Wednesday, December 30th:**

7:30-8:30pm Pilgrim Group (Basement)  
7:30-9:30pm Toastmasters (Social Hall)

#### **Friday, December 31st: *Office is Closed***

7:30-8:30pm Pilgrim Group (Basement)

## Children, Youth and Family Ministries Update

Our Children, Families, and Youth Ministries programming has started once again. Each Sunday there is something for everyone! Under the direction of our new Children, Families, and Youth Minister; our new Sunday schedule for children and youth is as follows:

**9:30AM-10:15AM: Christian Drama Club for ages K-12th grade (Social Hall) – taking a break until January 23rd**

**10:30AM-10:45AM: Worship in the Sanctuary**

**10:45AM - 11:30AM: Sunday school for ages K-5th grade (2nd floor)**

**11:30AM: Coffee Hour**

\*Children are always welcome to stay in worship, Sunday school is optional for those families who wish to attend.

If you have any questions, please email our Children, Youth, and Families Minister Natalie Palacio at: [CYFMinister@umcsummit.org](mailto:CYFMinister@umcsummit.org)



### Masking in Worship

As of Monday, November 1st, 2021; the Administrative Council of SUMC voted the church should follow CDC recommendations for masking during Sunday morning worship based on the published COVID -19 transmission rate for Union County. For **low and moderate** transmission rates, the CDC recommends all unvaccinated persons wear masks while vaccinated persons may attend unmasked (if so desired) as the risk for infection is considered low. For **substantial and high** transmission rates, the CDC recommends ALL persons wear a mask regardless of vaccination status to mitigate the risk of infection.

As of December 1st, 2021; the transmission rate in Union County, and all of the surrounding counties of Essex, Morris, Middlesex, and Somerset; have all moved into the "High" or "Very High" category of transmission rate. As a result, we will continue to ask everyone to wear a mask during Sunday morning worship until the transmission rate drops back down to moderate or low.

## Join Our Music Ministries!



### **Chancel Choir: Resumes January 23**

Won't you come and join us as we sing joyful and meaningful songs to the Lord? It's a joy to work together and lift our voices in praise of our Maker. The Chancel Choir rehearsals continue at 9:30am each Sunday in the Sanctuary.

### **Wesley Singers: Resumes January 22**

Children and youth who would like to sing songs of faith please share your gifts of music on Saturday morning at 11:30am in our Sanctuary. We will make a joyful sound to the Lord.

### **Bell Choir: Resumes January 23**

Come and try ringing hand bells and hand chimes with your church friends. Rehearsals are Sundays at 11:45am in the Sanctuary.

### **Singing Believers: Resumes January 23**

We welcome all children 4 years old and up, to sing joyful songs of the church each Sunday at 12:00 noon in the Sanctuary. Please have a snack at coffee hour, then come back to church to share fun songs of faith.

### **Contemporary Ensemble: Resumes January 23**

Our Contemporary Ensemble shares music for Holy Communion each month. The Ensemble uses music from the contemporary hymnals "The Faith We Sing" and "Worship and Song". Rehearsals will be on Sundays and 12:15pm in the Sanctuary.



**New and Old Members Class**

**January 23rd and 30th at 9:30AM**

Are you interested in learning more about membership at UMC of Summit? Would you like to brush up on what it means to be United Methodist? Join Pastor Laura and others as we explore Wesleyan theology and what makes the United Methodist Church special.



Pastor Laura will be on leave December 27th, through January 5th. If you need pastoral care in the interim please contact Lay Leader Beverly Alexis.