



United Methodist
Church of Summit



17 Kent Place Boulevard
Summit, NJ 07901
(908) 277-1700

office@umcsummit.org

umcsummit.org

www.facebook.com/UnitedMethodistChurchofSummit

Pastor: Rev. Laura Steele
Director of Music: JoAnne Teubner Prussak

December 5th, 2021

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

PRELUDE

"God Is With Us"

J.S. Bach

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PREPARATION OF HEARTS AND MINDS FOR WORSHIP

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Shela Waldron, Faye Cunningham and Kim Goldman

Reader 1: On this second Sunday of Advent, we light the candle of PEACE. When he does what is good, PEACE covers Joseph like a steady rain. PEACE leads him step by step forward, using his presence as a gift and his heart as a guide to protect those entrusted to him and nourish the life of God in the world.

Light two blue candles

Reader 2: Let us pray: Faithful One, Give us PEACE as a steady companion on our journeys. May PEACE help us take one step at a time, day by day, hour by hour, forward into the future you create with us. May we notice you truly with us, here and now. Amen.

***CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Alison Johnson

(please rise as you are able)

Leader: Prepare the way of the Lord!

People: Blessed be the Holy One, who makes our paths straight.

Leader: Make way in the darkness, for the coming of God to live in our midst.

People: Blessed be the Holy one, who brings light into the deepest shadows.

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

Blessed is the Lord, and blessed are God's people to whom God sends a Savior, the Messiah, who is Christ the Lord. Blessed is our God, and blessed are God's gifts, that grace us with forgiveness and mercy. Lord, you have come to dwell within us. Build your temple within our hearts this day. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN:**

"Angels from the Realms of Glory"

UMH #220

(please remain standing as you are able)

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

CHOIR ANTHEM

"Soon and Very Soon"
Chancel Choir

A. Crouch

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Carol Conway

SCRIPTURE:

Alison Johnson

Old Testament: Malachi 3:1-4 (NIV)

New Testament: Matthew 1:18-23 (NIV)

***HYMN OF PREPARATION:** *(please rise as you are able)*

"Emmanuel, Emmanuel" (sung 2x)

UMH #204

MESSAGE: *God With Us: Moving from Obligation to Participation*
Rev. Laura Steele, Pastor

OFFERING

(please place your weekly offering and your 2022 pledge cards in the offering plates)

MUSIC FOR MEDITATION

"Draw Me Close"

***DOXOLOGY** *(please rise as you are able)*

"Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"

UMH #95

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

UMH p.13

***CLOSING HYMN:** *(please rise as you are able)*

"Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us" (vv. 1,2,4)

UMH #381

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

"Praise Ye the Lord of Hosts"

C. Saint Saens

** 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

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 COVID19.

Schedule for Week of December 5th

Sunday, December 5th

9:00am Instrumentalists (Sanctuary)
9:30am Chancel Choir (Sanctuary)
9:30am Christian Drama Club (Social Hall)
10:30am In-person/online Worship
10:45am Sunday School (2nd floor)
11:30am Coffee Hour (Social Hall)
11:30am Bell Choir (Sanctuary)
12:00pm Singing Believers (Sanctuary)
12:15pm Contemporary Ensemble (Sanctuary)
3:00pm Christmas Concert (Sanctuary)
6:00pm Youth Christmas Party
7:30-8:30pm Pilgrim Group (Basement)

Monday, December 6th

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

Tuesday, December 7th:

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

Wednesday, December 8th:

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

7:30-9:30pm Toastmasters (Social Hall)

Friday, December 10th:

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

Saturday, December 11th:

11:30am Wesley Singers (Sanctuary)

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Christmas Concert:

Sunday, December 5 at

Come hear the sounds of Sanctuary, featuring the as professional soloists.



3:00pm

the season in our beautiful choirs of the church as well



Youth Christmas Party:

Sunday, December 5 at 6:00pm

All youth grades 6th-12th are invited to join us for our 2021 Youth Christmas Party! This year, youth from Madison UMC will be joining us to celebrate the season! Wear your silliest Christmas sweater and get ready for a yummy hot chocolate bar! Food, fun, and games await!

**Caroling on the Point:
Sunday, December 12
After worship.**

Get into the holiday Methodist Church of traditional carols and church. Afterwards, chocolate, hot cider



spirit and join the United Summit in singing holiday favorites outside the warm-up with hot and cookies.



Summit UMC Christmas Mission and Outreach Project

Every person is made in the image of God. No life is beyond His reach. Founded in 1976, Prison Fellowship® exists to serve all those affected by crime and incarceration and to see lives and communities restored in and out of prison—one transformed life at a time. This year, UMC Summit will be participating in a Virtual Angel Tree Christmas Mission project. It is a special outreach program that is part of the Prison Fellowship ministry. At Christmas time, Angel Tree shares the love of Christ in a tangible way that can strengthen family bonds while delivering a personalized gift and the Gospel to a child on behalf of their incarcerated parent.

Visit our website www.umcsummit.org and click on the “Angel Tree” button. There you will find the link and code with all the directions as well. *(The code is S6I7F, it is the letter "I" after the 6, not the number "1".)*

Through Angel Tree, we can share the hope of Jesus with a hurting child in our area by sending a special Christmas gift and a personal message of love on behalf of their parent in prison. It starts with a gift, and leads to restored lives.

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)

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



Masking in Worship

As of Monday, November 1st, 2021; the Administrative Council of SUMC agreed 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:

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:

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:

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

Singing Believers:

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:

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.