



United Methodist Church of Summit



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Pastor: Rev. Laura Steele

Director of Music: JoAnne Teubner Prussak

Children, Youth, and Families Minister: Carrie-Lee Farnham

Facilities Manager: Geraldo Rivera

Office Manager: Kimberle Gray

Sexton: Fred Herse

December 29, 2024 “Slipper Sunday”

The United Methodist Church of Summit is a diverse church committed to serving the Lord Jesus Christ, dedicated to building disciples, passionate about growing in faith, and motivated to be a voice of hope for the world.

PRELUDE Variations on *Puer Natus in Bethlehem*
for Trumpet and Organ

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PREPARATION OF HEARTS AND MINDS FOR WORSHIP

***CALL TO WORSHIP:** Emily LaJeunesse
(*please rise as you are able*)

Leader: Praise the Lord, all the earth, from the highest heights to the deepest depths!

People: Let everything sing and shout praise to the Creator!

Leader: Praise the Lord, all the heavens and starry host!

People: All throughout the universe may praises to God abound!

Leader: Come, let us joyfully praise God!

People: Let us live out our praises in deeds of loving kindness. AMEN.

CENTERING PRAYER: Emily LaJeunesse

Loving God, may we be found and may we find a place called home this day. A place where faith holds us and grace renews us. A place where forgiveness longs for us to be who you want us to be. May we find a place called home where we are accepted as we are, where we are taken in and loved unconditionally, a place called home where we belong. May this be that place, O God, this community, this group of travelers and doubters, and companions on the way. May we make this a home to all who still yet seek a place of grace-filled sanctuary and gracious welcome. In Christ's name we pray these things, AMEN.

OPENING HYMN: UMH#237 *Sing We Now of Christmas*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Alison Johnson

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Beverly Alexis

SCRIPTURE READING:

Emily LaJeunesse

Old Testament: Psalm 148 (NRSV)

Praise for God's Universal Glory

Praise the Lord!

Praise the Lord from the heavens;

 praise him in the heights!

Praise him, all his angels;

 praise him, all his host!

Praise him, sun and moon;

 praise him, all you shining stars!

Praise him, you highest heavens

 and you waters above the heavens!

Let them praise the name of the Lord,

 for he commanded and they were created.

He established them forever and ever;

 he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.

Praise the Lord from the earth,

 you sea monsters and all deeps,

fire and hail, snow and frost,

 stormy wind fulfilling his command!

Mountains and all hills,

 fruit trees and all cedars!

Wild animals and all cattle,

 creeping things and flying birds!

Kings of the earth and all peoples,

 princes and all rulers of the earth!

Young men and women alike,

 old and young together!

Let them praise the name of the Lord,

 for his name alone is exalted;

 his glory is above earth and heaven.

He has raised up a horn for his people,

 praise for all his faithful,

 for the people of Israel who are close to him.

Praise the Lord!

New Testament: Luke 2:41-52 (NRSV)

The Boy Jesus in the Temple

Now every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents were unaware of this. Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him they were astonished, and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously looking for you." He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand what he said to them. Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was obedient to them, and his mother treasured all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years and in divine and human favor. *This is the Word of God, for the people of God;* **People: Thanks be to God.**

***HYMN OF PREPARATION:**

UMH #242 *Love Came Down at Christmas*

SERMON: *Slipper Sunday*

Alison Johnson

OFFERING: *(please place offering envelope in basket or text: "dollar amount you wish to give" to 908-224-7670)*

MUSIC FOR MEDITATION:

Voluntary on the Spiritual *Rise Up Shepherds*
William Teubner - trumpet

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

UMH #95 *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*

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

UMH#238 *Angels We Have Heard on High*

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE: Recessional on the Carol *Gloria*

**denotes please stand as you are able.*

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

The family and loved ones of Adrian Philips, Jane McKinley, United Methodists in Nigeria, The Family and Friends of Brock Button, Shonette Smith, Gerry Wells, Dick Duenkel, Jane McKinley, Mary Anne Viaud, Haylie, Carole Reed, Bob Zotti, Norma, recovering from a broken hip, the family and friends of Anthony J. "Tony" Gianonne, Sr., Judy Fish, all those affected by hurricanes and storms, our service men and women around the world.

This Week's Schedule

Sunday, December 29th:

- 10:30am-11:30am In-person/online Worship
- 11:30am-12:30pm Coffee Hour (Social Hall)
- 7:30pm-8:30pm Pilgrim Group (Fellowship Room)

Monday, December 30th:

- 7:45pm-9:30pm Gamblers Anonymous (Fellowship Room)

Tuesday, December 31st:

- 7:30pm-8:30pm Pilgrim Group (Fellowship Room)

OFFICE CLOSED JANUARY 1st

Thursday, January 2nd

- 7:00pm-8:00pm Christian Yoga (Social Hall)

Friday, January 3rd:

- 11:00am-12:00pm Christian Yoga (Chapel)
- 7:30pm-8:30pm Pilgrim Group (Fellowship Room)

Saturday, January 4th:

- 12:00pm-5:00pm New Providence Chess Club (Social Hall)
- 2:00pm-10:00pm Casa de Estudio de Torah (Fellowship Room)
- 2:30pm-3:30pm Liturgical Dance

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Advent/Christmas Winter Bible Study Wednesdays 7PM

Join us via Zoom on Wednesday evenings during the Advent and Christmas season as we explore “Words for the Beginning”. Sessions will take place: Dec. 4th, 11th, 18th and Jan. 8th, 15th. Please email pastor@umcsummit.org for the zoom info.



Please Note: the SUMC choirs and ensembles will be on break starting December 28th, and resuming on January 25th/26th. If you are interested in joining any of our Music Ministry program, please email Director of Music, JoAnne Teubner Prussak, at Office@UMCSummit.org.



CYF Ministries Update

Please note: There will be no Sunday School or Creative Christianity on December 29, 2024. Sunday School and Creative Christianity will resume on January 5, 2025. If you are interested in more information about our Children, Youth, and Family Ministries programming, please email CYF Minister, Carrie-Lee Farnham, at: CYFMinister@umcsummit.org.

YOGAFAITH

Yogafaith

Thursdays 7PM and Fridays 11AM

Please note: there will be no Yogafaith classes December 26th and 27th, classes resume January 2nd. All levels are welcome, no experience necessary. Suggested donation of \$10 per class. Email Pastor@umsummit.org for more info!

**"CAME TO BELIEVE"
WORSHIP SERVICE
For People in Recovery, Their
Friends and Family
First Sunday of the Month,
5:30pm**

The UMC of Summit realized that there is a need for a "safe space" for recovering individuals, their friends and families, and saw that our church could provide that

space by offering a worship service for all those people whose lives have been affected by alcoholism and addiction. Everyone is invited to attend the worship service created to speak to the needs of people in recovery as well as their families and friends. Please join us on the first Sunday of every month, in the UMC Chapel located on Deforest Avenue.

