



United Methodist
Church of Summit



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Pastor: Rev. Laura Steele

Director of Music: JoAnne Teubner Prussak

Children, Youth, Family Minister: Carrie-Lee Farnham

Office Manager: Kimberle Gray

Seminary Intern: Daniel Faniyan

Sexton: Fred Herse

July 20, 2025
Sixth Sunday of Pentecost
Christmas in July Celebration

*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: Carillon on *Come, All Ye Shepherds*
Moravian carol

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

PREPARATION OF HEARTS AND MINDS FOR WORSHIP

***CALL TO WORSHIP:** Alison Johnson

Leader: A weary world still rejoices!

People: Christ is born among us!

Leader: Even in the heat of summer,

People: God's love breaks through like morning light.

Leader: Come, let us worship the One who came to dwell among
us—

All: Emmanuel—God with us, yesterday, today, and always!

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

Gracious and loving God, in the warmth of summer, we
gather to remember the miracle of your love made flesh. You
show up not only in the chill of December, but in every
season of our lives. Let this day be filled with wonder, with
laughter, and with deep gratitude for the gift of Jesus Christ—
Emmanuel, God with us yesterday, today, and always. Shine
your light anew in our worship, so that we might leave this
place ready to carry Christmas into the world— not just in
December or July, but every day. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN:** *(please remain standing as you are able)*

UMH #234 O Come, All Ye Faithful

CHILDREN'S MOMENT: Carrie-Lee Farnham, CYF Minister

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Alison Johnson

SCRIPTURE READING:

Alison Johnson

Old Testament: Isaiah 9:2-7 (NRSV)

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders, and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Great will be his authority, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

New Testament: Luke 2:1-14 (NRSV)

The Birth of Jesus

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no place in the guest room.

The Shepherds and the Angels

Now in that same region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for see, I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a

child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!” *This is the Word of God, for the people of God, People: Thanks Be to God.*

***HYMN OF PREPARATION:** *(please rise as you are able)*
UMH #240 *Hark the Herald Angels Sing*

SERMON: *Christmas in July* Rev. Laura Steele

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

MUSIC FOR MEDITATION

Rise Up, Shepherd, and Follow
William Teubner – trumpet

***DOXOLOGY** *(please rise as you are able)*
UMH #94 *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*

***CLOSING HYMN:** *(please rise as you are able)*
UMH #246 *Joy to the World*

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE: *Recessional on the carol Joy to the World*

** Denotes please rise in body or spirit as you are able*

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

Kitty, recently diagnosed with ovarian cancer, Beverly Alexis, Emily LaJeunesse, Patricia Greene, the family, friends, and classmates of Dylan Faulkner, Christine Matthews, Janice Matthews, Charles Farnham who is hospitalized with heart & kidney issues, the family and friends of Summit firefighter Lonn Mullen



Please join us in the Social Hall after worship for Coffee Hour! We welcome all who have come this morning to worship, especially newcomers and visitors among us. Everyone is invited to come to Coffee Hour for refreshments and conversation immediately following the service in our Social Hall by exiting the front of the Sanctuary and proceeding to the door

through the breezeway. The restrooms are located in the back of the sanctuary. We ask everyone to silence their cell phones during the service and note that there are emergency exits in the rear and front right of the Sanctuary. May God bless us all as we gather for worship and fellowship together.

This Week's Schedule

Sunday, July 20th:

9:30am-10:00am	Instrumental Rehearsal
10:00am-10:20am	Summer Choir
10:30am-11:30am	In-person/online Worship
11:30am-12:30pm	Coffee Hour
2:00pm-12:00am	RAD Theatricals (Social Hall/stage)
7:30pm-8:30pm	Pilgrim Group (Fellowship Room)

Monday, July 21st:

9:00am-12:00am	RAD Theatricals (Social Hall/stage)
7:30pm-9:30pm	Ad Council meeting (Chapel)
7:45pm-9:30pm	Gamblers Anonymous (Fellowship Room)

Tuesday, July 22nd:

9:30am-11:15am	Baby Bandstand (Social Hall)
10:00am-3:30pm	Debbi's Dance
12:00pm-12:00am	RAD Theatricals (Social Hall/stage)
7:30pm-8:30pm	Pilgrim Group (Fellowship Room)

Wednesday, July 23rd:

9:00am-1:00pm	Debbi's Dance
9:00am-12:00am	RAD Theatricals (Social Hall/stage)

Thursday, July 24th:

9:00am-12:00am	RAD Theatricals (Social Hall/stage)
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Friday, July 25th:

9:30am-11:30am	Music Together (Social Hall)
11:00am-12:00pm	Yogafaith (Chapel)
3:00pm-12:00am	RAD Theatricals (Social Hall/stage)
7:30pm-8:30pm	Pilgrim Group (Fellowship Room)

Saturday, July 26th:

12:00pm-2:00pm	Instrumental Rehearsal
2:00pm-10:00pm	Casa de Estudio de Torah (Fellowship Room)
5:00pm-11:00pm	RAD Theatricals (Social Hall/stage)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW: "Come to the Table" Small Group, Sundays after Church

Starting this summer there will be an extra table set up during Coffee Hour for those who want to dig deeper into God's Word. We are calling this small group "Come to the Table" and you can grab some refreshments and join in

conversation and fellowship about the day's Scripture readings and sermon topics. This is a "self led" group. There is no sign-up or commitment to join this group, just COME TO THE TABLE! All are welcome.



ANNUAL BACK TOSCHOOL DRIVE UNTIL AUGUST 17TH

Each year, thousands of New Jersey children attend their first day of school without basic educational tools such as backpacks, notebooks, and calculators. These under-resourced children struggle to succeed academically. The UMC of Summit in partnership with Jersey Cares works with dozens of schools, children's shelters, and community centers with the goal that no children in New Jersey will have to experience a first day of school without these basic necessities. With your help we can bridge the gap between disadvantage and academic success. Items can be dropped off at the church office Monday-Friday from 9AM-1PM or dropped off in the bins in the sanctuary Sunday mornings before or after worship.

YOGAFAITH

YogafaitH is back with Friday classes, at 11am in the Chapel! All levels are welcome. Join us as we stretch our faith while we stretch our bodies! Suggested donation of \$10 per class.

CommUNITY Camp 2025

Join us for commUNITY Camp & After Camp 2025 at Central Presbyterian Church from July 21–25, 2025. commUNITY Camp is for Pre-K to 5th grade, running from 8:30 AM to 12:00 PM, and After Camp is for K–5th grade, running from 12:00 PM to 4:00 PM. The cost is \$75 with a family max of \$150 for the morning session, and \$75 for the afternoon session. Full and partial scholarships are available, just make sure to note your need on the registration form. Make sure to register now before spaces fill up. Youth and adults are welcome to volunteer. We hope to see you there.



Reminder: **Ad Council** will meet Monday, 7/21/25 at 7:30pm in the Chapel.

Sunday School on Break

During the summer, Sunday School will be taking a break, but that doesn't mean your family has to! While our regular classes are on pause, we'd love to see you in worship each week. Children are always welcome in the sanctuary. The summer is a great time to experience worship together as a family.



Sermon Notes

key verses:

prayers: