



Pinelands United Methodist Church

Making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world!

Church office: 5213 Pleasant Mills Road, Sweetwater, NJ 08037

Rev. Danny Clark, Pastor

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Christmas Eve ~ 11:00 pm

December 24, 2023

Theme: Advent

www.PinelandsUMC.org

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

❖ Call to Worship

Leader: Let's deck the halls for the Messiah,

People: An infant wrapped in simple clothes.

Leader: Like the angels and the shepherds worshiped

People: We celebrate our Savior.

Leader: Glory to God in the Highest!

People: Let's deck the halls for Christ!

❖ Gathering Hymn #234 "O Come all ye Faithful"

Opening Prayer

Holy One, we celebrate this night that you came into this world not with trumpets blazing or with any obvious power but as a baby in an ordinary place. You turned the world on its head that night, and you continue to turn the world today. Turn us towards justice, towards hope, towards peace, towards joy, and towards love. Turn us so that we can witness you in every moment of every day. Joy to the world! The Lord has come! Amen.



Candle Lighting

Throughout this season of expectant waiting God has offered us hope, peace, joy, and love.

Light three purple/blue candles and one pink candle

These things have invited each of us closer to the coming one, the Christ Child. This night we light this center candle for Christ-who changed and continues to change the world with hope, peace, joy, and love.

Light the center white candle

May we carry these gifts in our hearts and share them in the world.

Special Music

1st Scripture Reading

Isaiah 7:13-16

Isaiah 9:6-7

❖ Hymn of Preparation

#238 "Angels we have heard on High"

2nd Scripture Reading

Luke 2:1-20

Sermon

Deck the halls for Christ!

Christmas Prayer

❖ Hymn of Reflection #239 "Silent Night"

Personal Candle Lighting

Offering God's Tithes and Our Gifts

❖ Doxology #95

Holy Communion

Great Thanksgiving page 13

The Lord's Prayer #895

❖ Closing Hymn #247 "Joy to the World"

❖ Benediction



KEEP THEM IN PRAYER

Kathy Simpkins
 Barbara Kurowski
 Linda Hirst
 Linda Green
 Dave Dixon
 Marge Clifton
 Tom Rheault
 Anna Walker
 Denny & Joy O'Shaughnessy
 Jerry
 Sandra Allebach
 Brian Plasket
 Robin Green
 Paul Cowan
 Stephen Lister
 Ciara McCarthy Burke
 Kaitlin DeLucca (US Air Force)
 Tiernan James (US Coast Guard)
 Max Lister (US Army)

Frances Ernwood
 Wilma Brown
 Mary Jo Sheridan
 Sean Plasket
 McCartney Family
 Barbara Ford
 Margie Cochran
 David & Emily Elkin
 Denise
 Larry Acker
 Evelyn Roland
 John Allebach Sr
 Nicholas Cellini
 Deneen Wyld
 Melodee Ashby
 Courtney Warner
 Billy Cheatham (US Marines)
 Riley James (US Marines)
 Robert S.
 Little Jack



CHURCH NEWS

CHRISTMAS EVE 2023



MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR ADVENT EVENTS

- Dec 24 ~ Deck the Halls for Christ ~ *Christmas Eve Candlelight*
 - 11:00 pm ~ Nesco
- Dec 31 ~ Deck the Halls for a Promise Fulfilled ~ Batsto 9 / GB 10:30 am

GIFTS GIVEN - THANK YOU

46 Families = 113 Bags of Toys/Gifts
 113 Bags of Hope = Christmas Smiles
 Spreading Hope, Peace, Joy and Love



FISHING CLUB MEETS

The fishing club meets on January 3rd (the first Wednesday of every month) at the Bridel House. All are welcome to join; invite a friend to attend.

