



Pinelands United Methodist Church

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

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

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4th Sunday of Advent

December 24, 2023

Theme: Advent

www.PinelandsUMC.org

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

❖ Call to Worship

Leader: Let's deck the halls with the love of Emmanuel!

People: When we are fearful,

Leader: God is with us.

People: When we are discouraged,

Leader: God is with us!

People: Let's deck the halls with love!

❖ Gathering Hymn #216 "Low how a Rose is Blooming"

Opening Prayer

Holy One, we give you thanks that you are with us, in all situations and places helping us witness hope, providing us peace, offering us joy. Inspire us this day and every day to show others love through our words and actions. May we choose love, always. Amen.



Candle Lighting

The gifts of hope, peace, and joy have helped to sustain us on this Advent journey. They have reminded us of the one who walks with us and goes before us.

Light two purple/blue candles and one pink candle.

This day we light the candle of LOVE, as a reminder to choose love as we go through each day.

Light one purple/blue candle.

May the one who is love to inspire us to care for and extend the welcome of God's kingdom to all people.

1st Scripture Reading

Matthew 1:18-25

❖ Hymn of Preparation

#230 "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

2nd Scripture Reading

1 Corinthians 13: 1-13

Sermon

Deck the Halls With Love!

❖ Hymn of Reflection #228 "He is Born"

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

Offering God's Tithes and Our Gifts

❖ Doxology #95

❖ Offertory Prayer

❖ Closing Hymn #224 "What Child is This"

❖ Benediction

God bless you and not let you out of his sight.
 God keep and protect you by day and by night.
 Let love, understanding be yours evermore.
 God's grace be with you forever more.



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

DECEMBER 24, 2023



MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR ADVENT EVENTS

- Dec 24 ~ Deck the Halls with **LOVE** ~ *One Service* Batsto 10:00 am
- Dec 24 ~ Deck the Halls for Christ ~ *Christmas Eve Candlelight*
 - 5:00 pm ~ Batsto
 - 7:00 pm ~ Green Bank
 - 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.

