



ADVENT LESSONS & CAROLS

**The First United Methodist Church
103 Monmouth Road
Oakhurst, NJ 07755**

Oakhurst.umcchurches.org

<https://www.facebook.com/FUMCOakhurst/>

<https://www.youtube.com/c/FirstUnitedMethodistChurchofOakhurst>

CCLI #1588788

Sunday, December 7, 2025

5:00 pm

Director of Music: Denise Furda

Director of the Carillon Choir: Barbara MacPherson

Pastor: Rev. Jill Hubbard-Smith

Acolyte: Joy More

Prelude

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

arr. Tonioli

The Light of Christ Enters Our Midst

Carol

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

196 UMH

Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

The Bidding Prayer

Jill Hubbard-Smith

Children's Choral Anthem

“Good News!”

Williams & Barrett

The First Lesson

Genesis 3

Jeff Ragle

Carol

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

211 UMH

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lovely exile here
until the Son of God appear.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Wisdom from on high,
and order all things far and nigh;
to us the path of knowledge show
and cause us in her ways to go.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

The Second Lesson

Genesis 22

Ian Furda

Choral Anthem

“A Prayer for Advent”

Martin & Nolan

The Third Lesson

Isaiah 9

Alice Coleman

Carol

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

240 UMH

Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King;
peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!”

Joyful, all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies;
with th’angelic host proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”

Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!

Hail the Sun of Righteousness!

Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings.

Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.

Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”

The Fourth Lesson

Isaiah 11

Mike Sheckler

Children’s Choral Anthem

“Even the Animals Knew”

Furda

The Fifth Lesson

Luke 1

Nicole Tilton

Carillon Anthem

“In the Bleak Midwinter”

arr. Page

The Sixth Lesson

Luke 2

Randy Danielson

Praise Anthem

“Hope Was Born This Night”

McDonald & Frey

The Seventh Lesson

Luke 2

Robin Whitney

Carol

“Away in a Manger”

217 UMH

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask thee to stay
close by me forever, and love me, I pray;
bless all the dear children in thy tender care,
and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.

Choral Anthem

“On This Still and Silent Night”

Koerts

The Eighth Lesson

Matthew 2

Mary Bailey

Carol

“We Three Kings”

254 UMH

We three kings of Orient are; bearing gifts we traverse afar,
field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.

Refrain: O star of wonder, star of light,
star with royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding,
guide us to thy perfect light.

Glorious now behold him arise; King and God and sacrifice:

Alleluia, Alleluia, sounds through the earth and skies.

Refrain: O star of wonder, star of light,
star with royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding,
guide us to thy perfect light.

The Ninth Lesson

John 1

Meg Macan

Praise Anthem

“O Little Town (The Glory of Christmas)” Redman

Carol

“Joy to the World”

246 UMH

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King;
let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven, and nature sing.

He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love.

The Blessing

Jill Hubbard-Smith

The Light of Christ Leads Us Into the World

Carol

“Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus” 196 UMH

Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a King,
born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal spirit rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne.

Postlude

“Il Est Ne Le Divin Enfant” arr. Goemanne

Please note that this service is being recorded and viewed on social media.

Members of the Chancel Choir

Director of Music: Denise Furda

Barbara Gruezke

Leonard Gruezke

Barbara MacPherson

Sue McRae

John Montgomery

Joy More

Pam Puryear

Garry Smith

Cathy Stopyra

John Tocci

Members of the Carillon Choir

Director: Barbara MacPherson

Barbara Gruezke

Leonard Gruezke

Soon Hur

Joy More

Nicola Mulligan

Nancy O'Shea

Carol Steinat

Chip Stoll

Cindy Tanta-Nanta

John Tocci

Members of the Praise Team

Director: Denise Furda

Jack Coleman

Robert Crowther IV

David Furda

Mike Haider

Meg Macan

John Tocci

Members of the Children's Choir

Director: Denise Furda

Alexander Collins

Isla Collins

Adriana Figueiredo

Ian Furda

Alan Tilton

Dory Tilton

Eleanor Tilton

Evie Tilton

Kiera Tilton

THE HISTORY OF THE NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS SERVICE

In 1918, the then-new dean of King's Chapel,
34-year-old Eric Milner-White,
wanted to try something innovative
and beyond the standard liturgy of the Church of England.

So, he wove together scripture and song,
called on readers of various ages from school and town,
and made up this truly magical progression
that carries us from prophecy to fulfillment,
from Old Testament foretelling to a birthday celebration.
Wherever the service is heard and however it is adapted,
whether the music is provided by choir or congregation,
the pattern and strength of the service,
as Dean Milner-White pointed out,
derive from the lessons and not the music.

“The main theme is development of
the loving purposes of God...
seen ‘through the windows and words of the Bible’.”



All are invited to refreshments, hosted by the United Women in Faith, directly following the service.



December 14
9:30 a.m. Worship
5:00 p.m. Church Family Christmas Party

December 21
9:30 a.m. Worship
5:00 p.m. Blue Christmas

December 24
5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Family Service
11:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight & Communion Service

December 28
9:30 a.m. Worship
5:00 p.m. Free Community Spaghetti Dinner