

## THE POWER OF PRAYER

- Prayer for ministries of Pastor Earl Kim, Bishop John Schol, D.S. Manuel Sardinas, and Rev. Franck Aguilh.
- Pray for First UMC of Montclair and its leadership.
- Remember these names in your prayer: Rev. Dr. Michael Williams, Ricardo Coward, Nicole Peaks' mother, godparents James and Rochelle Stewart, her cousin April, Coco Kenny and her mother, Rob Lester's father Robert Lester, Gloria Foster's sister Hannah Wedderburn, Dan McGivern, and Langirene, Kennette, Keira, Christopher, Franckie Aguilh.

### Upcoming Small Group Meetings

- NOW Prayer Meeting: Saturday, December 21, 9:00am
- Irvington Feeding: Saturday, December 21, 10:30am

### Sunday School schedule

- Children's Church: Pre-K to 6th grade during service
- Bible study class for adults at 12:00pm

### Make a Gingerbread House with us today!

Children and youth are invited to the gingerbread house craft following the service today!

### Christmas Eve Candlelight Service: Tuesday, December 24, 7:30pm

Please come and share the joy of Christ's birth with us! Remember, Christmas is not just one of the holidays – it is the day we celebrate the coming of Jesus Christ within us.

**Many thanks to all who came and helped the Hanging of the Greens!**

## SHARING IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

- Today,  
December 15
- 10:00am: Sunday Worship.  
Rev. Earl Kim will deliver the message, "Joseph."  
Please join us for refreshments after the service.
- 11:30am: Gingerbread House Craft  
12:00pm: Advent Bible Study  
4:00pm: Confirmation Class at FUMC
- Saturday,  
December 21
- 9:00am: NOW Prayer Meeting  
10:30am: Irvington Feeding

## WORSHIP NEXT WEEK

### Worship Team

- Liturgist: Sarah Kezengwa
- Reader: Dr. Michael Stewart
- Children's Message: Avrille Nicholls
- Children's Church: Julian Espinal & Gaby Paredes
- Ushers: Joe Myers
- Acolyte: Araian Padilla
- Counters: Nicole Peaks & Jonnathan Paredes

### Readings

- Hebrew Bible Lesson: Isaiah 7:10-16
- Gospel Lesson: Luke 2:8-20

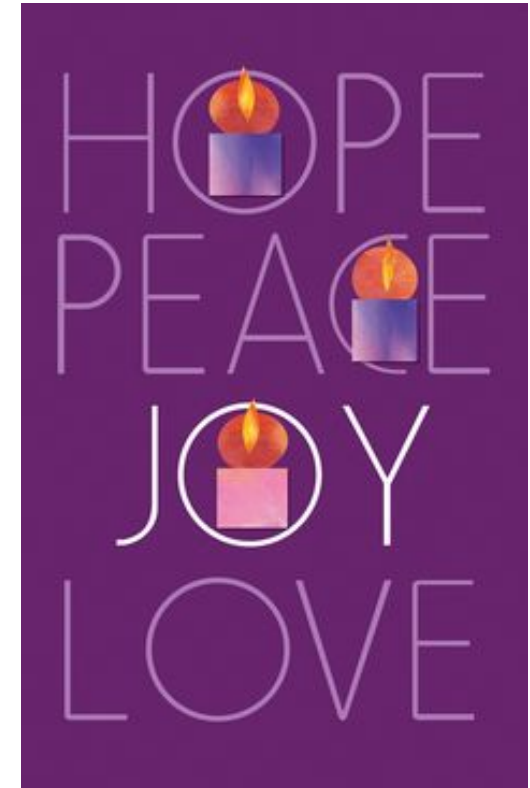


LOVE FIRST.  
SERVE FIRST.

## FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF MONTCLAIR & VERONA

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### December 15, 2019: Third Sunday of Advent

**OPEN HEARTS - OPEN MINDS - OPEN DOORS**

We belong to the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference  
of The United Methodist Church.

- Rev. John Schol, Bishop
- Rev. Manuel Sardinas, District Superintendent
- Rev. Earl Kim, Pastor
- Ken Rapp, Music Director
- Dr. Michael Stewart, Lay Leader

**CALLED TO PRAISE AND PRAY**

\*Prelude *Prelude on a French Carol* – Lani Smith

**Welcome and Announcements**

**\*Call to Worship**

Leader: We are always looking for evidence that God is with us.

**All: That sign is in the One to come—the One that God is sending.**

Leader: We want to know for sure that everything is in God’s care.

**All: And so we cry to the heavens in our distress. Our cries are heard! God is responding in love and hope.**

Leader: Let us come before God with expectant hearts and spirits!

**All: Let us be ready to receive the blessed gift of the Savior. Amen.**

\*Opening Hymn *Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates* UMH 213

Advent Candle Lighting Screen

Responsive Hymn *O Come, O Come Emmanuel* (v.5) UMH 211

**Opening Prayer**

Leader: Lord of all life and all seasons, help us open our hearts to hear the words of promise and love that you send to us. Like Joseph, may we trust in your abiding love and power. Prepare us to receive your gift of grace and peace. In Jesus’ Name, we pray. Amen.

**Prayer of Confession**

**All: O God, the stories of our faith have lost their power. We have heard the prophecies spoken so many times, the promises retold again and again, the call to prepare ourselves for your coming repeated so often, we don’t really hear or heed them anymore. Bring us back to a sense of mystery: a sense of awe, a sense of wonder, a**

**sense of excitement, a sense of anticipation, a sense that something special is about to break into our everyday world. Help us prepare our hearts, souls, and minds for the coming of the messiah. Amen.**

(Pausing for Silent Prayer and Confession...)

Pastor: God’s promises are sure—promises of steadfast love and forgiveness.

**All: God deals with God’s people with righteousness and justice. Let us rejoice and be glad!**

**Sharing Our Joys & Concerns**

**Pastoral Prayer & The Lord’s Prayer**

Christmas Pageant Children & Youth

Responsive Hymn *Angels We Have Heard on High*

(Children from PreK to Grade 6 are dismissed to the Children’s Room - please follow today’s teachers, Ms. Sarah Kezengwa & Mr. Chris Sterling.)

**CALLED TO THE WORD**

Hebrew Bible Lesson Isaiah 11:1-10 (p.640)

\*Gospel Lesson Matthew 1:18-2:15 (p.1)

Sermon “Joseph” Rev. Earl Kim

\*Passing the Peace of Christ

**CALLED TO SHARE**

Offertory *Jesu, Joy of Our Desiring* FUMC Ensemble

\*Doxology *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* UMH 95

\*Prayer of Dedication

**CALLED TO WITNESS IN THE WORLD**

\*Closing Hymn *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light* UMH 206

\*Sending Forth Rev. Earl Kim

\*Circle of Blessing *Shalom to You* UMH 666

\*Postlude *Praise the Lord Who Reigns Above* – Franklin Ritter

**Today’s Worship Team**

- Preacher: Rev. Earl Kim
- Music Director: Ken Rapp
- Liturgist: Dr. Michael Stewart
- Reader: Robert Kelly
- Children’s Church: Sarah Kezengwa & Christopher Sterling
- Acolyte: Jackson Kim
- Ushers: Vidal Guzman & Joe Myers
- Advent Candle Lighting: Janice Haines & Ellen Conover
- FUMC Ensemble: Jee Hei Park, Nicole Peaks, Ken Rapp

**Our Mission Statement**

As members of the First United Methodist Church of Montclair, our mission is to love, encourage, and equip each other to live as true disciples of Jesus Christ; and by inviting, embracing, nurturing, and empowering ALL others, to raise up new disciples of Jesus Christ.

**Office Hours** Church office is open from Tuesdays to Fridays 9am-2pm. Rev. Kim is in the office from Tuesday to Thursdays 9:30am-12:30pm, and available by phone or by appointment when he is not in the office.

**FUMC’s Facebook page** Find First United Methodist Church of Montclair on Facebook! Please “like” the page so that you can be updated with the church’s news and photos.

**Flowers for the Special Days** Birthdays, anniversaries – mark the special days in your life with a gift of flowers for the Altar.

**December Birthdays**

- |    |                  |    |                   |
|----|------------------|----|-------------------|
| 1  | Langirene Aguilh | 19 | Chika Nwafor      |
| 8  | Donna Foster     | 20 | Jonnathan Paredes |
| 13 | Marco Padilla    | 28 | Wycliff Kezengwa  |
| 15 | Clarence Pratt   | 29 | Dewey Storms      |
| 16 | Amaka Nwafor     | 31 | Celia Arseneault  |