

**First United Methodist Church of Toms River**  
**Sanctuary Worship ~ November 19, 2023 ~ 10:30am**

*Twenty Fifth Sunday After Pentecost*

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PRELUDE

*Give Thanks*

arr. Joel Raney

GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 100:1-5

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord

**Ministers: Thanks be to God!**

\*HYMN No. 694

*Come, Ye Thankful People, Come*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Mighty and gracious God, we give thanks for another day of life. Every day, we experience the miracle of the sunrise, your sustaining spirit and faithful Christian fellowship. Forgive us when we take those wonderful gifts for granted. Make us ever more ready for the arrival of your Son each day. Please save us from undue love of this world and allow us to count our blessings with joy, gratefulness, and praise. Please forgive us when we forget from where these gifts come. Thank you for sending us Jesus so that our lives and loves may be directed on your right path. We ask all this in the name of Jesus the Messiah, the giver of all blessings...**

SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

THE LORD'S PRAYER No. 895

\*RESPONSIVE READING (*Psalm 106:1-3*)

Pastor: "Praise the Lord! O give thanks to the Lord who is good;

**Ministers: Whose steadfast love endures forever!**

Pastor: Who can utter the mighty doings of the Lord,

**Ministers: Or show forth all God's praise?**

Pastor: Blessed are they who observe justice; who do righteousness at all time!"

**Ministers: May the God of Thanksgiving be praised in the heavens and the earth.**

**Amen!**

\*PRAISE RESPONSE

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end, Amen, Amen**

\*THE APOSTLES' CREED – No. 881

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

\*CONGREGATIONAL GREETING

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

PRAYER RESPONSE No. 473

*Lead Me, Lord*

**Lead me, Lord, lead me in thy righteousness; make thy way plain before my face.**

**For it is thou, Lord, thou, Lord only, that makest me dwell in safety. (2x)**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

*Thanksgiving Prayer*

arr. Gilbert Martin

PRESENTATION OF OUR TRUST, TITHES AND OFFERINGS

\*DOXOLOGY No. 95

\*HYMN No. 144

*This Is My Father's World*

MESSAGE

**Be the One**

Luke 17:11-19

\*HYMN No. 102

*Now Thank We All Our God*

~Please place your pledge card in the basket at the altar rail

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*Now Thank We All Our God*

arr. Virgil Fox

\*Indicates that those who are able, please stand





The Sisters in Christ invite  
the women of First Church  
to a Christmas luncheon  
to be held at the Clarion Hotel  
on Saturday, Dec. 2, 2023  
from 12 to 4 PM  
Cost is \$30.00.

Please RSVP to Kathy Newsome or to the  
Sisters in Christ mailbox by Nov. 26.  
Payment *must* be made at time of reservation.

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Please choose one:

- Chicken Corden Bleu
- Sirloin with Burgundy mushroom sauce
- Baked Salmon with Dijon sauce



## Advent Study

**Because of Bethlehem...  
...love is born, hope is here!**

*Video & Book Study with Max Lucado*

Christmas begins what Easter celebrates. The child in the cradle becomes the King on the cross. Because of Bethlehem, we have a Savior in heaven.

These are the heart shaping promises of  
Christmas.

No one expected God to come the way he did. Yet the way he came was every bit as important as the coming itself. The manger IS the message!

Books \$7.00

Scholarships available

***November 29***

***December 6, 13, 20***

***10am & 6:45pm Sessions***

***\* \* \* \****

***Sign up & get your book  
at the Info Table***



CHRISTMAS  
POINSETTIAS  
For the Sanctuary & Family Life Center

I would like to donate \$\_\_\_\_\_ towards \_\_\_\_ Poinsettia plants at \$20 each.

*In Honor of:* \_\_\_\_\_

*In Memory of:* \_\_\_\_\_

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

Church Offering Envelope #: \_\_\_\_\_



I would like to make a donation of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to Building Fund...

*In Honor of:* \_\_\_\_\_

*In Memory of:* \_\_\_\_\_

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

Church Offering Envelope #: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please make checks payable to First United Methodist Church of Toms River. Place in the offering plate, mail or drop off at the church office no later than deadline of Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup>.*





## *Decorating for Advent*

*Hello Church Family,  
We will be decorating our Sanctuary and FLC for Advent on Saturday,  
December 2<sup>nd</sup> from  
9:00am - 11:30am. *Help is needed!*  
Many of you have helped in the past, thank you, and hope you can help  
again.*

*We need some younger help also as many of us can no longer climb the  
steps. All of the decorations are located above the Narthex.*

*Please contact me or let me know at the 10:30 service if you are able to  
help.*

*Thank you!  
Karen Traska  
[Kast91@gmail.com](mailto:Kast91@gmail.com) or 973-879-1042*