

ALLENTOWN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
First Sunday after Christmas Day
December 26, 2021
10:30 a.m.

A Fellowship of Believers in Jesus the Christ

* Indicates congregation standing in body or spirit.

Music As We Gather

Prayer

God of the Incarnation, even as we celebrate the Love that was born at Christmas, we know that your love continues to grow far beyond Christmas Day. Even as parents watch tenderly and proudly as their children grow into adulthood, you hold us in your compassionate embrace throughout our lives. Guide us into mature faith, O God, that we might be like Jesus in our love, in our humility and wisdom, and in every word and deed. Shape us, inspire us, challenge us, and bless us with the music to sing your praises. Amen.

Call to Worship

Leader: God's love has come to earth to dwell with us.

People: Sing for joy with the angels.

Leader: We are God's chosen people, loved and cherished.

People: Sing for joy with the angels.

Leader: The birth of Love has changed us forever.

People: Sing for joy with the angels.

Leader: Let us sing, praise, rejoice, and worship together.

*Hymn "Hark! the Herald Angels Sing" UMH #240

Prayer of Confession (*In Unison*)

God, you are the Parent of all creation. You know what it is to love your children passionately. And you

know how it feels when your children turn away. We, your children, love you passionately, but we have also turned away. Sometimes we act like spoiled brats. Sometimes we turn our back on you. Sometimes we pretend we don't need a parent anymore. God, forgive us. Feed us with the bread of heaven. Teach us with your wisdom. Tell us your stories. Dress us once more in the clothing of your love, that we may sing your praises in perfect harmony. Alleluia!

The Lord's Prayer #270

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil,
for thine is the kingdom, and the power
and the glory forever. Amen.

Psalter: Psalm 148 UMH #861

*The Gloria Patri #70

The First Lesson: 1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26

The Second Lesson: Colossians 3:12-17

Welcome

*Hymn "O Sing a Song of Bethlehem" UMH #179

*Gospel Lesson: Luke 2:41-52

This is my Bible. This is the Word of God. Lord, you said, that men, women, boys and girls cannot live by bread alone but every Word that comes out of the mouth of God. Lord, help me hide the Word of God in my heart that I may not sin against you. Lord, help me to study the Word of God so I can rightly divide the truth. Lord, thank you for your Word. Amen.

Message "My Father's House"

Rev. Dr. Jessica Davis

Invitation of Discipleship "Love Came Down at Christmas"
UMH #242

An Affirmation of Faith: The Apostles' Creed

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.

Prayers of People

After each petition: **Lord, Hear our prayer.**

Offering Prayer

God of miracles, when Jesus was born, angels, shepherds, sages, and even animals rejoiced and gave thanks. Today, we delight in our chance to join the Christmas party of gratitude. Thank you for naming us your beloved children. We offer you our hearts, our deeds, and our entire lives in thanksgiving for the gift of Christ Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Announcements

L: Let us give thanks to God for these opportunities for fellowship, service and witness.

P: Thanks be to God.

*Hymn "Go Tell It on the Mountain" UMH #251

*Benediction

L: You are God's chosen ones, holy and beloved.

P: So clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, patience, and love.

L: You have been called into the one body, where the peace of Christ is the ruler.

P: So be thankful, and join the song of the angles.

L: You live in the richness of Christ's word with wisdom and music all around.

P: So teach others the Way of Christ.

L: And whatever you do, in word, or in deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. Go in Christ's peace to serve God and your neighbor.

P: Amen.

Welcome to Allentown United Methodist Church. We are glad that you chose to worship with us. If this is your first visit, we hope the following information is helpful. Upstairs **restrooms** are located at the top of the side entrance stairs and to your left. Downstairs restrooms can be reached from the front entrance by going through our Fellowship Hall, through the double doors and turn to your right. A **chairlift** to the sanctuary is also available at the side entrance

PRAYER LIST: Joyce Benson, Linda & Judy Carben, Tom Carr, Marlene Clay, Michelle Ferner, Ron Gafgen, Bruce Gollnick, Judy Gollnick, Dorothy Hess, Betty Lanzillo, Donna Levitson, Shari Litwin, Mari Loeffler, Jack, Jill & Meredith Malloy, Linda Marsh, Judy Mock & family, Anela Myhal, John Orsag, Lee Paige, Paul Peifer, Bud Podlesney, David Poinsett, Barbara Reed, Rita Romeo, Liz Roof, Tara Silva, Deb Smetanka, Rick Smetanka, James Sturgis, Yana Tarjay, Fred Taylor, Marvin Thayer, Dorothy Tramontana, Helen Underwood, Joel Underwood, Cindy Von Rhine, Debbie Weaver, Henry Wikoff, Glenda Zimmerman, Caregivers, Our Church, Our Nation and Leaders, an unspoken request, renewal. Pray for peace in this world, our country and community. Pray for healthcare professionals.

PRAY for those serving in our Armed Forces: Philip Barnes, Ben Haigh Bavona, Brian Carpe, Justin Carpe, Abigail Chek, Joseph Chicowski, Jonathan Crawford, Nate Donney, Jeffrey Emanmi, Jonathan Mele, Tim Sorensen, Stan Wisniewski III.

THE WORSHIP HAS ENDED – LET OUR SERVICE NOW BEGIN

**The Abingdon Worship Annual 2021

PARISH NOTICES

Sunday School meets at 9:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. Sunday Prayer and Meditation is at 10:00 a.m.

Sunday Worship at 10:30 a.m. We meet in person or you can join us on Zoom.

Preparation for our worship begins prior to Sunday morning. The scriptures for January 2nd are:

Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14 Isaiah 60:1-6
Ephesians 3:1-12 Matthew 2:1-12

Movie Night: Join us on Saturday, January 8th at 7:00 p.m. to see the movie "Time Changer".

New Church App

Download the new Allentown UMC app at allentownumc.org. Remember to approve church notification so we can communicate with you.

The **Church Mouse Boutique** is open on Wednesdays and Saturdays from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The **Boutique closes on December 23rd and reopens on Wednesday, January 5, 2022.**

Giving: We thank everyone for giving so faithfully to the needs of the church during this difficult time. If you are unable to be here in worship, you can mail your checks to the church.

Miracles Everywhere Campaign Pledges: Thank you for your giving this year. You still have an opportunity to complete your pledge for 2021. Be sure to identify the donation is for Miracles Everywhere.

ZOOM INFORMATION

Join us by Zoom for Wednesday evening Bible Study at 7:30 p.m. Our Sunday Worship Service is also available by Zoom.

Join by Computer:

<https://zoom.us/j/369017132>

Meeting ID: 369 017 132

Join by Telephone:

1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

1 253 215 8782 US

1 301 715 8592 US

1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 369 017 132

COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS

Free Dinner

Every Tuesday, 5:00 – 6:30 p.m.

At Holy Apostles' Episcopal Church

Every Tuesday you are invited to come to the church for a free dinner to take home.

No questions asked. All are welcome.

Allentown Food Pantry

at Allentown Presbyterian Church

Hours: Monday and Wednesday

10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Monmouth County Career Services

Now Hiring: Delicious Orchards is hiring for an overnight Baker/Oven Operator. Full-Time Job. How to apply: send a resume to jpalumbo@deliviousorchardsno.com.

Amazing Career: Math Instructor Brookdale Community College's Adult Basic Education GED preparation program. Looking for an experienced part-time Math Instructor for Tuesday and Thursday evening classes remote-live, via Zoom. To apply send an email with resume to Lori Krane, Program Manager: lkrane@brookdaleecc.edu.

Amazing Career: Executive Assistant, Stavola Management Co., Inc. Full-time position located in Tinton Falls, NJ. Apply on-time at www.stavola.com of email Dbeauregard@stavola.com

Our Purpose and Missional Statement

The Allentown United Methodist Church is a fellowship of Christians who gather to worship God and proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. The Holy Spirit calls us to care for each other, serve our neighbors and tell the good news of salvation through our worship, teaching, and example. We strive to bring the gospel and the love of Jesus to everyone we can in our community and in the world by sharing our goods, our time, our talents, and our prayers.

Pastor, Rev. Dr. Jessica Davis
Music Director, Dr. David Leifer
Lay Leader, Linda Watson
Liturgist: Melinda Brown
Administrative Assistant, Karen Schmalbach

Church Address: 23 Church Street
Allentown, NJ 08501
Office Phone: (609) 259-7392
Church email: allentownumc@gmail.com

Office Hours
Monday – Thursday, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
By Appointment

Web Page: [www. Allentownumc.org](http://www.Allentownumc.org)
Visit us on Facebook at:
Allentown United Methodist Church

SONG SHEET

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

Hark! the herald angels sing,
 "Glory to the new-born 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!"

Refrain:

**Hark! the herald angels sing,
 "Glory to the new-born King!"**

Christ, by highest heaven adored;
 Christ, the everlasting Lord;
late in time behold him come,
 off-spring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the God-head see;
 hail th' incarnate Deity,
pleased with us in flesh to dwell,
 Jesus, our Emmanuel.

Refrain

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.

Refrain

Words: Charles Wesley, 1734
Music: Felix Mendelssohn, 1840

O Sing a Song of Bethlehem

O sing a song of Bethlehem,
 of shepherds watching there,
and of the news that came to them
 from the angels in the air.
The light that shone on Bethlehem
 fills all the world today;
Of Jesus' birth and peace on earth
 the angels sing always.

O sing a song of Nazareth,
 of sunny days of joy;
O sing of fragrant flowers' breath,
 and of the sinless Boy.
For now the flowers of Nazareth
 in every heart may grow;
now spreads the fame of his dear name
 on all the winds that blow.

O sing a song of Calvary,
 its glory and dismay,
of him who hung upon the tree,
 and took our sins away.
For he who died on Calvary
 is risen from the grave,
and Christ, our Lord, by heaven adored,
 is mighty now to save.

Words: Louis F. Benson, 1889
Music: English melody

Love Came Down at Christmas

Love came down at Christmas,
Love all lovely, Love divine;
Love was born at Christmas;
star and angels gave the sign.

Love shall be our token;
Love be yours and love be mine;
Love to God and all men,
Love for plea and gift and sign.

Words: Christina G. Rossetti, 2885
Music: Trad. Irish melody

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

Refrain:
**Go, tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and everywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain,
that Jesus Christ is born.**

While shepherds kept their watching
o'er silent flocks by night,
behold throughout the heavens
there shown a holy light.

Refrain

The shepherds feared and trembled,
when lo! above the earth,
rang out the angel chorus
that hailed the Savior's birth.

Refrain

Down in a lowly manger
the humble Christ was born,
and God sent us salvation
that blessed Christmas morn.

Refrain

Words: John W. Work, Jr., 1907
Music: Afro-American spiritual

