

**December 7, 2025**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent**

**Welcome! We are glad you came to worship with us today!  
It is our prayer that you will be richly blessed as we worship.**

**†Denotes please stand as you are able in praise to God.**

**Pastoral Greeting:**

**Call to Worship:**

**L:** This day is a day of preparation.

**P:** Open our hearts, O Lord, and make us ready to receive you.

**L:** Repentance, changing our attitudes, our lives, is the beginning of our preparation.

**P:** Lord, give us courage and confidence.

**L:** God will fill us with joy and peace as we become witnesses to God's love.

**P:** Lord, help us to be faithful servants all of our days. AMEN.

**The Lighting of the Advent Candle:**

**†Opening Hymn:**

**"Blessed Be the Name of the Lord"**

**TFWS #2034**

**Call to Prayer of Confession:**

**L:** Yet in mercy, God will forgive us and renew us.

**All:** Lord of mercy and peace, open our hearts to receive your words of hope. We live far too much in darkness and fear. We have let the fears invade the very center of our lives and find ourselves changing, moving from your light to the darkness of despair. It seems that this world and its people are more pleased to fight and destroy than they are to have peace and harmony. We become part of that crowd when we wallow in anger, resentment, apathy, and greed. Forgive us, patient and merciful God. Help us be people who will look at the ways in which we have blocked your presence; ways in which we have truly failed to be your people. Give us courage and strength to change our lives, that your peace may become a reality in this world, right now, this day. For we offer this prayer in the name of Jesus. AMEN.

**Words of Assurance:**

**†Affirmation of Faith:**

**"The Apostles Creed"**

**UMH #881**

**†Gloria Patri:**

**UMH #70**

**Passing the Peace of Christ:**

**L:** Wherever you have been, you are welcome here!

**P:** We are glad to be here, gathered in the glorious name of God!

**L:** Here and everywhere, may the peace of Christ be with you.

**P:** And also with you.

**Prayer for Illumination:**

**All:** Your word, Holy God, was written for our instruction. By your Holy Spirit open our ears and fill us with the mysteries of your ancient love through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

**Hebrew Testament:**

**Psalms 72:1-14**

**UMH #795**

**† New Testament Scripture:** Matthew 3:1-12

**Pew Bible Pg. 682**

**Hymn of Preparation:**

**"Jesus, Name above All Names" x2**

**TFWS #2071**

**Message:**

**Jay W. Brown, CLM, OSL**

**Special Music:**

**Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer:**

**(see bulletin)**

**Offering of Our Tithes and Gifts:**

**\*The Doxology:**

**"Praise God....."**

**UMH #95**

**Holy Communion:**

**†Closing Hymn:**

**"He Who Began a Good Work in You"**

**TFWS #2163**

**Benediction and Sending Forth:**

**Sending Forth:**

**"Make Me A Servant"**

**TFWS #2176**



**Church Announcements!!!!**

**Weekly Church Services:**

***Sunday School: 9:00 a.m.***

***Sunday Morning Worship: 10:00 a.m.***

***Weekly Bible Study: Tuesday's 6:30 p.m.***

***at St. John's UMC, West Berlin***

**Church Staff:**

**Ministers: All Members of the Congregation**

**Asst. to the Ministers: Jay W. Brown, CLM, OSL-Pastor  
(609)238-6916(C)**

**Lay Leader & Secretary: Lettie-Jane White (856) 768-3416**

**Administrative Chairperson: Jack L. Turner, Jr.**

**Administrative Chairperson: (Emeritus) Roberta Suloff**

**Trustees Chairperson: Robert White**

**Please invite family and friends to view or follow our  
Sunday Worship at 10:00 a.m. on Zoom.**

**This is the Zoom Meeting ID and Password:**

**Meeting ID: 84694237019**

**Passcode: church**

**You can also join the Zoom Meeting using the below:**

***Wesley United Methodist Church***

**159 Bate Ave. West Berlin, NJ 08091**

**Church phone - -856-767-9269**

**Email: [wesleyumc2020@gmail.com](mailto:wesleyumc2020@gmail.com)**

**Website: [wesleyumcwestberlin.org](http://wesleyumcwestberlin.org)**



***“The United Methodist Church forms disciples of Jesus Christ who, empowered by the Holy Spirit, love boldly, serve joyfully, and lead courageously in local communities and worldwide connections.”***

**The Lighting of the Advent Candle:**  
**The Candle of Readiness: Prepare!**

**Reader 1:**

From the foundation of Jesse, from the stump, there shall come a new shoot! God's spirit shall rest upon him.

**Reader 2:**

He shall find delight in all of God's creation! Peace shall reign, old enmities shall cease! For on that day we will celebrate God's love with one another. Today we light two candles. The first is the candle of Patience, reminding us to watch and wait for what God is about to do. [*Light the first candle*]

**Reader 1:**

The second candle is the candle of Readiness, enabling us to look at our lives, to get rid of all those things that keep us from God, to change our ways and live as God would have us live. [*The second candle is lighted*]

**Reader 2:**

Come, see the lights. Let their brightness fill you. Come, feel the warmth of the lights. Let them give you comfort. Come, draw near to the lights, for God is breaking through to you. Come, rejoice in the lights, God is with us!

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