

December 14, 2025

3<sup>rd</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: Be patient! Wait and Watch for the Lord is drawing near to us.

P: We have gathered here this day to hear the good news and to gather strength for the times to come.

L: Be at peace with one another.

P: Let love and wisdom prevail.

L: Open your hearts and souls to God's healing word.

P: Lord, touch our hearts. Teach us to patiently listen for your words of love. AMEN.

**The Lighting of the Advent Candle:**  
**The Candle of Faith: Behold and Believe!**

**†Opening Hymn:**

“O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

UMH #57

**Call to Prayer of Confession:**

L: Let the desert rejoice, and let the dry land be glad, for God has come to save us.

Let us confess our sin.

All: Patient Lord, forgive our lack of faith in your loving power. We look around us and all that we see is what we don't have. We fail to notice the daily blessings you lavish upon us. Clear our blindness to the needs of others. Strengthen us and move us from lame excuses for not serving you. Help us to truly listen to one another, not with our pat answers ready, but with loving and generous hearts. Heal us and make us ready to truly be your disciples. In Jesus' Name, we pray. AMEN.

**Words of Assurance:**

**†Affirmation of Faith:** “The Apostles Creed” UMH #881

**†Gloria Patri:** UMH #70

**Passing the Peace of Christ:**

**Prayer for Illumination:**

All: Lord God, in this dry and dusty place, pour out the power of your Spirit so that your Word may blossom in our lives, through Jesus Christ, our way in the wilderness. Amen.

**Hebrew Testament:** Psalm 146:5-10 UMH #858

**† New Testament Scripture:** Matthew 11:2-12 Pew Bible Pg. 688

**Hymn of Preparation:** “Give Thanks” TFWS #2036

**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

**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 Faith: Behold and Believe!**

**Reader 1:**

Blessing upon blessing has been showered upon us by God. The lame shall walk; the blind shall see; the deaf shall hear. There will be peace and hope in God's land.

**Reader 2:**

Be of good courage. Behold! God is blessing and redeeming us! Today we light three 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:**

The third candle is the candle of Faith, through which we behold the love and mercy of God and believe in God's presence with us.  
[*The 3rd candle is lighted*]

**Reader 1:**

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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