

WORSHIP CELEBRATION
DECEMBER 10, 2017
10:15 A.M.



Morrystown United Church
Christ Centered † Spirit Led

*The mission of our church is to engage all people in knowing,
loving, and serving God to transform lives, communities, and the world.*

WORSHIP CELEBRATION

December 10, 2017

Second Sunday of Advent

10:15 a.m.

† Identifies time to stand, as you are able.

PRELUDE

He Shall Feed His Flock

G. F. Handel
Jennifer Yang

† INTROIT

Savior of the Nations, Come
Savior of the nations, come; Virgin's Son, here make thy home!
Marvel now, O heaven and earth, that the Lord chose such a birth.

Sarah A Michal

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Dr. Brandon Cho

Leader: There is a song in the air! There is a star in the sky! Prepare the way of the Lord!

People: A song of peace is a baby's lullaby! A song of peace that we have heard!

Leader: There is a world full of hope! There is a joy to come! There is a promise for the world!

People: The time has come for peace to reign! There is a star in the sky that shines!

Leader: Shine the light! Shine bright! The King of Glory will come!

People: Prepare the way! Let the whole world say, "Come and rejoice, for the God of hope and promise is coming!"

† OPENING HYMN

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

No. 216

† OPENING PRAYER (in unison)

Jack Tironi

O Lord, every good and perfect gift comes from you. You are the God of the heavenly light that calls us on this Advent journey, and you lead us to that place of new birth. Be our light today, that we may be your people, receive your light, and shine it forth into this world of darkness. In the light of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, today we lift our prayers and praise. Amen.

(Please be seated.)

CALL TO CONFESSION

Jack Scharf

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

Forgiving God, you are our light; in you there is no darkness at all. We have claimed fellowship in the light, and yet we still often walk in darkness. We have not heard your voice. We have not done your will. We have not lived by your truth. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience that we may walk in the light, as you are in the light. Help us to bear witness to your light, in our words and our actions, so that in our fellowship with one another, we may be your people of peace. In the name of Jesus, the light of the world. Amen.

SILENT REFLECTION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Leader: Hear the good news: In the name of Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace, you are forgiven!

People: In the name of Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace, you are forgiven! Thanks be to God.

LIGHTING OF THE SECOND ADVENT CANDLE

The Dinneny Family

One: Last Sunday we lit the first candle in our Advent Wreath, the Candle of Hope. We light it again as we remember that Christ, who was born in Bethlehem, will come again to fulfill all of God's promises to us.

(Light the Candle of Hope)

One: The second candle of Advent is the Candle of Peace. The prophet Isaiah called Christ "the Prince of Peace." Today, we light the Candle of Peace to remind us that Jesus is the Prince of Peace and that through him peace is found.

(Light the Candle of Peace)

One: Let us pray together as written. . .

Congregation: **Thank you God for the peace you give us. We ask that as we wait for all your promises to come true, and for Christ to come again, that you would remain present with us. Help us today and everyday to worship you, to hear your word, and to do your will by sharing your peace with each other. We ask it in the name of the one who was born in Bethlehem. Amen.**

SPECIAL MUSIC

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice!
Jubilation Ringers

arr. Kevin McChesney

CHILDREN'S STORYTIME

Jack Tironi

(Children, up to the age of 7, may gather in the Narthex as they go to Room 22 for Children's Time.)

TREE DECORATION

(We invite all the young people and adults to come forward with their ornaments.)

SHARING OF JOYS AND PRAYER NEEEDS

Dr. Cho

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

Jack Scharf

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, the power and the glory forever. Amen.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (in unison)

Hayoung Kang

Faithful God, as your word is proclaimed, we pray for purity of heart, mind, and action. Through the gift of your message, breathe your Spirit within our lives, in the name of the one who came to embody your word. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 40:1-5, 11

Hayoung Kang

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. **Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term**, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins.

A voice cries out: **"In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.** Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; **the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain.** Then the Lord of the Lord shall be revealed, **and all the people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken."**

"He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep."

Hebrew 1:1-3

Jack Tironi

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, **whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds.** He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, **and he sustains all things by his powerful word.**

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Carol of the Advent
Chancel Choir and Jubilation Ringers

arr. David Hurd

SERMON

“The Miracle of the Message”

Dr. Cho

† PASSING THE PEACE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Cho

- Friendship Pads
- The Christmas Cantata will be presented next Sunday, December 17, 2017.
- Poinsettias—Today is the last day to order!

HOLY COMMUNION

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OFFERING OF OUR TITHES AND GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

arr. L. H. Redner

† DOXOLOGY

No. 95

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

† PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION (in unison)

Jack Scharf

Thank you, God, for giving us your means of grace through your Son and our Savior, Jesus Christ. We are well-fed with your love and we are grateful. Out of our grateful hearts, we now dedicate our offerings for the work of your church. Use these gifts and our lives to proclaim your good news of glad tidings and great joy throughout this land and around the world. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

† CLOSING HYMN

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

No. 229

† BENEDICTION

Dr. Cho

† POSTLUDE

The Advent Chorale

arr. L. N. Porter

Please feel free to sit and enjoy the postlude, or leave the sanctuary to greet the pastor and other church friends at the door. All are welcome to join for a time of fellowship over refreshments in Fellowship Hall.



THE FLOWERS THAT GRACE THE CHANCEL are given by Lillian and Steve Mueller to the glory of God, and in loving memory of Steve’s mom, Elizabeth Mueller.

MUMC Church Staff

Senior Pastor	Rev. Dr. Brandon Cho
Associate Pastor	Pastor Charles Perez
Certified Lay Minister/Administrative Director	Jack Scharf
Director of Music Ministries	Sarah A Michal
Youth Ministry Coordinators	Maria & Vince Cattano
Organist	Jennifer Yang
Administrative Assistant/Spire Editor	Mona L. Lindemann
Manager, Property	Cesar Torres
Webmaster	Kevin Vance

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MORRISTOWN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

December 10, 2017

December 17, 2017

Third Sunday of Advent

Christmas Cantata

Selections from Handel's "Messiah"

December 24, 2017

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Acts 2:17

"The Real Meaning of Advent"

Jack Scharf preaching

Christmas Eve Services

5:00 p.m. Family Service

7:10 p.m. Pre-service Organ Music

7:30 p.m. Candlelight Service

"The Miracle of Jesus' Birth"

Pastor Brandon preaching

WELCOME EVERYONE! We welcome especially our first-time visitors and friends to our worship service. Please fill out your contact information on the friendship pad and we will be happy to send you more information about our church. We are glad to worship God with you today. Hope to see you again next Sunday.



NEXT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2017

Join us for THE CHRISTMAS CANTATA DURING WORSHIP.
Our Chancel Choir will present selections from Handel's Messiah.

POINSETTIAS. Today is your last chance to order a poinsettia to honor a loved one. Please plan to claim your ordered poinsettia after the 7:30 p.m. Christmas Eve service.

Attendance and Offering for December 3, 2017	
<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Offering</u>
156	\$3,975.00

This Week at MUMC



Sunday, December 10

9:00 a.m.	Adult Bible Study	Library
	Breakfast Club	Wesley Room
	Sunday School	
10:15 a.m.	Worship Service— Pastor Brandon preaching	
3:00 p.m.	Harmonium Concert	Sanctuary
3:30 p.m.	Nueva Esperanza	Wesley Room

Monday, December 11

7:30 p.m.	A.A.	Room 21
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Tuesday, December 12

6:15 p.m.	Board of Trustees	Cattano home
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Wednesday, December 13

4:00 p.m.	Esperanza Soccer	Gym
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Thursday, December 14

11:30 a.m.	Music at Noon Lunch	Fellowship Hall
12:15 p.m.	Music at Noon Concert Americana Jubliana	
7:30 p.m.	Chancel Choir	Choir Room

Friday, December 15

5:30 p.m.	Esperanza Soccer	Gym
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Saturday, December 16

8:30 a.m.	Emmaus Reunion	Asbury Room
2:00 p.m.	Nueva Esperanza Holiday Music	

Next Sunday, December 17

9:00 a.m.	Adult Bible Study	Library
	Breakfast Club	Wesley Room
	Sunday School	
10:15 a.m.	Worship Service— Christmas Cantata	
3:30 p.m.	Nueva Esperanza	Wesley Room

- **“LIFT UP YOUR HEARTS”** The broadcast of our services may be seen on Cable Channel 21 each Sunday at 3:00 p.m.
- **DVDs** are available for each worship service for \$5.00. Please call the office to place your order.
- **LARGE PRINT HYMNALS AND BULLETINS ARE AVAILABLE ON THE USHERS’ TABLE.**

- **Nueva Esperanza Worship and Ministry**
- **Stephen Ministry**
- **Church Leaders and Ministry Teams**
- **Our Sunday School and Youth Ministry**

Our Church Family and Friends

The family and friends of Sherise (Missy) Frantz, mourning her death
Erico family, mother of four battling terminal cancer
Bill Earls, hospitalized
Les Sutton, continued recovery
John Leding, strength and healing
William E. Hettrick, prostate cancer
Rob W., to find peace and God’s direction
Hilda, Deb Foster’s aunt, cancer
Susie Parker and her church family
Don, strength and healing
Judy M., colon cancer
Stephanie, successful stem cell transplant
Agnes, living with cancer, healing
Gary, loss of job
Tim Byrne, successful treatment of cancer
John Hyland, contined strength and healing
Kelly Buzalski, fighting cancer
Joan, in hospice care
Janice Harris, colon cancer
Stephanie, leukemia
Carolyn, cancer
Maggie, dialysis and chemo
Debbie’s mom, successful treatment of cancer
Lea O’Shea, Nancy Ruggerio’s daughter, recovery
Adam, successful treatment of colon cancer
James, recovery from stage 4 cancer
Jenny’s father, treatment for prostate cancer

Serving Our Country

Pfc. Abigail Crisp, NJ Army National Guard
Jordan Dale, U.S. Marines
Sgt. Randall Ferrara, NJ Army National Guard
Staff Sgt. Steve Lantz, Army Reserves, Middle East
Lt. Karen Kraft McAllister, U.S. Navy, San Diego

On-going Prayer

Sonya Burroughs	Bob Kennaday
Shannon Bain	Barbara & Jim MacHale
Lou Cattano	Micah
Beth & Bruce Courter	Rick Radis
Erika Davis	Ms. So
Neil Eriksen	Arden Sutton
Nancy Gardner	Emma Wyman
Jack & Johnna	Ken Zippler



POINSETTIAS

Members and friends of our congregation may honor a loved one by placing a poinsettia on the altar during the Christmas season. Today is the last day to order. Please fill out the form below and return it to the church office. The cost is \$10.00 per plant.

Name _____

Phone _____

Name of person(s):

(In honor of)

(In honor of)

(In honor of)

(In honor of)

(In memory of)

(In memory of)

(In memory of)

(In memory of)

_____ I wish the plant to be delivered to a shut-in.

_____ I will pick up the plant(s)

Enclosed is my check for \$_____.

Advent

*A Season of Hope
& Expectation*



December 10, 2017
Second Sunday of Advent
Decorating the Christmas Tree
“The Miracle of the Message”
Pastor Brandon preaching



December 17, 2017
Third Sunday of Advent
Christmas Cantata
Selections from “Messiah”



December 24, 2017
Fourth Sunday of Advent
“The Real Meaning of Advent”
Jack Scharf preaching

Christmas Eve Services



5:00 p.m.
Family Service



7:10 p.m.
Pre-Christmas Eve Organ Concert
Jennifer Yang, Organist



7:30 p.m.
Candlelight Service
“Make We Joy Now in This Fest”
“Hymn to the Virgin”
“In Dulci Jubilo”
Directed by Sarah A Michal
“The Miracle of Jesus’ Birth”
Pastor Brandon preaching