

# WORSHIP CELEBRATION

DECEMBER 24, 2017

**10:15 A.M.**





**Morristown 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 24, 2017

Fourth Sunday of Advent

10:15 a.m.

† Identifies time to stand, as you are able.

PRELUDE

*Christmas Medley*

Felix Mendelssohn  
Jennifer Yang

† INTROIT

*Creator of the Stars of Night*

Sarah A Michal

*Creator of the stars of night, thy people's everlasting light,  
O Christ, thou Savior of us all, we pray thee, hear us when we call.  
At the great name of Jesus now all knees must bend, all hearts must bow,  
And things celestial thee shall own, and things terrestrial, Lord alone. Amen.*

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Dr. Brandon Cho

Leader: O Lord, our Lord,

**People: How majestic is your name in all the earth.** Leader:

You have set your glory above the heavens,

**People: And from the lips of children ordained praise.**

Leader: O Lord, our Lord,

**People: How majestic is your name in all the earth.**

Leader: Come, Lord, come!

**People: Let us prepare ourselves for your arrival.**

† OPENING HYMN

*Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*

No. 196

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT

*The Torres Family*

Leader: Last Sunday we lit the Candle of Love. We light it and the Candles of Hope and Peace again as we remember that Jesus, born in Bethlehem, will come again to fulfill all of God's promises and and bring us everlasting peace and joy. (Lighting of the Candles of Hope, Peace, and Love)

Leader: Now today we light the Fourth Candle of Advent, the Candle of Joy. When the angel Gabriel told Mary that a special child would be born to her, she was filled with joy. She sang a song that began with the words: "My soul magnifies the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my

Savior.” From hope, peace, and love grows joy. We light the Candle of Joy to remind us that when Jesus is born in us, we have joy and that through him, there will be everlasting joy on earth. We joyously now await his coming again into our lives.

**People: Let us celebrate this day of Advent and the coming again of Jesus into our lives.**

† OPENING PRAYER (in unison)

*Kevin Vance*

**Creative Lord, breath of all life through whom all things are created and sustained, all sons and daughters, flocks and herds, all birds of the air and fish of the sea. You walked this earth as child and Creator. You touched the soil, quenched our thirst, embraced this world, brought life and light, love and laughter into dark and death-filled lives. Creative Lord, breath of all life through whom all things are created and sustained, we await your coming again into our lives.**

(Please be seated.)

CALL TO CONFESSION

*Kris Hansen*

**O God, as we await your coming again, we repent of our sinful ways. We acknowledge that we have not been the people you have created us to be. We have sinned both individually and collectively as your people. We know we must do better. Help us to turn away from our evil ways and follow you, who are our light and hope for the future. Amen.**

SILENT REFLECTION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

*Kris Hansen*

Leader: Hear the good news: Christ died for our sins and rose again that God may free us from the tyranny of judging others to live fully in the power of God’s grace. In the name of Jesus Christ, God forgives your sins and offers you a transformed future. Live fully into God’s grace. Amen. **People: In his grace, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

*The Star Carol*  
Chancel Choir

John Rutter

CHILDREN’S STORYTIME

*Dr. Cho*

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

A TIME OF COMMUNITY IN PRAYER

*Dr. Cho*

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD’S PRAYER

*Dr. Cho* **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.**

† HYMN

*Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence*

No. 626

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (in unison)

*Kevin Vance* **Guide us, O God, by your Word, and**

**Holy Spirit, that in your light we may see light, in your truth find freedom, and in your will discover peace; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Acts 2:17

*Kevin Vance* In the last days, God says, I will

pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, **your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams.**

Hebrews 1:2

But in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, **and through whom also he made the universe.**

The Word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

**The Real Meaning of Advent**

*Jack Scharf*

† PASSING THE PEACE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Dr. Cho*

- Christmas Eve Services—5:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.
- Music at Noon continues in January

INVITATION TO TITHES AND OFFERINGS

*Kris Hansen*

OFFERTORY

*Silent Night*

arr. Roy Brunner

† 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 DEDICATION (in unison)

*Kris Hansen*

**All things come from you, O God, and with gratitude we return to you what is yours. All that we are, and all that we have, is a trust from you. And so, in gratitude for all your gifts, we offer you ourselves, and all that we have, in union with Christ's offering for us. By your Holy Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

† HYMN

*Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates*

No. 213

† BENEDICTION

*Dr. Cho*

*Go forth in God's care, taking love wherever you go.*

*Go forth in God's name, taking Christ wherever you go.*

*Go forth in God's grace, remembering that Christ will come again.*

† POSTLUDE

*Joy to the World*

arr. Albin C. Whitworth

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 POINSETTIAS THAT GRACE THE CHANCEL** are given by members and friends of MUMC to the glory of God, and to celebrate loved ones.

**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 24, 2017**

**December 31, 2017**

**First Sunday after Christmas**

“Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow”

Pastor Brandon preaching

**January 7, 2017**

**First Sunday after the Epiphany**

**Baptism of the Lord**

“Remember Your Baptism and Be Grateful”

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.

# Christmas Eve SERVICES



**5:00 p.m.**  
**Family Service**



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



**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

9:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study      Library  
                 Breakfast Club      Wesley Room  
                 Sunday School  
10:15 a.m. Worship Service—Jack Scharf  
3:30 p.m. Nueva Esperanza      Wesley Room  
5:00 p.m. Family Service  
7:10 p.m. Pre-service organ music  
7:30 p.m. Candlelight Service

**Monday, December 25**



7:30 p.m. A.A.      Room 21

**Wednesday, December 26**

4:00 p.m. Esperanza Soccer      Gym

**Thursday, December 28**

**Friday, December 29**

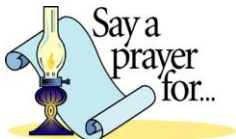
5:30 p.m. Esperanza Soccer      Gym

**Saturday, December 30**

8:30 a.m. Emmaus Reunion      Asbury Room

# This Week at MUMC

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**Sunday, December 24**

**Next Sunday, December 31**

10:15 a.m. Worship Service—Pastor Brandon 3:30 p.m. Nueva Esperanza

- **“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.**

<b>Attendance and Offering for December 17, 2017</b>	
<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Offering</u>
145	\$7,772.00

- **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 **Sherese (Missy) Frantz**, mourning her death  
**The family and friends of Bill Earls**, mourning his death  
**Les Sutton**, continued recovery  
**Erico family**, mother of four battling terminal cancer  
**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**

**Judy M.**, colon cancer      **Don**, strength and healing

**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