

WORSHIP CELEBRATION

DECEMBER 31, 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 31, 2017

First Sunday after Christmas

10:15 a.m.

† Identifies time to stand, as you are able.

PRELUDE

Day by Day

Ahnfelt, arr. Hayes
Julie Suh

† INTROIT

If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee
If thou but suffer God to guide thee, and hope in God through all thy ways,
God will give strength, whate'er betide thee, and bear thee through the evil days.
Who trusts in God's unchanging love builds on the rock that naught can move.

Sarah A Michal
No. 142

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Dr. Brandon Cho

Leader: Listen to God's word today.

People: May the words of Christ live richly within us.

Leader: Give thanks for God's good gifts.

People: We will sing hymns and songs of praise.

Leader: Rejoice and be glad in Christ, our Savior.

People: We will worship our Lord God in spirit and in truth.

† OPENING HYMN

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

No. 224

† OPENING PRAYER (in unison)

Jack Scharf

God of wisdom and grace, may your Spirit grow within us, that we may grow in wisdom and truth all the days of our lives. Teach us your ways, that we may walk the path of Christ and lead others into your light. Clothe us, gracious God, with compassion and kindness, with humility and gentleness, that others may see in us the truth of your love. Bind us together in love and unity, that our church may be a haven of blessing and a place of peace. Amen.

(Please be seated.)

CALL TO CONFESSION

Dr. Cho

You have chosen us for yourself, O God, and yet we choose other paths, other roads, other priorities. Guide us back to you. Forgive us, Gracious One: when we destroy harmony, when we wear anger like a cloak, when we weave discontent and malice into the fabric of our lives, when we withhold forgiveness from one another. Clothe us with your love and mercy, that we may live as your people. Dwell in us once more, that we may live as people of compassion, kindness, humility, and patience. Bind us together with your powerful love, that our love may be pure, and that our actions may reflect the peace of Christ calling us into unity and harmony. Amen.

SILENT REFLECTION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Leader: Be thankful in this good news: Christ has forgiven us. Christ is forgiving us. Christ will forgive us. In the name of Christ Jesus, we are forgiven and clothed in love!

People: In the name of Christ Jesus, we are forgiven and clothed in love! Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

A New Year Carol
Chancel Choir

Benjamin Britten

INFANT BAPTISM—Anthony Joseph Losardo, son of Allison and Anthony Losardo

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

We rejoice with you in your child's baptism today. We will continue to surround you with our prayers and love, so that Anthony may grow in his faith and service to others. We will pray for Anthony that he may be a true disciple of Jesus Christ who walks in the way that leads to life. Amen.

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.)

† HYMN

What Child Is This

No. 219

A TIME OF COMMUNITY IN PRAYER

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)

Jack Scharf

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 READINGS

Philippians 3:12-14

Jack Scharf

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, **because Christ Jesus has made me his own.** Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, **I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.**

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow

Dr. Cho

† PASSING THE PEACE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Cho

- Music at Noon continues in January
- New Adult Education Programs

INVITATION TO TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Dr. Cho

OFFERTORY

Higher Ground

Gabriel, arr. Smith

† 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)

Jack Scharf

Gracious God, thank you for these gifts and for the gift of your Son. As we offer you these gifts, we also offer you our very lives. Bless these gifts, that they may be signs of your redemption and your hope to all of your people. Bless our lives, that we may shine with your glory, and light up the world with your love. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

† HYMN

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

No. 240

† BENEDICTION

Dr. Cho

† POSTLUDE

Great is Thy Faithfulness

Runyan, arr. Burckart

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.

Today we welcome Julie Suh as our guest pianist.



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

Attendance and Offering for December 24, 2017

<u>Attendance</u>		<u>Offering</u>
10:15 a.m.	122	Total: \$17,241.10
3:30 p.m.	45	
5:00 p.m.	45	
7:00 p.m.	250	
<hr/>		
	462	

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

50 S. Park Place, Morristown, NJ 07960

973-538-2132

www.morristownumc.org;

E-mail—mumc@morristownumc.com

MORRISTOWN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
December 31, 2017

January 7, 2018

First Sunday after the Epiphany

Baptism of the Lord

“Remember Your Baptism and Be Grateful”

Mark 1:4-11

Pastor Brandon preaching

January 14, 2018

Second Sunday after Epiphany

“He is Calling You!”

John 1:43-51

Pastor Brandon preaching

A VERY SPECIAL NEW YEAR’S SERVICE TODAY. We welcome especially our first-time visitors and friends to our worship service. Begin your New Year with God in worship. Hope to see you again next Sunday.

Music At Noon concerts continue in January ...

Thursdays at 12:15 p.m.

Light luncheon available for purchase before concerts, 11:30-12:10

Lunch \$8/\$7 seniors; Concerts \$7/\$6 seniors suggested donation



January 4

Fun with Felix:

Organ Music by Felix Mendelssohn

Mark Loria, *organ*



January 11

An Afternoon with Rio

Rio Clemente, *jazz piano*



January 18

Chopin and Lizst

Joel Fan, *piano*



January 25

A Musical Heritage

Nancie Lederer, *violin*

Pauline Lederer, *piano*



Marnie Kaller, *cello*

Rick Kaller, *piano*

Join us!

This Week at MUMC

Sunday, December 31

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

Monday, January 1, 2018—Office closed



7:30 p.m. A.A. Room 21

Thursday, January 4

11:30 a.m. Music at Noon Lunch
12:15 p.m. Music at Noon Concert
“Fun with Felix”—Mark Loria

Saturday, January 6

8:30 a.m. Emmaus Reunion Asbury Room

Next Sunday, January 7

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.**



MUMC will again be participating with First Night Morris. Two talented artists will be performing in our sanctuary. Metropolitan Opera soprano Jennifer Check will appear in two segments: 7:00 p.m.—7:30 p.m. and 7:45 p.m.—8:15 p.m. Rio Clemente, a well-known jazz pianist, who is known as the “Bishop of Jazz” will entertain from 9:45 p.m.—10:39 p.m. and 10:45 p.m.—11:30 p.m. It’s a wonderful way to enjoy New Year’s Eve.



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

Janine, healing
Connor, good outcome
Les Sutton, continued recovery
Susan and family, answered prayer
Cathy’s father, healing
Christine and Marcus, healing
Lisa Y., healing and understanding
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
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