



MERRIMACPORT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Coming Home

ADVENT WORSHIP SERIES

ADVENT WEEK I:
COME DOWN HOME



DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRIES
The United Methodist Church

ANNOUNCEMENTS

JOIN US IN BIBLE STUDY CONVERSATION AND PRAYER TOGETHER

at 10 a.m. at the church on Wednesday,
December 6 and December 20. Our topic is
PETER LEARNING FROM THE LORD.

LUNCHEON

at Beryl Puddester - McKenna's home,
18 High Street following worship on December
17th All are invited!

CHURCH COUNCIL will meet following
Worship on December 10th.

SECOND SUNDAY COMMUNITY LUNCH

December 10 from 12 - 1 p.m.

All are welcome!

**Mission: U Mass Memorial Hospital Vascular
Surgery Dept.**

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN will meet
on Wednesday, December 27 at 6:30 p.m.

at the home of Joanna Sanferrare,
95 River Rd.

Mission Gift: Food items for Pettingill House.

A BIG "THANK YOU" to all who helped
decorate for Advent yesterday.

THANK YOU

TO THIS WEEK'S SUNDAY
SERVANTS:

Worship Leader: Nancy Hartmann

Liturgist: Yvonne Smith

Music: Leonard Bachelder

Audio/Visual: Terry Hanley

Indoor Greeter: Yvonne Smith

Leading and Serving:

As we prepare for our
Church Conference and new year,
it is time for us to elect our church
leadership and invite new folks to serve
in all of our church's ministries.
Please speak to Pastor Matt,
Nancy Hartmann (Church Council Chair),
or Bob Sanferrare (Lay Leader)
to discern how God might be calling you
to serve this year.

CHURCH CONFERENCE

**Thursday, December 14
7:00pm**

**This is our annual meeting with our
District Superintendent,
Rev. Jim Mcphee.
We will celebrate our ministries from
the past year and do some business to
prepare us for the year ahead.
All are welcome to attend.**

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL DURING WORSHIP

We invite all children to participate in
Sunday School following the Children's
Message each week during worship.

DECEMBER 3, 2017
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

* = Please stand as you are able
UMH = United Methodist Hymnal - Hardcover, red book
TFWS = The Faith We Sing - Softcover, black book

**Hearing Assistance
Devices are available
at the Entrance Table.**

WELCOME

Nancy Hartmann

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: "I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the Lord.'"

People: Welcome, preacher! Welcome, people! Welcome home!

Let us worship joyfully in God's house. Amen.

***SONG**

"O Come, O Come Emmanuel"

UMH # 211 vs. 1

BIRTHDAY PENNIES - All are invited to share a birthday or anniversary celebration with a small donation that goes to Heifer International, a mission organization working to eliminate world hunger.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

JOYS AND CONCERNS - We will lift up our prayer requests and respond to each prayer saying,
"Lord, hear our prayer."

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

UMH 894

Pastor Matt will lift up in a prayer, and the congregation will respond with the Lord's Prayer as found in the hymnal.

***SONG**

"Come Sinners to the Gospel Feast"

UMH # 616

SCRIPTURE LESSON

ISAIAH 64:1-9

Yvonne Smith

MESSAGE

"Come on Home"

PASTOR MATT

OFFERING - Through this collection, members of Merrimacport UMC support the life of our church and our ministries. If you are visiting with us we appreciate any gift that you feel moved to make, but please do not feel that you have to. Your presence with us this morning is your gift to us.

***RESPONSE OF PRAISE**

UMH #95

Please stand as the usher brings forward the offering and we sing together.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Magnificent God, you created the universe, and your wisdom shines through the laws of nature that we discern. In the incarnation of your Son Jesus Christ, you worked a miracle to bring salvation. Through your awesome deeds, you light an inextinguishable hope in our hearts. Help our congregation to work together in new ways to tell others your amazing good news. May our tithes and offerings support your work through our outreach ministries. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen. (Isaiah 64:1-9)

HOLY COMMUNION

***SONG**

"Shout to the Lord"

Video

***SENDING FORTH**

Go in peace, love, and power in the name of our God who tears open the heavens. Amen.

Restrooms are
located downstairs.

ISAIAH 64:1-9

64:1 O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence--

64:2 as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil-- to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence!

64:3 When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.

64:4 From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him.

64:5 You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed.

64:6 We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.

64:7 There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.

64:8 Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand.

64:9 Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

Prayers and Notes from Today:

Merrimacport United Methodist Church

www.merrimacportumc.org

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PO Box 214

39 High Street (Corner of River Road)

Merrimac, MA 01860

Pastor: Matt Willis-Goode

(978) 346-8989

pastormattwg@gmail.com

Secretary: Shirley Hartmann

Prayer Chain and Announcements – If you would like to add a prayer request to our Prayer Chain emails or would like to have an announcement added to the bulletin, please contact Shirley at shirleyinma6@aol.com.

Announcements need to be in by Thursday.

Organist: Leonard Bachelder