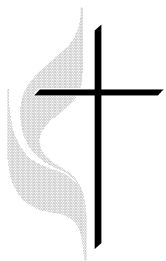


Mt. Pocono United Methodist Church

Traditional Service



*Second Sunday
After Christmas
January 3rd, 2021*

Mt. Pocono United Methodist Church

**You are invited to stand as we praise God.*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CENTERING MUSIC *The First Noel* UMH 245

1 The first Noel the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Refrain:

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,
born is the King of Israel.

2 They looked up and saw a star
shining in the east, beyond them far;
and to the earth it gave great light,
and so it continued both day and night. **(Refrain)**

3 And by the light of that same star
three Wise Men came from country far;
to seek for a king was their intent,
and to follow the star wherever it went. **[Refrain]**

4 This star drew nigh to the northwest,
o'er Bethlehem it took its rest;
and there it did both stop and stay,
right over the place where Jesus lay. **[Refrain]**

5 Then entered in those Wise Men three,
full reverently upon the knee,
and offered there, in his presence,
their gold and myrrh and frankincense. **[Refrain]**

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: Darkness is banished!

P: God's light has come to us!

L: The brightness of the Star leads us!

P: We come to celebrate God's abiding love!

L: Glory be to God in the Highest!

P: And on earth, peace forever. AMEN

***OPENING HYMN** *"Jesus Shall Reign"* UMH 157

1. Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
does its successive journeys run;
his kingdom spread from shore to shore,
till moons shall wax and wane no more.

2. To Jesus endless prayer be made,
and endless praises crown his head;
his name like sweet perfume shall rise
with every morning sacrifice.

3. People and realms of every tongue
dwell on his love with sweetest song;
and infant voices shall proclaim
their early blessings on his name.

4. Blessings abound where'er he reigns;
all prisoners leap and loose their chains;
the weary find eternal rest,
and all who suffer want are blest.

5. Let every creature rise and bring
honors peculiar to our King;
angels descend with songs again,
and earth repeat the loud amen!

***OPENING PRAYER (UNISON)**

Loving God, who breaks through the darkness of doubt and despair, be with us this day as we hear of the visit of the Wise Ones, who risked everything to follow a Star. Let us open our hearts and be willing to risk receiving the gift of gracious Love that you have to offer us in the form of our Savior, Jesus Christ. AMEN.

***RESPONSE TO PEACE:** *"All Hail King Jesus"* TFWS 2069

All hail King Jesus
All hail Emmanuel
King of kings
Lord of lords
Bright Morning Star
And throughout eternity
I'll sing your praises
And I'll reign with you
throughout eternity. (repeat)

Ending
And throughout eternity
I'll sing your praises
And I'll reign with you
throughout eternity.

OFFERTORY

***DOXOLOGY** *UMH 95*

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

***PRESENTATION OF GIFTS & OFFERTORY PRAYER (UNISON)** The magi paid homage to the child, offering gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. May we too bring the gifts of our lives and offer them in joy to Jesus Christ. In His name we pray. Amen

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 2: 1-12

*New Testament***MESSAGE**

What Gift Do You Bring?

Pastor

Bob

The Magi Visit the Messiah

2 After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem² and asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.”

³ When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. ⁴ When he had called together all the people’s chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵ “In Bethlehem in Judea,” they replied, “for this is what the prophet has written:

⁶ “But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.”

⁷ Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. ⁸ He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him.”

⁹ After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. ¹¹ On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. ¹² And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

RESPONSE(S) Lord in your mercy; hear our prayers, Lord for this joy, hear our praise

***CLOSING HYMN** *“We Are Singing”* *TFWS 2235*

We are marching for the Lord is our light,
we are marching for the Lord is our light.
We are marching for the Lord is our light,
we are marching for the Lord is, is our light.
We are marching, marching,
we are marching, marching,
we are marching for the Lord is our light.
We are marching for the Lord is our light,
we are marching for the Lord is our light.

We are singing for the Lord is our light,
we are singing for the Lord is our light.
We are singing for the Lord is our light,
we are singing for the Lord is, is our light.
We are singing, singing,
we are singing, singing,
we are singing for the Lord is our light.
We are singing for the Lord is our light,
we are singing for the Lord is our light.

We are dancing for the Lord is our light,
we are dancing for the Lord is our light.
We are dancing for the Lord is our light,
we are dancing for the Lord is, is our light.
We are dancing, dancing,
we are dancing, dancing,
we are dancing for the Lord is our light.
We are dancing for the Lord is our light,
we are dancing for the Lord is our light.

BENEDICTION**POSTLUDE**

Kurt Faussette

WISHING YOU A
BLESSED
NEW YEAR

"For I know the plans I have for you,'
declares the Lord,
'plans to prosper you and not to harm you,
plans to give you hope and a future.

JEREMIAH 29:11

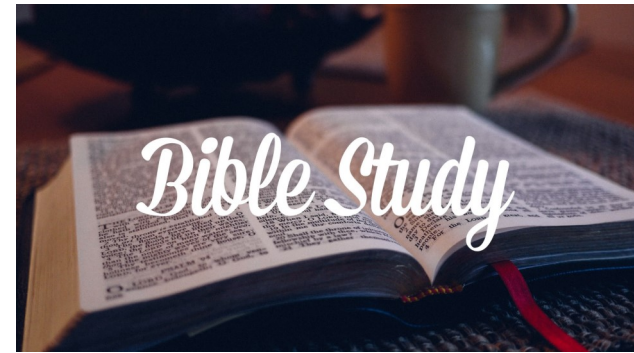
HAPPY
New Year

WORDSJUSTFORYOU.COM



THANK YOU!

We want to thank everyone who contributed and donated to this year's Angel Tree project. Many families with children who would not have had presents for Christmas have been blessed by our church. Gift cards and other donations have been a wonderful gift to all those in the local community who received these presents. Thank you so much for your support.



You are invited to join in a morning Bible Study led by
Catherine Morgan

Every Wednesday morning from 10 AM to Noon

In our Parlor, in person, socially distanced.

We will be reading Romans: Becoming New in Christ ,
by Jack Kuhatschek

If you would like to order a book please contact the
church office, 570-839-9902.

Beginning Wednesday January 13th for 6 weeks