



# Cheltenham United Methodist Church

THE LITTLE CHURCH WITH THE BIG HEART

Sunday, December 7, 2025.

10 am

# ADVENT

G R E A T   E X P E C T A T I O N S

**Worship with via Zoom**

**<https://bit.ly/CUMCSundayServices>**

**Via Facebook**

**[www.facebook.com/CheltenhamUMC](https://www.facebook.com/CheltenhamUMC)**

**To Call In:**

**Dial +1 (301) 715-8592**

**Meeting ID: 861 6676 4909#**

**Password: 001873**



**Scan it to access the church's webpage**

**Sunday, December 7, 2025  
(2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent)**

**GATHERING**

WELCOME

LIGHTNING OF THE CANDLES - SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

First Reader: Advent reminds us that we are people who share a story, the story of Jesus, who enacts peace by judging in favor of the poor and deciding with equity for the meek of the earth. We long for the day when “the wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion will feed together, and a little child shall lead them” (Isaiah 11:6).

**All: Today, we choose to live the story of peace, believing that true peace comes when we seek the flourishing of all God’s creation.**

Second Reader: We light this candle of peace as a sign of our commitment to bring Light to the places the world seeks to hide until that day when all creation lives together in harmony and abundance.

CONGREGATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREETING

In this season of promise and preparation, we come to be renewed.

**We come to hear stories of the One who transforms the world.**

We open our hearts to the hope and joy of new beginnings.

**We listen for words of challenge and grace.**

We come with open minds and trusting spirits.

**Come, let us worship the One who fulfills every holy promise.**

PRAYER

**God of hope, in this busy season, grant us space to pause and listen.**

**Prepare our hearts to receive love, our minds to trust your promise,  
and our spirits to rejoice in your coming.**

**Fill us with peace, joy, and courage as we worship and await new beginnings. Amen.**

+HYMN

“Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”

UMH 213

*Words: Georg Weissel, 17<sup>th</sup> cent.; trans. by Catherine Winkworth, 1855 (Ps. 24)*

*Music: Psalmodia Evangelica, 1789*

*Tune: TRURO*

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Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates;  
behold, the King of glory waits;  
the King of kings is drawing near;  
the Savior of the world is here!

Fling wide the portals of your heart;  
make it a temple, set apart  
from earthly use for heaven’s employ,  
adorned with prayer and love and joy.

Redeemer, come, with us abide;  
our hearts to thee we open wide;  
let us thy inner presence feel;  
thy grace and love in us reveal.

Thy Holy Spirit lead us on  
until our glorious goal is won;  
eternal praise, eternal fame  
be offered, Savior, to thy name!

+PASSING OF THE PEACE

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

+HYMN

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

UMH 196

*Words: Charles Wesley, 1744*

*Music: Rowland H. Prichard, 1830; harm. from The English Hymnal, 1906*

*Tune: HYFRYDOL*

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Come, thou long expected Jesus,  
born to set thy people free;  
from our fears and sins release us,  
let us find our rest in thee.  
Israel's strength and consolation,  
hope of all the earth thou art;  
dear desire of every nation,  
joy of every longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver,  
born a child and yet a King,  
born to reign in us forever,  
now thy gracious kingdom bring.  
By thine own eternal spirit  
rule in all our hearts alone;  
by thine all sufficient merit,  
raise us to thy glorious throne.

## PROCLAIMING THE WORD

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON  
NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Psalms 72:1-7, 18-19  
Romans 15:4-13

SERMON

“Peace: The Gifted Vigilance”

Rev. Daein Park

## RESPONSE TO THE WORD

+OFFERTORY

“Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming”

UMH 216

+DOXOLOGY

UMH 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.*

OFFERTORY PRAYER

CELEBRATION OF OUR LORD’S SUPPER

† *Invitation*

† *Confess and Pardon*

Hear the good news:

Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God’s love toward us.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!**

**Glory to God. Amen.**

† *The Great Thanksgiving*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth. ... And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

... And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ’s offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

... By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen.**

† *Giving the Bread and Cup*

## GOING FORTH

### +HYMN

### “It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”

UMH 218

*Words: Issac Watts, 1719 (Ps. 98:4-9)*

*Music: Arr. from G. F. Handel, 1741, by Lowell Mason, 1848*

*Tune: ANTIOCH*

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It came upon the midnight clear,  
that glorious song of old,  
from angels bending near the earth,  
to touch their harps of gold:  
“Peace on the earth, good will to all,  
from heaven’s all gracious King.”  
The world in solemn stillness lay,  
to hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come  
with peaceful wings unfurled,  
and still their heavenly music floats  
o’er all the weary world;  
above its sad and lowly plains,  
they bend on hovering wing,  
and ever o’er its Babel sounds  
the blessed angels sing.

And ye, beneath life’s crushing load,  
whose forms are bending low,  
who toil along the climbing way  
with painful steps and slow,  
look now! For glad and golden hours  
come swiftly on the wing,  
O rest beside the weary road,  
and hear the angels sing!

For lo! the days are hastening on,  
by prophet seen of old,  
when with the ever circling years  
shall come the time foretold  
when peace shall over all the earth  
its ancient splendors fling,  
and the whole world send back the song  
which now the angels sing.

### +BENEDICTION

## ***Upcoming Events***

### **Monday, December 8, 2025**

Monday Methodists 9am

Knitting Circle 10am

### **Wednesday, December 10, 2025**

Pastor's Office Hour 2pm-4pm

### **Thursday, December 11, 2025**

Pastor's Office Hour 10pm-12noon

Senior Luncheon 12noon

### **Advent Bible Study**

Wednesdays, December 3-24, 2025, 11am

*Heaven and Earth* by Will Willimon

Please use the registration sheet

to sign up for the Advent Bible Study and to purchase a copy of the book.

*\*If you need to connect with the pastor for a meeting, you can send an email to [cumcpastorpark@gmail.com](mailto:cumcpastorpark@gmail.com) or give him a call at 202-802-4302*

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### **Tuesday, December 24, 2025**

Christmas Eve Service 7 pm

## SCRIPTURE LESSONS

**Psalms 72:1-7, 18-19 NRSV** • <sup>1</sup> Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to a king's son. <sup>2</sup> May he judge your people with righteousness and your poor with justice. <sup>3</sup> May the mountains yield prosperity for the people, and the hills, in righteousness. <sup>4</sup> May he defend the cause of the poor of the people, give deliverance to the needy, and crush the oppressor. <sup>5</sup> May he live while the sun endures and as long as the moon, throughout all generations. <sup>6</sup> May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth. <sup>7</sup> In his days may righteousness flourish and peace abound, until the moon is no more.

<sup>18</sup> Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things. <sup>19</sup> Blessed be his glorious name forever; may his glory fill the whole earth. Amen and Amen.

**Romans 15:4-13 NRSV** • <sup>4</sup> For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. <sup>5</sup> May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup> so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>7</sup> Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. <sup>8</sup> For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the ancestors <sup>9</sup> and that the gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will confess you among the gentiles and sing praises to your name"; <sup>10</sup> and again he says, "Rejoice, O gentiles, with his people"; <sup>11</sup> and again, "Praise the Lord, all you gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him"; <sup>12</sup> and again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the gentiles; in him the gentiles shall hope."<sup>13</sup> May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.