



Cheltenham United Methodist Church

THE LITTLE CHURCH WITH THE BIG HEART

Sunday, December 14, 2025

10am

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

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 14, 2025
(3rd Sunday of Advent)**

GATHERING

WELCOME

LIGHTNING OF THE CANDLES - THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

First Reader: In the midst of our waiting and longing for God to make the world right again, we cling to the truth that God has saved, God is saving, and God will save. So today, we join our voices with the prophet Isaiah, who calls us to live in the joy of the truth of God's salvation.

All: We choose to believe that the day is coming when "the ransomed of the LORD shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away" (Isaiah 35:10).

Second Reader: We light this candle of joy as a sign of the Truth that sets us free to live in joy as we wait and work for the day when all creation will flourish together.

CONGREGATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREETING

Today we rejoice, for good news is revealed to us!

Those who felt unworthy now find joy and blessing in God's love.

God's mercy brings sight, strength, hearing, and peace to all people.

God's love refreshes our souls with everlasting joy.

Behold, God's compassion surrounds us this day.

Rejoice and trust in God's joyful power. Amen.

PRAYER

O Loving God, you know the dry and weary places within our hearts.

We long for your healing grace.

Guide us on this Advent path toward renewal and the joy of redemption, through Jesus Christ, our Source of life. Amen.

+HYMN

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

UMH 211

Words: 9th cent. Latin; trans. st. 1, 3, 5ab, 6cd, 7ab The Hymnal, 1940;

st. Henry Sloane Coffin, 1916; st. 4, 5cd, 6ab, 7cd, Laurence Hull Stookey, 1986

Music: 15th cent. French; arr. And harm. by Thomas Helmore, 1854

Sts. 1, 3, 5ab, 6cd, 7ab © 1940, 1943, renewed 1981 The Church Pension Fund; trans. sts. 4, 5cd, 6ab, 7cd

Tune: VENI EMMANUEL

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O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.

Refrain

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.*

O come, thou Wisdom from on high,
and order all things far and nigh;
to us the path of knowledge show
and cause us in her ways to go.

Refrain

O come, O come, great Lord of might,
who to thy tribes on Sinai's height
in ancient times once gave the law
in cloud and majesty and awe.

Refrain

O come, thou Root of Jesse's tree,
an ensign of thy people be;
before thee rulers silent fall;
and peoples on thy mercy call.

Refrain

+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

"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"

UMH 206

Words: Kathleen Thomerson, 1966

Music: Kathleen Thomerson, 1966

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Tune: HOUSTON

I want to walk as a child of the light.
I want to follow Jesus.
God set the stars to give light to the world.
The star of my life is Jesus.

*In him, there is no darkness at all.
The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God.
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.*

I want to see the brightness of God.
I want to look at Jesus.
Clear Sun of Righteousness, shine on my path,
and show me the way to the Father.

Refrain

I'm looking for the coming of Christ.
I want to be with Jesus.
When we have run with patience the race,
we shall know the joy of Jesus.

Refrain

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON
NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Psalm 146:5-10
James 5:7-10

SERMON

“Joy: The Resilient Celebration”

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

GOING FORTH

+HYMN

“Go, Tell It on the Mountain”

UMH 251

Words: Afro-American spiritual; adapt. by John W. Work, Jr., 1907 (Lk. 2:8-20)

Music: Afro-American spiritual; adapt. and arr. by William Farley Smith, 1986

Tune: GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN

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Refrain

*Go, tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and everywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain,
that Jesus Christ is born.*

While shepherds kept their watching
o'er silent flocks by night,
behold throughout the heavens
there shown a holy light.

Refrain

The shepherds feared and trembled,
when lo! above the earth,
rang out the angel chorus
that hailed the Savior's birth.

Refrain

Down in a lowly manger
the humble Christ was born,
and God sent us salvation
that blessed Christmas morn.

Refrain

+BENEDICTION

Upcoming Events

Monday, December 15, 2025

Monday Methodists 9am

Knitting Circle 10am

Wednesday, December 17, 2025

Pastor's Office Hour 2pm-4pm

Thursday, December 18, 2025

Pastor's Office Hour 10pm-12noon

Advent Bible Study

Wednesday, December 17, 2025, 11am

Tuesday, December 23, 2025, 11am

Heaven and Earth by Will Willimon

Tuesday, December 24, 2025

Christmas Eve Service 7 pm

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

Monday, January 12, 2026

Planning Meeting & Church Council 12noon

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Psalms 146:5-10 NRSV • ⁵ Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD their God, ⁶ who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them; who keeps faith forever; ⁷ who executes justice for the oppressed; who gives food to the hungry. The LORD sets the prisoners free; ⁸ the LORD opens the eyes of the blind. The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous. ⁹ The LORD watches over the strangers; he upholds the orphan and the widow, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin. ¹⁰ The LORD will reign forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations. Praise the LORD!

James 5:7-10 NRSV • ⁷ Be patient, therefore, brothers and sisters, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸ You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. ⁹ Brothers and sisters, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! ¹⁰ As an example of suffering and patience, brothers and sisters, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.