

4th Sunday after Epiphany

February 2, 2025

9:30 a.m.

*Congregation is invited to rise if able and comfortable.

Readings in **BOLD** are to be read in unison.

Hymnals: **UMH is Red or Purple-TFWS is Black-W&S is Green**

Please note that this service is being recorded and viewed on social media.

WE GATHER

As you settle in the sanctuary, please open your phone and share the live service from your Facebook page as a way of inviting the larger community to worship.

PRELUDE *I Am a Child of God* arr. Howe

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHT OF CHRIST ENTERS OUR MIDST UMH 708, v. 1

Rejoice in God's Saints

**Rejoice in God's saints, today and all days;
a world without saints forgets how to praise.
Their faith in acquiring the habit of prayer,
their depth of adoring, Lord, help us to share.**

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Disciples and doubters, faithful and feckless,
we are God's, who welcomes us all.

Followers and those who lag behind, open-hearted and close-minded,
we are the Lord's, who is always patient with us.

Reconcilers and rabble-rousers, foolish and fearless,
we are the Spirit's, who encourages us in every moment.

For all those who have taught us about witness and the power of
God's amazing love,
**for all the saints, accidental and intentional, who inspire and show us
faithful discipleship through all life's circumstances,
praise be to God –
as we give thanks to you, O Lord.**

*HYMN OF PRAISE *Great Is Thy Faithfulness* UMH 140

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving God,

Like Joseph, we don't always understand why things happen the way they do; why our plans and dreams fail, and we find ourselves facing challenge after challenge, disappointment after disappointment, betrayals and heartbreak. It is often in these moments that we judge others by those standards we cannot even meet, we lash out with foolish words, mistaken acts, and begrudging hearts.

Yet, like Joseph, we also believe that you are at work in our lives. Give us strength to hold onto you no matter what challenges we face. Give us courage to wrestle honestly with the things we don't understand. Give us faith to place our dreams and ambitions

in your hands, and follow where you lead without hesitation, confident that your loving presence goes with us. Forgive us, Lord and help us see you in our lives and those around us. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

ANTHEM *Peace Like a River* McDonald
Chancel Choir

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

EPISTLE LESSON *Ephesians 2:19-22* Pew Bible NT 193

For the Word of God in Scripture
For the Word of God among us
For the Word of God within us

Thanks be to God

HYMN OF RESPONSE *For All the Saints* UMH 711

HEBREW LESSON *Genesis 50:15-21* Pew Bible OT 48

SERMON Rev. Jill Hubbard-Smith

Accidental Saints: Joseph

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

SHARING OUR PRAYERS

During this time, you are invited to name your prayers for the congregation.
After each prayer request, the congregation will respond...

Lord, Hear Our Prayer

PRAYERS FOR ALL GOD'S BELOVED PEOPLE

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION TFWS 2257-a

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.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Holy are you, O Lord...

...we join our voices in praise to you.

SANCTUS TFWS 2257-b

Holy, holy, holy Lord; God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!

Hosanna in the highest!

Blest is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!

Hosanna in the highest!

CONSECRATION

In Jesus, we see...

...proclaiming the mystery we call faith:

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION TFWS 2257-c

**Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.
Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!
Hosanna in the highest!**

BLESSING

Send your Holy Spirit...

...Eternal God, now and forever. Amen

GREAT AMEN TFWS 2257-d

**Amen. Amen. Amen. Hosanna in the highest!
Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!**

LORD'S PRAYER

SHARING THE BREAD OF LIFE AND THE CUP OF SALVATION

Come and be filled with the body and blood of Christ, knowing you are beloved and rooted in that love as you go forth to love all God's children. We will serve by **intinction**. You are invited to come by the center aisle, receive a piece of the bread, dip it into the cup, and partake. Return to your seats by the side aisles. You are invited to reflect in song as all are being served. There is gluten free bread and juice available.

HYMNS DURING COMMUNION

Come Sinner, to the Gospel Feast UMH 616

Take Our Bread UMH 640

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

God of all the saints, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, giving ourselves for others and bearing witness to your name, in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

OFFERING OUR TITHES AND GIFTS TO THE MINISTRY OF GOD.

Offering plates are available at each door as you depart.

You may also give online or by mail to the church office.

*PRESENTATION OF OUR GIFTS UMH 587

Bless Thou the Gifts

**Bless thou the gifts our hands have brought;
bless thou the work our hearts have planned.**

**Ours is the faith, the will, the thought;
the rest, O God, is in thy hand.**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

God, you have given each of us unique gifts and abilities and called us to unique settings, our homes, schools, neighborhoods and places of employment. Just as you used Joseph’s abilities to fulfil your purposes in Egypt long ago, we pray that you would use us, our gifts, our time, and our resources as you see fit so that your kingdom might come and your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Amen.

*HYMN OF DEDICATION *To God Be the Glory* UMH 98

*SENDING FORTH

*LIGHT OF CHRIST LEADS US INTO THE WORLD UMH 671

Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing
**Lord, dismiss us with thy blessing;
fill our hearts with joy and peace;
let us each, thy love possessing,
triumph in redeeming grace.
O refresh us, O refresh us,
traveling through this wilderness.**

*POSTLUDE *Gavotte* Camidge

*Please join us in Fellowship Hall for refreshments and fellowship.
Adult Sunday School will meet downstairs in Wesley Hall at 11:00 a.m.
All Are Welcome!*

***Our Service Of Worship Has Ended
Our Worship Through Service Begins***

ALTAR FLOWERS:

Given in loving memory of Betty Beckmann’s birthday by Peggy, Kenneth, & Kimberly.
Given by Maha Boutros in honor of the February birthdays of Awni Boutros and grandson, Joseph (2/1).

Words of Welcome

Welcome to this service of worship. We pray this service offered an opportunity to engage with the Divine. If we can be of service to you in any way, please let us know. If you are looking for a church to call home, please consider joining together with us, where we help each other grow in faith, love, and service.

For Your Information

- There are **hearing devices** to assist you to experience the service more clearly with our streaming team, in the rear of the sanctuary. Feel free to pick one up.
- A **rocking chair** is available for the comfort of parent and baby, in the rear of the sanctuary, behind the pews.
- To access the **restrooms**, please exit the side door to the right of the lectern/chancel area. In the hall, make a left into Fellowship Hall and follow the signs.
- There are **infant changing tables** available in the restrooms.



This Week We Hold in Prayer...

Our Homebound: David Miller, Bev Itell, Jean Gillette, Virginia Haydu, Bob Sproat, Bertha Ahrens, Cary Carlisle, Priscilla Smith, Madeline Starkey, Elaine Gould, Pam Miller

Genesis: Cliff Miller

**The church has a team of prayer warriors, known as the Prayer Chain. If you have a prayer need, please contact the office.

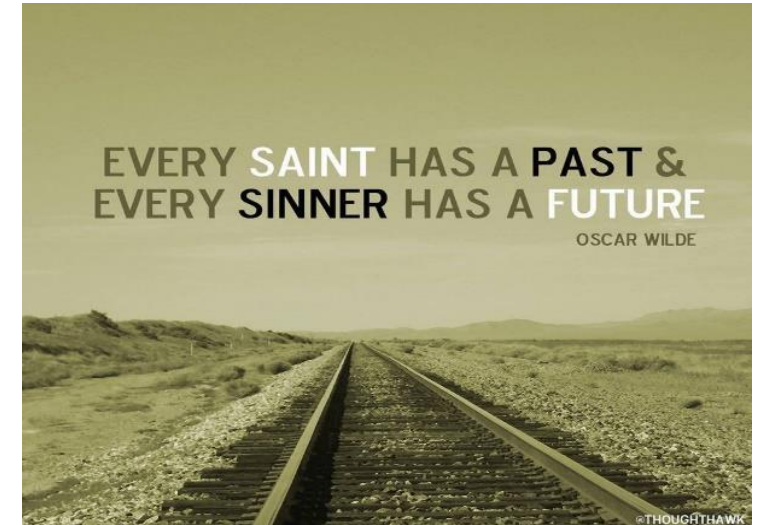
**If you know someone who is in need of pastoral care, please contact Jill Hubbard-Smith 732-209-4563 or revjimhs@gmail.com.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

JAVA WITH JILL-All are invited to a time of fellowship with Pastor Jill and other church members at the Blue Swan Diner on February 25th. This is an informal gathering whereby you can relax, have a chat, and a cup of coffee and maybe a muffin if you choose.

MEMORIAL BRICKS-The Prayer Garden Committee is presently taking orders for memorial bricks that will be placed on the path in the Prayer Garden. If you would like to dedicate a brick, please use the order form found on the sanctuary entrance tables and the literature rack in the foyer. If you are interested in what the bricks look like, take a walk over to the Prayer Garden!

MERCY CENTER is looking for the following items: bagged beans, low-sodium vegetables, organic spaghetti sauce, low-salt crackers, unsweetened fruit, low-sodium soup, no-sugar-added applesauce, instant potatoes, olive oil, low-sodium soy sauce, evaporated skim milk, taco kits, condiments, all-natural jellies, no-salt added peanut butter, 100% fruit juice, Pediasure, low-sugar Gatorade, tea, fragrance-free wipes, toothbrushes & canned beans. The Outreach Committee thanks you for your continued support of this mission.



The First United Methodist Church
103 Monmouth Road, Oakhurst, NJ 07755
732-531-1150
OakhurstUMC@optonline.net
Oakhurst.umchurches.org

Like us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/FUMCOakhurst>

Follow us on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/c/FirstUnitedMethodistChurchofOakhurst>

CCLI #1588788

***The First United Methodist Church of Oakhurst
Is a community of faith committed to Christ,
seeking to learn the needs of our members,
friends, and neighbors, and responding with Christian love.***

Our Leadership Team Serving Us This Morning

GREETER: Barbara Gruezke
USHER: Kitty Amato
ACOLYTE: Ashley Bailey
LAY READER: Pam Puryear
FELLOWSHIP HOSTS: Scott & Russel Danielson
COUNTERS: Patty Aria, John Montgomery, Judy Gorra

Please Join Us In Mission and Ministry

Sunday, TODAY

Service of Worship In Person & Online	9:30 a.m.
Children's Sunday School - Downstairs	9:30 a.m.
Fellowship Time – Fellowship Hall	10:30 a.m.
Adult Sunday School – Wesley Hall	11 a.m.

Monday, February 3

AA – Wesley Hall	7:30 a.m.
Alanon – Wesley Hall	10 a.m.

Tuesday, February 4

Women's Covenant Group – Library	8:30 a.m.
Naranon – Wesley Hall	11 a.m.
Daisies – Fellowship Hall	3:30 p.m.
Scouts – Fellowship Hall	6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, February 5

Knitting Ministry – Library	1 p.m.
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Thursday, February 6

Alanon – Wesley Hall	10 a.m.
Chancel Choir – Sanctuary	6:30 p.m.

Friday, February 7

AA – Wesley Hall	7 p.m.
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Sunday, February 9

Service of Worship In Person & Online	9:30 a.m.
Children's Sunday School – Downstairs	9:30 a.m.
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Adult Sunday School – TBD	11 a.m.

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Secretary: Joy More

Director of Music: Denise Furda

Sexton: Lisa Costello

Streaming Team: Chip Stoll, Rob Crowther, Johnny Tocci

Director of Wesley Nursery School: Noel Worthington

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