



# Broad Street

United Methodist Church

36 E. Broad Street, Burlington, NJ 08016

***Rev. Dr. Temaris L. Moore, Pastor***

December 8, 2024

Second Sunday of Advent

# Welcome to the Broad Street United Methodist Church

We are happy you are here today.  
The order of worship is found in this bulletin.

\*Indicates congregation stands, if able.

PRELUDE

Judy Schetler

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Laura Jaskot

ADVENT SONG

***Advent's Holy Light*** (Joel Raney)

Sanctuary Choir

READING FOR 2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Linda & Marjorie McCardell

*Reader 1:* The prophet Malachi calls us to watch for the messenger God will send us, a messenger who burns with a passion for God's coming salvation. "For he is like a refiner's fire and like fuller's soap; he will sit as a refiner purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness." (Malachi 3:2b-3).

***Congregation:*** In a world driven by a passion to maintain the status quo, we choose to live with a passion for God's peace, to listen to those who call us to righteousness, and to submit ourselves to God's grace, that we might be refined and purified until we reflect God's love throughout the earth.

*Reader 2:* We light this candle of peace as a sign of our commitment to passionately pursue the work of making peace in our hearts, our families, our communities and throughout the earth until God's kingdom comes on earth as it is in heaven.

\*HYMN

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

UMH 206

OPENING PRAYER (pray together)

Drew Fellesco

**Compassionate God, greet us with Your grace this day, for we need You. We cannot save ourselves. Though we may be frantic with activity, our efforts do not yield peace, peace as You can give. Today we would be quiet enough to hear Your voice. Today we would be still enough to feel Your touch. Help us to find that place where we can receive as well as give, wait as well as act, and listen as well as speak. Our whole world needs Your peace. Let us come before You and learn Your ways, laying down our weapons and feeding the hungry. Come to us now, through Jesus the Christ. Amen.**

~written by Ruth C. Duck in Touch Holiness

HYMN

***Angels from the Realms of Glory***

UMH 220

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

**Pure**

Dr. Helen L. Rainier

HYMN

***Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates*** (1,2)

UMH 213

## WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (pray together)

Jean Tomer

**Heavenly Father, as John the Baptist cried out in the wilderness, “Prepare the way of the Lord, make His paths straight,” we humbly ask that You illuminate our hearts and minds with Your truth. Remove the obstacles of pride and self-righteousness, level the mountains of our stubbornness, and fill the valleys of our doubt with Your grace. Guide us to straighten out the crooked paths in our lives, making them smooth and clear for Your presence to dwell within us. May we see the salvation of God clearly and be transformed by Your light, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

~based on Luke 3:1-6

\*First Reading (pray responsively)

Luke 1:68-79 Led by Drew Fellesco

UMH 208

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 3:1-6

Jean Tomer

ANTHEM

*Sweet Little Jesus Boy (Robert MacGrimsey)*

Sanctuary Choir

THE MESSAGE

*Preparing for Christ*

John T. Krimmel, Sr.

## WE OFFER OUR PRAYERS TO GOD

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE (pray responsively)

Drew Fellesco

Dear Lord we pray today for peace in our world and an end to violence.

**Lord in Your mercy, hear our prayer.**

May there be peace in our homes and our hearts so that we may live and work together in a spirit of peace and harmony.

**Lord in Your mercy, hear our prayer.**

Remind us all that we share Your world with others, many less fortunate than we are and who may be resentful. Help us to understand their frustration which often expresses itself in violence and anger.

**Lord in Your mercy, hear our prayer.**

Purify the minds and attitudes of men and women in leadership, especially the media, so that they present a better more peaceful view of our world, rather than the violent image that agitates those troubled in spirit.

**Lord in Your mercy, hear our prayer.**

May the world know the peace of Christ, without which society loses its direction and ignores our deep desire for peace.

**Lord in Your mercy, hear our prayer.**

Now let us pray for our own needs and those of others dear to our hearts.

We pray for \_\_\_\_\_

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer. Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

UMH 895

## WE OFFER OUR GIFTS TO GOD

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP

Laura Jaskot

OFFERTORY HYMN

*You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd*

W&S 3043

OFFERING

\*DOXOLOGY

UMH 95

OFFERTORY PRAYER (pray together)

**Loving God, in this Advent season, we bring our offerings with hearts open to your call. Just as John the Baptist prepared the way for Jesus, may our gifts help prepare the way for Your Kingdom. Use these offerings to bring hope, justice, and transformation. Help us to look beyond the surface, to see your work in surprising places and people. Bless our giving, that it may shine with the presence of Emmanuel. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.**

### **WE SCATTER TO SERVE CHRIST IN THE WORLD**

\*HYMN

*Marching to Zion* (verses 1, 4)

UMH 733

\*WORDS OF BLESSINGS (pray responsively)

John T. Krimmel, Sr.

Go, now blessed with a passion that refines, molds, and shapes each of our hearts to reflect God's glorious love that transforms despair into hope, violence into peace, and distress into flourishing. **Amen.**

POSTLUDE

Judy Schetler

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### **You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd**

#### **Verse 1**

You, Lord, are both Lamb and Shepherd. You, Lord, are both prince and slave.

You, peacemaker and sword bringer of the way you took and gave.

You, the everlasting instant; you, whom we both scorn and crave.

#### **Verse 4**

Worthy is our earthly Jesus! Worthy is our cosmic Christ!

Worthy your defeat and victory. Worthy still your peace and strife.

You, the everlasting instant; you, who are our death and life.



Please remember our families and friends in prayer

John Robert Chitester, Evelyn Kraft, Mike Levesque, Angie Gallagher, Doug Papp, Tom & Linda McElwain, Debra Bogdanowicz, Megan Brown, Shirley Woolman, Jim Conway Travis Montone, Zachary Montone, Robert Lapaugh, Susan Curlett, Faye Habingreither, Carolyn Shinn, Dana Painter, Christine Ivanov, Tony Hoffman, Pastor Hilda Covington

Requests for inclusion on the prayer list, removal from the list, or to have a name remain on the list longer than two weeks can be emailed to: [office@broadstumc.org](mailto:office@broadstumc.org) or placed in the offering plate.

Please continue to pray for those on the list from previous weeks.

Visit the church website ([www.broadstumc.org](http://www.broadstumc.org)) for more information on upcoming activities.

# Announcements

## Giving Tree!

Please take a tag (or two!) from the Giving Tree and purchase what is written on the tag. Bring your UNWRAPPED purchase to church by Sunday, December 15. We will divide the items between The Sisterhood and The Ladle of Love (St. Mary's Episcopal Church). Make this a part of your Christmas season as we give to those less fortunate



*Season of*

# ADVENT

HOPE	PEACE	JOY	LOVE
<b>'The Prophecy Candle'</b> the first Sunday of Advent not only leads us to anticipate the birth of Christ but celebrate the beginning of a new liturgical season as well.	<b>'The Bethlehem Candle'</b> this candle reminds us of Mary and Joseph's journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem before Mary gave birth to Jesus.	<b>'The Shepherd's Candle'</b> the third Sunday of Advent takes us back to the joyful anticipation of the shepherds who journeyed to see Jesus in Bethlehem, even before the wise men.	<b>'The Angel's Candle'</b> The fourth candle of Advent represents Love, the ultimate love of God that He might send His only Son for us.
<b>1st DEC</b>	<b>8th DEC</b>	<b>15th DEC</b>	<b>22nd DEC</b>

*Thank You*

“Dear Broad Street, I would like to thank all who reached out and sent cards and words of encouragement. This really meant a lot. My recovery is going well. I should be able to return to church in the new year. Thanks!! Jim Conway”



# Preparing for **CHRIST**

## Second Week of Advent

5 - Day Devotional

*Radiant Reflections with Pastor Temaris*

Week of December 1, 2024

### **Devotional Summary:**

This 5-day Advent devotional, based on Luke 3:1-6, invites readers to reflect on John the Baptist's call to prepare the way for the Lord. Through repentance, realignment of priorities, and faith-filled anticipation, this series leads individuals to prepare their hearts for the coming of Christ. Each day includes scripture focus, reflection, and practical application for the Advent season.

### **Day 1: Hear the Call to Prepare**

**Scripture:** Luke 3: 2b-3

**Reflection:** God's call to John the Baptist was clear: prepare people's hearts for the coming of Jesus. John preached repentance—a turning away from sin and toward God. As we begin this Advent journey, we're invited to do the same. Preparing for Christ starts with listening for God's voice in our lives. Are we attuned to His call?

**Prayer:** Lord, help me hear Your voice as clearly as John did. Reveal anything in my life that separates me from You. Grant me the courage to repent and turn toward You in faith. Amen.

**Action Step:** Spend 10 minutes in silence today, asking God to reveal areas of your life that need change. Write down what comes to mind, and pray for His guidance to take the first step toward repentance.

### **Day 2: Clear the Obstacles**

**Scripture:** Luke 3:4

**Reflection:** Advent reminds us to examine our hearts for anything that hinders our relationship with God. Distractions, unresolved conflicts, and misplaced priorities can block the path of Christ entering our lives. What obstacles might be keeping you from experiencing His peace?

**Prayer:** Lord, I invite You to walk through my heart and help me clear away anything that obstructs my relationship with You. Make my life a straight path for Your presence. Amen.

**Action Step:** Identify one specific obstacle—such as busyness, unconfessed sin, or a strained relationship—that needs attention. Take a step today to address it, whether through prayer, conversation, or a deliberate change in routine.

### Day 3: Level the Mountains

**Scripture:** Luke 3:5

**Reflection:** Sometimes, pride or self-reliance becomes a “mountain” that blocks our view of God. Advent is a time to humble ourselves, recognizing our need for Jesus. By leveling these mountains, we prepare our hearts to receive Him fully.

**Prayer:** Lord, I confess that I sometimes rely on my own strength instead of Yours. Help me to humble myself and trust in Your wisdom and provision. Teach me to walk in humility each day. Amen.

**Action Step:** Find a small way to practice humility today. This could be serving someone in need, listening to another’s perspective, or admitting where you’ve been wrong.

### Day 4: Trust in God’s Promise

**Scripture:** Luke 3:6

**Reflection:** John’s message pointed to a promise: salvation through Jesus Christ, available to all people. Trusting in this promise fills us with hope and reminds us of God’s unchanging faithfulness. As we wait for Christ’s coming, we can live in confident hope, knowing His salvation is for us and those around us.

**Prayer:** Lord, thank You for the gift of salvation through Jesus Christ. Help me trust in Your promises and share Your hope with others this Advent season. Amen.

**Action Step:** Share God’s love and hope with someone today. It could be a kind gesture, a listening ear, or sharing how God has worked in your life.

### Day 5: Embracing a New Beginning

**Scripture:** Luke 2 Luke 3:3

**Reflection:** Repentance leads to forgiveness, and forgiveness opens the door to new life in Christ. As Advent comes to a close, reflect on how God’s grace has given you a fresh start. Preparing for Christ is not just a seasonal exercise—it’s a lifelong transformation.

**Prayer:** Lord, thank You for the forgiveness that comes through Your Son, Jesus. Help me to embrace the new beginning You offer and to live each day in Your grace. Amen.

**Action Step:** Write a prayer of gratitude, thanking God for His forgiveness and the new life you have in Him. Commit to carrying the lessons of Advent into the days ahead.

### Reflection

# CALENDAR

**This Week:**

***Tuesday***

*Bible Study – 6:30 PM, Lucas Hall*

***Thursday***

*Band Practice – 6 PM, Lucas Hall*

***Thursday***

*Choir Rehearsal – 7 PM, Lucas Hall*

**Planning ahead... mark your calendars**

***Sunday, December 15, 2024***

*Sanctuary Choir Christmas Cantata  
11:00 AM during worship service,*

***Sunday, December 15, 2024***

*Cookie Munch 12 - 1 PM*

***Sunday, December 15, 2024***

*Advent Covered Dish Dinner 4:00 PM*

***Sunday, December 22, 2024***

*Blue Christmas Service 7:00 PM*

***Tuesday, December 24, 2024***

*Candlelight Christmas Eve Service 7:00 PM*

