



Open Hearts,  
Open Minds,  
Open Doors...

The people of the  
United Methodist  
Church

# Ocean Shores United Methodist Church



**“Whoever you are, and wherever you may be on your journey of faith, you are loved by God and welcome here.”**

**December 31, 2023 - 10:30 am**  
**“Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors”**

**Welcome**

Celebration of Birthdays/Anniversaries

**Prelude**

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

**\*Call to Worship**

Leader: Now the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of this Christ have come.

All: Sing to the Lord a new song.

Leader: Sing to the Lord all the earth

All: For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and his name shall be called Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

**\*Hymn**

Joy to the World pg. 246

**Invocation** (unison prayer)

Lord Jesus, in your nativity among us you came to show us the fullness of God's glory. Into our drab darkness, light has dawned. Into our unfulfilled lives, joy has come. Into our silence, a word has been spoken and that word is joy; that word is love. We praise you for making you home among mortals like us. Amen.

**Psalm of the Day** (responsive)

Psalm 148 pg. 861

**Reading the Word** Old Testament: Isaiah 61:10-62:3

Gospel: Luke 2:22-40

**Response**

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God

All: Thanks be to God!

## **Meditation** “Next Steps”

## **Hymn**

What Child is This pg. 219

## **The Prayers of the People** Our Joys and Concerns

## **Prayer**

## **The Lord’s Prayer**

## **Invitation To Offering**

Leader: Even in difficult times, we remember that God has done great things for us. We choose to live our lives in joy, counting on the goodness of God in every circumstance. We joyfully and cheerfully share our gifts strengthening the ministry of this church as we seek together to bring the light of joy into our world. Let us present our tithes and offerings.

## **The Offertory**

Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella

## **\*Doxology**

UMH 94

## **The Prayer of Dedication** (unison)

Lord, help me to be grateful for what I have, to remember that I don’t *need* most of what I *want*, and to discover that true joy is found in simplicity and generosity. Amen.

## **The Sending Song**

Go Tell It On the Mountain pg. 251

## **\*Blessing**

## **Postlude**

He Is Born

## **\* Please stand**

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