

**Rutland United Methodist Church
Sunday, December 10, 2023
The Second Sunday in Advent
Rev. Sue Hardman-Zimmerman**

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ellen Wakker

INVOCATION

God of grace and mercy, we open our hearts to welcome you. Remove the things that hinder us from receiving Christ with joy so that we may be filled with His love. Renew our hope and fill us with Your Holy Spirit. May our worship draw us closer to You and one another, that we may more fully bear witness to Your saving love. In Jesus' name. Amen.

PRELUDE	<i>He Shall Feed His Flock Like a Shepherd</i>	Ann Reed
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INTROIT	<i>Prepare the Way of the Lord</i>	UMH 207
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OPENING MUSIC	<i>Will We Know Him?</i>	Joy Choir
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CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Holy One, healer of the world,

People: shed your light upon this world.

Leader: Holy One, healer of brokenness,

People: make us bold to share your light with others.

Leader: Holy One, healer of the world, lead us to wholeness

ALL: and make us shine with your light of healing love.

HYMN	<i>Oh Come, O Come, Emmanuel</i>	UMH 211, v. 1,2,6,7
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LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE OF PEACE

Advent Song: Verse 2 (on the screen)

A READING FROM THE WORD	<i>Canticle of Light and Darkness</i>	UMH 205
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UNISON PRAYER

Almighty God, we praise You for the gift of Your Son, and the opportunity to celebrate His coming into the world. Open our ears that we may again hear the angelic chorus of old, open our lips that we too may sing praises unto Him, and open our eyes that we may visualize anew His presence as the light of the World. Amen.

HYMN	<i>Hark! the Herald Angels Sing</i>	UMH 240
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MESSAGE FROM BISHOP PEGGY A. JOHNSON	"Evergreens Advent"
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SHARING THE STORY OF FAITH

1 John 1:1-5

REFLECTION

The Light Shines in the Darkness

TITHES & OFFERINGS

DOXOLOGY; DEDICATION OF 2024 PLEDGES

PASTORAL PRAYER and THE LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN

Shine, Jesus, Shine

TFWS 2173

CLOSING BLESSING

SUNG BENEDICTION

King of Kings

TFWS 2075

"Mark Your Calendar"

Sundays at 9:30 am: **Joy Choir** rehearsal

Thursday at 10:00 am via Zoom: **Centering Prayer** with Pastor John (email Pastor John for the Zoom link)

Thursdays at 7 pm via Zoom: **Book Study** with Pastor John

Wednesday, December 13 at 7 pm: **Bells of Joy Concert**, Wallingford Town Hall

Sunday, December 24, 2023: **Christmas Eve** candlelight service: 5 pm at RUMC

Flowers and Candles for Christmas – please order after worship today!

If you would like to purchase a poinsettia or a vigil candle to be displayed on the altar this Christmas season, email or notify the office as to how many you would like, and in whose memory or honor. Flowers are \$15 each, and candles are \$10 each. These will be on the altar on December 17 and at the Christmas Eve service.

Thank you for your continued support of RUMC

Tithes & Offerings for December 3: \$1,807

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He Shall Feed His Flock Like a Shepherd: From "Messiah" by George Frederick Handel: arr. Shirley Brendlinger. ©2009 GlorySound

Will We Know Him? Words by Don Besig and Nancy Price. Music by Don Besig. ©1987 Harold Flammer Music.

Shine, Jesus, Shine: © 1987 Make Way Music (ASCAP) (admin. by Music Services, Inc. in the Western Hemisphere).

Rutland United Methodist Church

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and Rev. John Hardman-Zimmerman

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