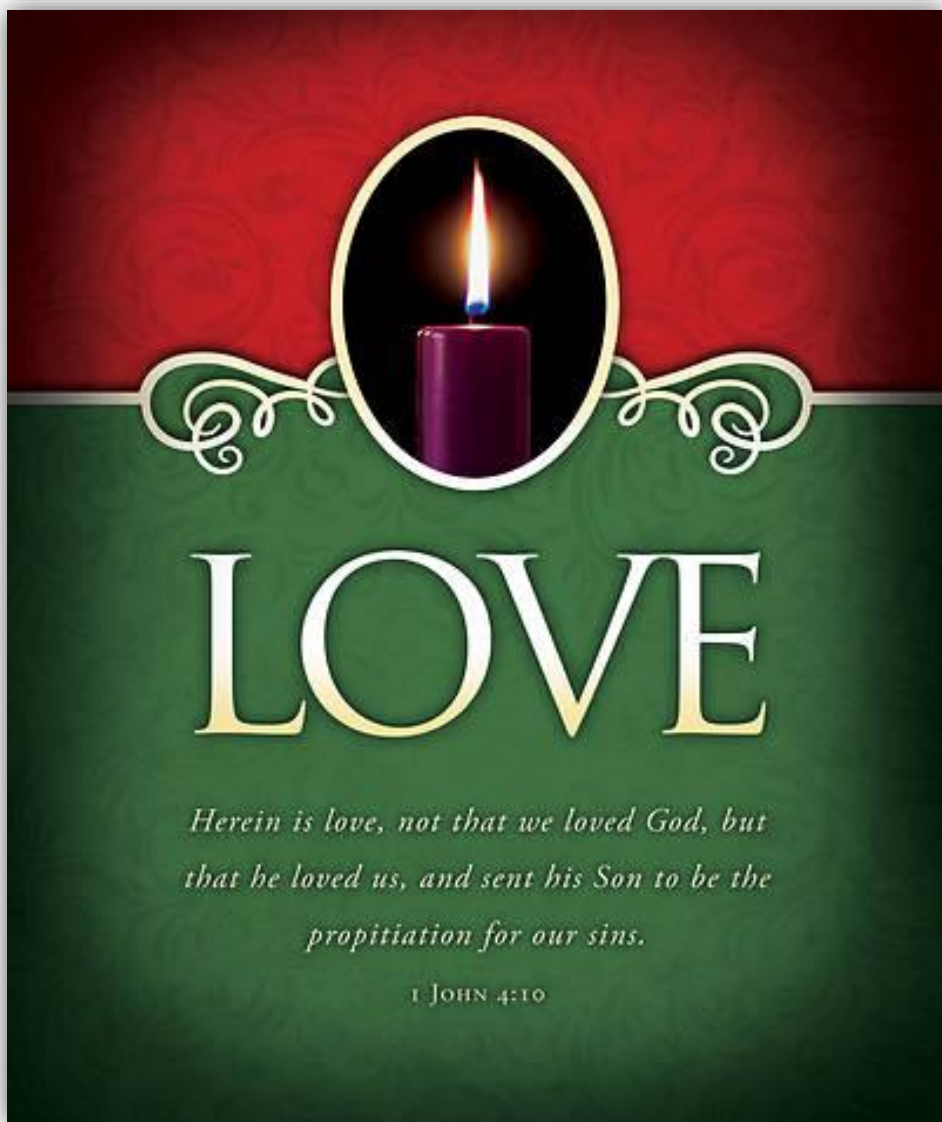


MANAHAWKIN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

2025 – THE YEAR OF PEACE



Celebrating 222+ Years of Ministry

Pastor: Rev. Kyewoon Choi

Music Director: Dennis Linde

Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 21, 2025
8:30 & 11:00 A.M.

Worship Bulletin

Please set all cell phones to airplane mode.

During the first hymn, the ushers will collect Prayer Concern Cards.

Please sign the Attendance Pad & pass it down the pew (Guests please include your address).

** = The congregation is invited to stand.*

Prelude

Love In The Bleak Midwinter

G. Holst

Announcements

Lighting of the Advent Candle: (Light a Candle, **verse #4**. See insert)

(8:30) The Scarangella Family

(11:00) The Henry Family

Passing of the Peace

***Call to Worship:**

L: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

C: And, also with you.

L: The risen Christ is with us.

C: Praise the Lord!

***Hymn #224:**

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

Children's Time

Prayer of Confession (adopted from Psalm 51)

L: Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your loving kindness.

C: In Your great compassion blot out our offenses.

L: Create in us a clean heart, O God

C: And renew a right spirit within us.

L: Restore to us the joy of Your salvation.

C: And uphold us with a willing spirit.

L: Have mercy on us and forgive us;

C: In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

All pray in silence.

Assurance of Pardon

L: The LORD God is compassionate and gracious,

C: Slow to anger and abundant in loving kindness.

L: As far as the east is from the west,

C: so far has God removed our sins from us.

L: We are forgiven in Jesus' name.

C: Amen.

Joys, Concerns and Praises, Pastoral Prayer

Scripture Lesson: Matthew 22:34-40 (8:30) Lee Slater (11:00) Cyle Matthews

³⁴ But when the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered themselves together. ³⁵ One of them, a lawyer, asked Him *a question*, testing Him, ³⁶ "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?" ³⁷ And He said to him, "YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND." ³⁸ This is the great and foremost commandment. ³⁹ The second is like it, 'YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.' ⁴⁰ On these two commandments depend the whole Law and the Prophets."

L: The word of God for the people of God. **C: Thanks be to God. Amen.**

Special Music: (8:30) *Believe* arr. M. & S. Shaw/Kathy Cavanagh, Lee Slater
(11:00) *An Invitation For Advent* arr. D. Nolan/MUMC Choir

Sermon *Love in the Lord* Pastor Choi

*** Hymn #229:** *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory: *When Love is Found* H. Hopson

***Doxology (#95)**

Prayer of Dedication:

L: O Lord, as we present this offering upon your altar,

C: We offer ourselves as a living sacrifice.

L: Use our words and actions of love and kindness to spread the love of Christ.

C: May all of our gifts and services be acceptable in your sight.

L: In the name of Jesus Christ our Savior, we pray. **C: Amen.**

*** Hymn #246:** *Joy to the World*

Benediction

Benediction Response

Go Now in Peace

by Don Besig and Nancy Price

*Go now in peace. Never be afraid. God will go with you each hour of ev'ry day.
Go now in faith, steadfast strong and true. Know He will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love, and show you believe. Reach out to others so all the world can see.
God will be there watching from above. Go now in peace, in faith and in love.*

Postlude:

The Nutcracker Suite

P. Tchaikovsky

Worship Leader: (8:30) Lee Slater

(11:00) Pastor Choi

Greeters: (8:30) Bonnie & Bruce Nelson

(11:00) Volunteers

Ushers: (8:30) Volunteers

(11:00) Pauline McShea & volunteer

Acolyte: (8:30) Gabby Fernandez-Gomez

(11:00) Volunteer



CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Kyewoon Choi, Pastor

Dennis Linde, Music Director

Lauren Kokai, Holy Spirit Ringers Director

Kathy Cavanagh, Secretary

Lori Nielsen, Sexton

The Manahawkin United Methodist Church

116 Stafford Avenue/P.O. Box 487

Manahawkin, NJ 08050-0487

Phone: (609) 597-7666

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY

Sun.	Dec.	21	8:30 & 11 a.m.	Sunday Services/ Coffee hour by Youth Group
			9:45-10:45 a.m.	Sunday School
			2 p.m.	Sunday School Pageant

THIS WEEK

Wed.	Dec.	24	7 p.m.	Christmas Eve Service—A Service of Lessons and Carols
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UPCOMING EVENTS

Sun.	Dec.	28	10 a.m.	Sunday Service – One service
Sun.	Jan.	4	8:30 & 11 a.m.	Two Services Resume with Coffee Hour
Mon.	Jan.	5	11 a.m.	Staff Meeting
Wed.	Jan.	7	12-7 p.m.	Blood Drive - Fellowship Hall

YOUR OFFERING BOXES ARE READY: Please pick up your 2026 offering box in the hallway. It is in alphabetical order.

STORIES OF GRACE (Book): is here! Get your book from the office today!

PASTOR WILL BE AWAY: this coming week, December 26-January 2. We will be having a guest speaker on Sunday, December 28th, 2025.

SUNDAY DECMEBER 28: There will be **ONE SERVICE** at 10:00 a.m. Back to two services on January 4.

CROSSWORD ARTICLES: Due on December 31. Submit to

HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS: Week of the 21st and 28th: Monday 9–1 p.m., Tuesday/Wednesday 9-12 p.m. Office closed, December 25–26, and January 1-2.

FOOD BANK ITEMS: for December are healthy soups and saltines. Please put your donations in the labeled bin located in the narthex. Thank you.



**PRAYER REQUESTS will be kept for 4 weeks.
If you want longer, please call the office 609-597-7666.**

For our President, Congress, World Leaders, and all those called to Active Duty.
For the Christians and churches who are under attack. For the peace between Israel and Gaza. For the end of Ukraine War. For the peace in Sudan and Haiti.

For Healing, Surgeries, Illnesses, Needs, etc.:

Regina Howard, Karen Steen, Keri Buscaglia, the DiSanzo family, Mary Ellen McCarthy, Tom Pancoast, George Smithson, the Keller family, Patrick D., John Hauge, Joy Houghton, Kristen Thatcher, Jeanne Swenson, Donna Spader, Towanna Merrit, Royal Wells, Betsy McShea, Carol Pine, Dorothy Hadden, Mike Lucariello, Sam Blake, Ken Schorr Sr., Rob DeVito, Ron and Bobbie Warmbier, Shirley Elliott, Ann Scaturo, Arleen Logan, Eileen Mahan, Lee and Marlene Kalsch, Aileen Logan, Phyllis Bromiley, Carlos Lopez, Lee Slater, Bill Logan, Anthony Vitelli.

“... and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains,
but do not have love, I am nothing.”
1 Corinthians 13

ATTENDANCE FOR IN-PERSON AND VIRTUAL SERVICES

Sunday, December 14, 2025

Light a Candle

[Composer]

Piano



1. Light one can - dle Christ is com - ing Christ the hope of the world.

5



Light one can - dle Christ is com - ing Christ is com - ing soon

2. Light two candles, Christ is coming
Christ, the way for the world!
Light two candles, Christ is coming
Christ is coming soon!

3. Light three candles, Christ is coming
Christ, the joy of the world!
Light three candles, Christ is coming
Christ is coming soon!

4. Light four candles, Christ is coming
Christ, the peace of the world!
Light four candles, Christ is coming
Christ is coming soon!

5. Light the white one, Christ is born
Christ, the light of the world!
Light the white one, Christ is born
Christ is born tonight!

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice 224

1., 2., 3. Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and

voice; give ye heed to what we say: News, news!
 voice; now ye hear of end - less bliss: News, news!
 voice; now ye need not fear the grave: News, news!

Je - sus Christ is born to - day! Ox and ass be -
 Je - sus Christ was born for this! He hath o - pened
 Je - sus Christ was born to save! Calls you one and

fore him bow, and he is in the man - ger now.
 heav - en's door, and ye are blest for - ev - er - more.
 calls you all to gain his ev - er - last - ing hall.

Christ is born to - day, Christ is born to - day!
 Christ was born for this, Christ was born for this!
 Christ was born to save, Christ was born to save!

WORDS: 14th cent. Latin; trans. by John Mason Neale, 1855
 MUSIC: German melody; harm. by Gary Alan Smith, 1988

IN DULCI JUBILO
 66.727.78.55

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

229

Unison

1. In-fant ho - ly, in-fant low - ly, for his bed a cat-tle
 2. Flocks were sleep-ing, shep-herds keep-ing vig-il till the morn-ing

stall; ox-en low-ing, lit-tle know-ing, Christ the babe is Lord of
 new saw the glo-ry, heard the sto-ry, tid-ings of a gos-pel

all. Swift are wing-ing an-gels sing-ing, no-els ring-ing, tid-ings
 true. Thus re-joic-ing, free from sor-row, prais-es voic-ing, greet the

Interlude, Ending

bring-ing: Christ the babe is Lord of all.
 mor-row: Christ the babe was born for you.

WORDS: Polish carol; trans. by Edith M. G. Reed, 1925 (Lk. 2:6-20)

MUSIC: Polish carol; arr. by Edith M. G. Reed, 1926; harm. by Austin C. Lovelace, 1964

W ZLOBIE LEZY

447.447.44447

Harm. © 1965 Abingdon Press

Joy to the World

1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
 2. Joy to the world, the Sav - ior reigns!
 3. No more let sins and sor - rows grow,
 4. He rules the world with truth and grace,

Let earth re - ceive her King; let
 Let all their songs em - ploy; while
 nor thorns in - fest the ground; he
 and makes the na - tions prove the

ev - ery heart pre - pare him room,
 fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
 comes to make his bless - ings flow
 glo - ries of his righ - teous - ness,

BIRTH AND BAPTISM

and re - far and heaven and na - ture sing, joy, found, love, and re - far and

peat as the curse of his and re - far and heaven and na - ture sing, joy, found, love, and re - far and

heaven, peat, as, won - ders, and re - far, as, won - ders, and the curse of his na - ture sing, joy, found, love.