

Lacey United Methodist Church

203 West Lacey Road - PO Box 151 Forked River, NJ 08731
Church Office ~ (609) 693-5222 Pastor Cell ~ (845) 893-9157
Email ~ laceyumcnj@gmail.com Website ~ www.laceyumc.org

Head of the Church ~ Jesus Christ, Son of the Living God

Ministers: All of Us

Pastor: Jonathan Campbell Lay Leader: Ed Wojciechowski

Admin. Assistant: Joann Michalkowski Music Director: Dawn Slate

Welcoming Team: Virginia Schoeneberg

Head Ushers: Cindy Dreher & Rick Waddell

Junior Head Ushers: Kenshin Frangos & Abby Michalkowski

Counters: Rose Coram, Judy Mihalkovitz, Cynthia Pedemonti, Rich Rosfjord

Thank You to All Who Share Their Prayers, Presence, Gifts, Service, Witness & Time!

<>< *Lacey United Methodist Church Prayer Page* ><>

<>< YOUR WILL, LORD GOD, BE DONE ~ NOTHING MORE, NOTHING LESS, NOTHING ELSE ><>

For God's Healing & Discernment ~ CoVid sufferers & Care Givers; Peg & Will Cotton; Barkley Family; Mihalkovitz/Przybylski Families; Richard Dickon; Marjorie Moore; Bev Krott; Charles Cometa Jr.; Peggy LaPorta; Sandi Smith; George K.; Terry S.; James & Becki; Millie L.; Jim M.; Pat O'Brien; Gesine Klein; Tony Kosciuk, Dee & Jessica Maffucci; Bob & Peg Bea; Joan McGavin; Cindy Dreher; Nancy Dean; Shannon Kelly Callahan; Macon & Allyson Cotton; Lisa Burger; Patricia Potter; Sally & Trevor Potter; Kenny & Kathie Pitman; BettyAnn Britton; Tommy Britton; Dawn Marie Kuch; Gail Matuska; Phyllis Smith; Bill Jones; Rosalie Mulvaney; Dottie & Bill Connolly; Sue & Rich Newman; Bill Hults; Bill & Becky Buglione; Melody Pryor-Tasco; Lorraine, Katrina & Peter Borchester; Sally & Don McErlean; Ray MacPherson; Hunter; Pat Grant; Ellie Keyworth; Deb Burnette; Shannon, Noel, & Brandon Weaver; Larry Radomski; our whole Church Family.

For God's Comfort & Strength during Time of Mourning and Loss ~ Covid19 Victims; Louis D'Autorio Family; Bob Kmiechick Family; Bill Krott Family; Denise Springer Family; Larry McGavin Family.

Praise and Thanksgiving for Answered Prayer ~ Celebrating the birth of Heather Rose to parents Becki & James! Thanks be to God for answered prayer!

For Those Serving in the Military ~ Peter Borchester; Jordyn Breur; Luke Derflinger; Randall D. Donithan; Ellen Hammer; Gavin Hammer D'Adamo; Raymond Kitson; James Lubbers; T. Ryan McDonald; Ryan Palmieri; Daniel Schenker; Jason Schenker; for all Soldiers; Sailors; Marines; Airmen; & Guards-Men/Women of our Armed Forces.

For the Ministries of our Church ~ Bible Studies; Christian Education; Community Outreach; DOC Connection Ministries; Extension Ministries; Finance Team; Healing Ministries; Hope Chest Food Pantry; Hospitality & Welcoming Team; Joy of Angels Thrift Shoppe; Kúrios' Kids; Music Programs; How It Works and Why; AA Group; Senior Ministries; SHALOM for the Homeless; Stewardship Team; Summer Lunch for Lacey's Kids; The Tuesday & Thursday Hot Lunch Mission; Youth Ministries.

For Greater NJ Annual Conference ~ Bishop John & Beverly Schol; DS Rev Dr. Gina Hendrickson; all Clergy and Laity of the Greater UMC Annual Conference & United Methodist Denomination

World Council of Churches & USA Prayer Atlas ~ People of East Timor, Indonesia, Philippines; Arizona, Arkansas; Lacey Township Committee, Leaders & First Responders; Senators; Congressmen and leaders of our United States of America; Uniting of all American political parties; President Donald Trump & Vice-President Mike Pence, Gov. Murphy, NJ Officials working to end CoVid19; Praying an

November 29, 2020

Welcome in the Name of Jesus Christ to All Visitors, Members, Family and Friends!

Today, we begin the Sermon Series "The Redemption of Scrooge".

Prelude

Welcome

*Hymn ~

What Child is This? #219

(Please reflect as Dawn shares her musical gifts)

Opening Prayer

Children's Message

Advent Candle Lighting Liturgy ~ Isaiah 64:1-9

Ministry of Giving & Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn ~

In the Bleak Midwinter #221 Vs. 1,2&4

(Please reflect as Dawn shares her musical gifts)

Scripture ~ Matthew 20:1-16

Message: *The Redemption of Scrooge: "Bah Humbug"*

*Hymn ~

Lo How a Rose E'er Blooming #216 Vs. 1&2

(Please reflect as Dawn shares her musical gifts)

Pastoral Prayer

Call to Confession

Confession and Words of Assurance

Sacrament of Holy Communion

The Lord's Prayer

Sharing of the Cup and Bread

*Hymn ~

Emmanuel, Emmanuel #204

(Please reflect Dawn shares her musical gifts)

*Benediction

*Postlude

All Music Used with Permission – CCLI#2274807

What Child is This? #219

What child is this, who laid to rest
On Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
Let loving hearts enfold Him.

This, this, is Christ the King
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing.
Haste, haste, to bring him laud, the
Babe, the son of Mary.

Why lies he in such mean estate
Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christians fear, for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading.

This, this, is Christ the King
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing.
Haste, haste to bring him laud,
The Babe, the son of Mary.

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh
Come. Peasant king to own him.
The King of Kings, salvation brings,
Let loving hearts enthrone him.

This, this, is Christ the King
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing.
Haste, haste, to bring him laud,
The Babe, the son of Mary.

Opening Prayer

Call all the laborers, O God,
Call your laborers who woke early,
Call your laborers who came late,
Call your laborers who feel wronged,
Call your laborers who feel overlooked,

Call your laborers who can't feed their children with this wage,
Call your laborers who know they are working in your fields,

Call your laborers who use their wage to increase your love,
Call all your laborers, O God,

Tell us to roll up our sleeves

For we know that we have work to do.

Let us find you in the work we share here and now, in Christ's presence we pray. **Amen.**

Advent Candle Lighting Liturgy ~ Isaiah 64:1-9

If only you would tear open the heavens and come down!

Mountains would quake before you

² like fire igniting brushwood or making water boil.

If you would make your name known to your enemies, the nations would tremble in your presence.

³ When you accomplished wonders beyond all our expectations;

when you came down, mountains quaked before you.

⁴ From ancient times, no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any god but you who acts on behalf of those who wait for him!

⁵ You look after those who gladly do right; they will praise you for your ways.

But you were angry when we sinned; you hid yourself when we did wrong.

⁶ We have all become like the unclean; all our righteous deeds are like a menstrual rag.

All of us wither like a leaf;

our sins, like the wind, carry us away.

⁷ No one calls on your name;

no one bothers to hold on to you, for you have hidden yourself from us, and have handed us over to our sin.

⁸ But now, Lord, you are our father. We are the clay, and you are our potter. All of us are the work of your hand.

⁹ Don't rage so fiercely, Lord; don't hold our sins against us forever, but gaze now on your people, all of us:

Prayer of Dedication

Great God of wonderful surprises: we enter this season of preparation for your Son's coming, looking not for just a memory of past events, but anticipating a return. We strive to get our lives in order and pray that our giving of ourselves to these preparations might reflect the earth-shaking importance of his coming. Help us to give ourselves generously, for we do not know the day or the hour. We pray in the name of the one who will come. Amen.

In the Bleak Midwinter #221 Vs. 1,2&4

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan
Earth stood still as iron, water like a stone.
Snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow.
In the bleak midwinter, long ago.

Our God, heaven cannot hold him, nor earth sustain
Heaven and Earth shall flee away, when he comes to reign.
In the bleak midwinter, a stable place sufficed.
The Lord, God Almighty, Jesus Christ

What can I give him, poor as I am
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb.
If I were a wiseman, I would do my part
Yet, what can I give him, give my heart.

Scripture Reading ~ Matthew 20:1-16

"The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire workers for his vineyard. ² After he agreed with the workers to pay them a denarion, he sent them into his vineyard. ³ "Then he went out around nine in the morning and saw others standing around the marketplace doing nothing. ⁴ He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I'll pay you whatever is right.' ⁵ And they went. "Again around noon and then at three in the afternoon, he did the same thing. ⁶ Around five in the afternoon he went and found others standing around, and he said to them, 'Why are you just standing around here doing nothing all day long?'

⁷ "'Because nobody has hired us,' they replied.

"He responded, 'You also go into the vineyard.'

⁸ "When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the workers and give them their wages, beginning with the last ones hired and moving on finally to the first.' ⁹ When those who were hired at five in the afternoon came, each one received a denarion. ¹⁰ Now when those hired first came, they thought they would receive more. But each of them also received a denarion. ¹¹ When they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ¹² 'These who were hired last worked one hour, and they received the same pay as we did even though we had to work the whole day in the hot sun.'

¹³ "But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I did you no wrong. Didn't I agree to pay you a denarion? ¹⁴ Take what belongs to you and go. I want to give to this one who was hired last the same as I give to you. ¹⁵ Don't I have the right to do what I want with what belongs to me? Or are you resentful because I'm generous?' ¹⁶ So those who are last will be first. And those who are first will be last."

Lo How a Rose E'er Blooming #216 Vs. 1&2

Lo, how a rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung
Of Jesse's lineage coming, as those of old have sung.
It came, a flowered bright, amid the cold of winter,
When half spent was the night.

Isaiah was foretold it, the Rose I have in mind
With Mary we behold it, the Virgin Mother kind.
To show God's love aright. She bore to us a Savior
When half spent was the night.

Call to Confession

The cares of this life weigh us down, and we seek escape
more than insight, avoidance rather than confrontation with
God's truth. God comes to us even when we are hiding from
the best we know. God waits to hear our story and to restore
us to life as it is meant to be. Let us come to God in prayer.

Confession

We confess, Surprising God, that our sense of anticipation has
been dulled. We have ceased to expect any wonders from
your hand. We do not see the marvels around us in the people
and happenings we view as commonplace. We are not alert to
your presence or your action on our behalf. Wake us up, God,
lest sleep be our death. Pardon and redeem us, that we may
escape the judgment we are bringing on ourselves. Send your
light that it may shine through us into a needy world. In Jesus'
name. Amen.

Words of Assurance

All who respond to God's call to repentance are embraced in
the generous mercy of God. Whether you responded to God's
call at the first opportunity, or whether you are responding for
the first time now, God's gracious forgiveness is yours, in
Jesus Christ.

Sisters and Brothers,
your sins are forgiven; be at peace

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Prepare the way of the Lord!
Straighten our crooked paths, O God!

The day of the Christ's coming draws near.
Even so, come, Lord Jesus.

The Spirit of the Lord is in this place.
Pray through us now, Holy Spirit.

Pray through us now, that we may praise you, Holy, Triune
God, with angels and archangels, with beings in heaven and
all creatures on earth, with all who have ever sung this hymn
of praise:

**Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Hosts,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest!**

Blessed are you, Jesus Christ, Word made flesh, making all
things new.

Blessed are you, Jesus Christ!

Blessed are you, Holy Spirit, dissolving every chain of sin that
binds us, rebuking every power that enslaves, purifying our
hearts, challenging every action not moved by love, and
setting all creation free.

Blessed are you, Holy Spirit.

Blessed are you, El Shaddai, feeding your people, gathering
us like lambs in your arms, and leading us to life eternal.

Blessed are you, El Shaddai!

We know the end that lies before us and all things:
The elemental powers of this universe shall be burned away,
the heavens vaporized, the earth and all our doings exposed
for all to see.

We know the end, and we tremble.

We also know your promise, out of conflagration to re-create,
out of chaos to re-order, out of such destruction to renew.

We know your promise, and we rejoice.

We rejoice, for you are with us, coming to us in flesh long ago,
coming into our flesh in bread and cup at this, Christ's table,
coming into this world through your Church in the power of the
Spirit, and coming again to complete what you have begun,
and now feed us to continue.

Feed us, O God.

Feed us as Jesus fed his disciples on the night he was
betrayed, taking bread, blessing you, breaking it, saying to
those to whom he gave it:

**This is my body given for you. Take, eat, and remember
me.**

Quench our thirst now as Jesus did that night, taking cup,
giving thanks to you, and saying to those to whom he gave it:

**This is my blood poured out for you. Drink, and remember
me.**

Only you can feed us, God.

Only you can make us holy.

Only you can prepare us for the end to come.

Only you can purify our hearts.

So come, Holy Spirit,
on these gifts of bread and wine, and on us.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Feed us with the bread that lasts forever, the body of Christ.

Slake our thirst with the cup of immortality, the blood of Christ.

Come, Holy Spirit.

And so nourish us in holy living, today and all our days, that on
that day when all things are recreated, and on these days as
we wait for the fullness to come, the world may see and know
in us the love that moves the universe to its true end in new
beginning through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

By him, with him, and in him, united in the power of the Holy
Spirit, all honor and glory are yours, seated upon the Throne,
one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Emmanuel, Emmanuel #204

Emmanuel, Emanuel,
His name is called, Emmanuel.
God with us, revealed in us,
His name is called, Emmanuel.

The vision and mission of Lacey United Methodist Church is to welcome, nurture and serve all. Sharing God's grace with open arms. Making disciples of Jesus Christ for the Glory of God.

*Scriptures to read & pray over in preparation for December 6
Philippians 3:12-14*

*The flowers that grace our altar today are given in glory to God;
And Remembering Eileen on her 76th birthday, today,
Rich, Ed & Kat*

FINANCIAL STATISTICS
November 22, 2020

Attendance ~ In-Person; 48 via Facebook Views
Envelope Offerings ~ \$1,350.00 Plate ~\$27.00
Offerings via Vanco ~ \$723.45 Rent ~ \$50.00

Thank you for your continued support of LUMC! We GREATLY appreciate your generosity! If you are able, please explore giving on-line by using Vanco for electronic giving (details below) or mail your tithes and offerings to LUMC PO Box 151 Forked River, NJ 08731. GNJAC has set up separate accounts for every local Church if you would like to use your credit or debit card to share your tithe and offerings you may do so by visiting gnjumc.org/onlinegiving.

Thank you and God bless you!!

Memorial Brick Orders for The Bell Enclosure Walk Way

4" x 8" Brick / 3 lines / 18 characters each line including spaces = \$50
8" x 8" Brick / 6 lines / 18 characters each line including spaces = \$100
See Elaine Brandt for more information.

Electronic Giving is Here! Follow these easy steps:

- 1) Visit our website at laceyumc.org
 - 2) Click **Electronic Giving**, then follow the instructions
- Or scan the image you see here to locate the giving page:
Contact the LUMC office for more information 609.693.5222



Shop Online? Here are two ways you could earn donations for LUMC!

- ✓ umcmarket.org - You earn for LUMC every time you click through the umcmarket.org site to shop. Sign up for free at umcmarket.org!
- ✓ [amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com/ch/22-2279634) - Support LUMC by starting your Amazon shopping at <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/22-2279634>

NEW DAY! Virtual Bible Study Opportunities

Thursdays 9:00 AM & 6:45 PM

Please contact the LUMC Office if you would like to receive the virtual link!

**** Winter Lunch Program for Lacey's Kids ****

We are collecting **chicken noodle soup** and **peanut butter** to be distributed to participants of our Lunch Program for Lacey's Kids. Drop off **Saturday, December 12th from 11AM-1PM!** Snack donations are also appreciated!

Christmas Worship Services

Blue Christmas – Thursday, Dec. 17th 7:00PM

Christmas Eve Worship Services – 7:00PM & 10:00PM

*All services will include
Communion and candle lighting.*

In-Person Worship will resume on December 13th.

Volunteers are needed to assist with various worship roles (including ushers, counters, etc.). Space is limited due to social distancing practices. Please contact the LUMC Office 609.693.5222 or laceyumcnj@gmail.com to register to attend, volunteer, or obtain a copy of LUMC's re-opening guidelines.

Joy of the Angels Thrift Shoppe

New Hours of Operation:

Thursdays ~ 8:00AM – 11:00AM

Fridays & Saturdays ~ 10:00AM – 1:00PM

Donation Drop-Off:

Thursdays from 8:00AM-11:00AM

♪ ♪ Do you have a favorite hymn that you hope to hear during Worship? Our Worship Team would like to hear from you! Please email your 5 favorite hymns/praise songs to laceyumcnj@gmail.com.

The next hymn we share may be one of your favorites! ♪ ♪

If you would like to have a Hymnal from the Sanctuary to assist in worshipping with us via LUMC FaceBook and Website please contact Joann in Church Office – 609-693-5222