

## The Carols of Christmas Cantata

December 14, 2025

**PRELUDE** 

\*CAROL #220

# **3rd Sunday of Advent**

Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella

**11am** 

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dr. Gina Hendrickson

**FMC Handbell Choir** 

Angels from the Realms of Glory

\*CALL TO WORSHIP Jeremiah Appleton

In this sacred season, the music of Christmas surrounds us once again.

Carols of hope and peace, of love and joy, fill our hearts and stir our souls.

These carols tell the story that words alone cannot express—

The story of God's love, born in a manger, alive among us still.

As we sing and listen, may these melodies rekindle wonder and awaken joy.

For the music of Christmas carries the sound of heaven to earth.

Come, let us worship the One whose birth sets our hearts to singing!

We come with joy to celebrate Christ, the Song of our Salvation!

OPENING PRAYER Jeremiah

God of melody and meaning, You fill our hearts with songs of faith throughout this season. As we lift our voices in the carols of Christmas, remind us that these are more than familiar tunes—they are the language of hope, peace, joy and love made known in Jesus Christ. May every note sung and every word spoken draw us closer to the mystery of Your love made flesh in Jesus Christ. Let the music of our worship echo the angels' song and fill this place—and our lives—with Your unending joy. Through Christ, the Lord of song and Savior of the world, we pray. Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE OF JOY

The O'Hanlan Family

**MORNING PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER** 

**Pastor Gina** 

### THE CAROLS OF CHRISTMAS CANTATA

READING Isaiah 40:1, 3-5 – GOD'S PEOPLE COMFORTED

Jeremiah

\*CAROL #196

**MEDITATION** 

Come Thou Long Expected Jesus

TRUST – DO NOT BE AFRAID

Pastor Gina

**CAROL & MEDITATION** 

I HEARD THE BELLS ON CHRISTMAS DAY

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

FMC Worship Choir

CAROL Still, Still, Still

FMC Handbell Choir

**READING**Jeremiah

Isaiah 11:1-6 – THE PEACEFUL KINGDOM

**READING** Luke 1:26-33 – THE BIRTH OF JESUS FORETOLD Pastor Gina

**CAROL** The Holly and the Ivy FMC Worship Choir

MEDITATION Healing and Life Jeremiah

#### **OFFERING OUR GIFTS OF LOVE**

Jeremiah

We ask you to prayerfully consider giving generously to support the ministries of FMC and the communities we serve for Christ. You can place your offering in the plate as the ushers pass it to you. There is also a basket located in the rear of the sanctuary. Gifts can also be given online and prayers can be emailed to <a href="mailto:church@fmcmoorestown.com">church@fmcmoorestown.com</a>.

**OFFERTORY MUSIC** What Child is This? FMC Worship Choir

**READING** Luke 2:8-14 – THE SHEPHERDS AND ANGELS Pastor Gina

\*CAROL #240 Angels We Have Heard on High (vv 1-3)

**READING John 1:1-5, 9-14 – THE TRUE LIGHT** Pastor Gina & Jeremiah

CAROL Arise and Shine, Your Light Has Come FMC Worship Choir

\*CAROL #237 Sing We Now at Christmas (vv 1-3)

\*BENEDICTION Pastor Gina

\*POSTLUDE



\*Special thanks to all the members of FMC Music Ministry who shared God's praises in this Cantata!

#### **COME AND WORSHIP WITH US!**

4th Sunday of Advent - December 21st 9 & 11 A.M. Services— Hark! The Herald Angels Sing!

#### Wednesday, December 24th - Christmas Eve Candlelight Services:

4:00 P.M. Family-Friendly Contemporary Service 6:45 P.M. A Musical Prelude with Bells & Brass 7:00 P.M. Traditional Service with Bells & Brass

First Sunday of Christmas, December 28th - 10:00 A.M. Combined Worship Service

Join us for Carol singing and discover how Jesus is the Gift that keeps on Giving!

### **ALL OTHER SUNDAYS**

9:00 A.M. Contemporary Worship | 11:00 A.M. Traditional Worship

Services are held in our Sanctuary and livestreamed on Facebook and YouTube CCLI License #782839 | Streaming License #CSPL124152 | CVLI License #504330184







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**ELECTRONIC GIVING OPTION** – If you would like to make an electronic donation to FMC Moorestown, go to <a href="www.fmcmoorestown.com/give">www.fmcmoorestown.com/give</a> or scan this QR code to connect to our digital giving page. Please consider giving generously to support the ministries of FMC that impact communities locally and globally!



#### THE STAFF OF FIRST METHODIST CHURCH

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