

# OLD NORTH CHURCH

*Our mission is to follow Christ and proclaim his word  
in a lost and broken world so loved by God.*

December 14, 2025

THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

9:30 A.M.

Rev. Debbie Rundecker  
Pastor

Mr. Alan Newman  
Organist and Music Director

## WE APPROACH GOD

### PRELUDE

“The Messiah Overture”  
“I Wonder As I Wander”

George F. Handel  
Appalachian Carol

### INTROIT

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

Christmas Choir

### GREETINGS AND OPENING PRAYER

### LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF JOY

It’s getting closer.

**We feel it!**

The days are shorter, but the lights burn brighter.

**We’re listening. We’re eager to hear good news.**

We’ve gathered together in the House of Joy.

**We’re here to praise God with our voices.**

We’re here to praise God with beautiful music.

**We’re here to praise God with all we have.**

Today we light the candle of Joy.

....the candle of Joy is lit...

**We worship God with exceeding joy!**

### Sung Response

“He Came Down”

verse 1, 2 & 3

(Insert)

### Invitation and Unison Prayer of Confession

#### Call to Confession

*adapted from thepastorsworkshop.com*

**Father, we have searched for joy and meaning in our world. We have looked for it in our careers, our social circles, and along many of our paths in life. But these things are fleeting, and our search is unsustainable. God forgive us for not seeking Your kingdom first. Remove those blinders that prevent us from seeing what You are doing in the world and in our lives. Help us to have our eyes focused only on You. Help us to seek**

**the ultimate treasure which is Your gift of Jesus. Help us to trust that we are a forgiven people, who find joy in the assurance that we are Yours. In Jesus’ name we pray, Amen...**

...a time of silence is kept...

### KYRIE

**Lord, have mercy upon us, Christ, have mercy upon us, Lord, have mercy upon us**

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

### SHARING OF THE JOY OF CHRIST

THE JOY OF CHRIST BE WITH YOU!

**AND ALSO WITH YOU!**

### LIVING THE WAY OF JESUS

### \*GLORIA PATRI #805

***Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost!***

***As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,  
world without end; Amen, Amen.***

## WE HEAR THE WORD OF GOD

### YOUNG DISCIPLES’ TIME

### PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

### SCRIPTURE

Romans 11:33-36

Nathaniel Schmude

### SERMON HYMN #146

“Joy to the World!”

### SERMON

“Miracle of the Method – Joy”

## WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

### OFFERING

### OFFERTORY

“There’s a Song in the Air”

Wilbur Held

**\*DOXOLOGY #809**  
*Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures here below. Praise Him above, ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

**DEDICATION OF OUR GIFTS AND TITHES**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** Scott Benell

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER**  
*Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.*

**\*HYMN #147** “Away in a Manger”

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*PARTING SONG #133** “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” (verse 1,3 & 4)

**POSTLUDE** “Prelude on a Lutheran Hymn” Gordon Young

\*Please rise, in body or in spirit. **Bold words indicate unison participation.**

**Welcome to Old North.** *We are pleased you chose to worship with us today!  
Please fill out a welcome card if you would like us to have a record of your visit, more  
information about Old North, or wish to be contacted by the Pastor.*

**Prayer Requests:** If you have a prayer request this morning, please fill out the Prayer Request section of the welcome card located in the pew and place it in the offering plate.

**THE CONSISTORY OF OLD NORTH**

ELDERS: Jon Babicz, Scott Benell, Karen DiBella, Carol Sushko

DEACONS: Tim Frohlich, Rene Gallagher, Brianna Polbos, Richard Schmude



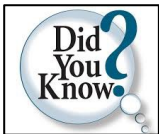
# THE MIRACLE OF THE METHOD Joy

**OLD NORTH REFORMED CHURCH**  
120 Washington Avenue, Dumont, New Jersey 07628  
201-385-2243 [oldnorthdumont@gmail.com](mailto:oldnorthdumont@gmail.com)  
Website - <https://oldnorth.church>

**Welcome to worship at Old North Reformed Church!**

If you would like to be added to our mailing list, please leave your contact information in the guest book in the entrance to the sanctuary before leaving today.

**We encourage you to keep this copy of the bulletin and take it home to share with a family member or with a friend. The service can be experienced anytime online via Old North's YouTube channel or Facebook page.**



Offering Envelopes will be available for 2026. If you do not already receive them and you would like to, please contact the office. You will receive an offering statement for your taxes at the end of the year.

**Prayer Chain:** If you wish to add the power of prayer in times of celebration, healing, or transitions in life, please call Pat Hooey, 201-843-4456. Your prayer requests are uplifted by our prayer team, and confidentiality is honored.



**Church Family Prayer List:**

• Diana • Helen • Katie • Michael • Tom

**For those chronic conditions and their loving caregivers; those seeking employment or vocation; those facing medical procedures or recovering from surgery, and safety for all who are traveling. Prayers for all who serve in the military and for all first responders.**

Scheduled to serve today with our thanks:

**Ushers & Greeters: Ethel Reitsema, Donair Karkkainen**  
**Thank you to Sandra Toscano for hosting Coffee Hour today.**

	Ushers & Greeters	Coffee Hour Hosts
12/21	Carol McCarthy, Rich Schellberg	Rene Gallagher
12/28	Marianne Schmude, Linda Treacey	Ethel Reitsema
1/4	Scott Benell, Karen DiBella, Nancy Gorman	Kathleen West & Gail McNeill
1/11	Mikayla & Nate Schmude	



**Advent Bible Study “The Journey”**  
Join us as we prepare for Christmas.  
12/18 12 p.m. & 7 p.m.



**Congratulations to all of our Church Family who are celebrating a special event!**  
**Happy Birthday!**



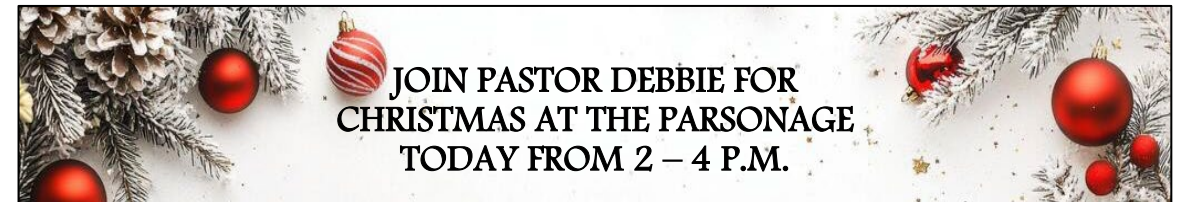
12/1 Evan Benell – 12/2 Eli Apriceno – 12/2 Mathew Cordova  
12/2 Rene Gallagher – 12/6 Brianna Polbos  
12/15 Ben Toscano – 12/24 Anthony Apriceno



**Happy Anniversary!**

12/13 Valerie & Steve Apriceno – 12/26 Betsy & Jack Erhard

**Our next House & Properties meeting is on January 4<sup>th</sup> following worship.**  
**Our next Consistory meeting is on January 18<sup>th</sup> following worship.**



**Longest Night:** December 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 p.m. we will have a Longest Night worship in the Chapel. A time to gather, slow down and seek the heart of God. This is a service for those who struggle during this time of year, whether it is mourning the loss of a loved one, the rush of the season or some other reason, join us as we wait for the presence of God to illuminate our darkness.

**Food Drive:** Thank you to Santa for coming to help out at our Food Drive!

**Christmas Choir:** There will be a rehearsal following worship today. Help to make this Advent/Christmas season the most joyous ever by adding your voice to our Christmas choir. Men, woman and children are encouraged to join the choir.

**Church Calendars:** Frech-McKnight Funeral Home has provided us with Church Calendars for 2026. They can be found in the in the back of the church, the library and the church house hallway.



Looking ahead – Mark your calendar!  
December 21<sup>st</sup> – Youth Christmas Program at 9:30 a.m.  
Longest Night in the Chapel at 6:30 p.m.  
December 24<sup>th</sup> – Family Christmas Eve Candlelight Services at 6:00 p.m.