

**Welcome to Congers UMC.** We are happy to have you with us. Join us for a time of food and fellowship after worship service in the fellowship hall.

This is the <u>2nd Sunday of Advent</u>, a season of spiritual preparation and anticipation leading up to **Christmas**. It begins on the fourth Sunday before Christmas and lasts for four Sundays, symbolizing the anticipation of Christ's birth and the second coming of Christ. During Advent, believers focus on themes of **Hope**, **Peace**, **Joy**, **and Love**, preparing for the celebration of Jesus' birth and the hope of his return. Today's theme is **Peace**.

# We will celebrate Holy Communion today. All are welcome to participate

In December we will also recognize Hannukah (December 18) and Kwanza (December 26-) as well as, HIV/AIDS, International Day of Disabilities and Universal Human Rights Awareness Month

We are especially pleased to welcome the "Distinguished Men" of the Eta Chi Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc worshipping with us today in celebration of their Founders Day, Dec. 4, 1906.

If this is your first or second time with us, please fill in your name, email address, and/or cell number in the "Welcome Visitor's Form" in the back of the pew in front of you. Kindly place it in the offering plates or give it to any member. You may also access this form digitally with our "Connect" QR code. We hope to see you again.



Congers UMC is open for in-person worship service, as well as, on Facebook Live\* <a href="https://www.facebook.com/CongersUMC">www.facebook.com/CongersUMC</a>. \*Please be aware that we use Facebook Live for our worship services. If you are uncomfortable being screened or having pictures taken of yourself or family members, please let our Communications Team (Cheery Villaseñor or Bishop J know).



# **ORDER OF WORSHIP**

UMH (United Methodist Hymnal) TFWS (The Faith We Sing)

#### **ENTRANCE**

PRELUDE Jim West

#### GREETINGS AND WELCOME

# \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Beloved, we gather to remember who we are, not who the world tells us to be.

We tell the story together of the day that all the earth awaits.

We recall the story of God's people, how God has called us to live in peace and righteousness in a world full of conflict and twisted morality.

We tell the story together of the day that all the earth awaits.

We recount the story of our journey with God, the moments of God's provision, God's prodding, and God's prophetic guidance.

We tell the story together of the day that all the earth awaits.

We gather to repent and return anew to God's story that guides our lives to work for peace and flourishing for all God's creation.

We gather to tell the story of the day that all the earth awaits. Thanks be to God! Amen.

Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, May 2025.

\*OPENING HYMN

"I've Got Peace Like a River"

TFWS #2145

#### **OPENING PRAYER**

Loving God, be to us as an avenue of the spirit. Clear your road in us; clear a path through the detritus of possessions and obsessions. Thrust aside our divided aims and devious games.

Topple the ramparts of pride and the doubts that deride. Make a highway on which Christ may come and take possession of the whole territory of our being. To the glory of your name, we pray.

Amen!

Written by Bruce Prewer and posted on Bruce Prewer's Home Page, <a href="http://www.bruceprewer.com/">http://www.bruceprewer.com/</a>. Reposted on the re:Worship blog at <a href="https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2012/11/opening-prayer-prepare-way.html">https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2012/11/opening-prayer-prepare-way.html</a>.

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION(unison)

When our faith is rooted deeply in you, O God, our lives reflect your kingdom values of justice and righteousness, but sometimes our lives become so entangled with the values of the world, that your values take second place. Forgive us, O God, and reconnect us to the Holy Spirit, source of power and life. Merciful God, strip our hearts and minds of all that prevents our lives being firmly rooted in you. May our lives bear fruit worthy of our faith in you, as we watch and wait for your breaking into our world once more, in the person of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

#### SILENT MEDITATION

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

PRAYER RESPONSE

"Come Sunday" (written by Duke Ellington)

Jayon Anthony

# WORDS OF ASSURANCE, GRACE AND FORGIVENESS

\*Offer each other the gift of forgiveness: "In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven."

#### WELCOME AND RECOGNITION OF FIRST OR SECOND TIME WORSHIPPERS

Celebration of Founders Day Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc, Eta chi Chapter, Rockland County Alphas, Jacques Brunache, President

# **PROCLAMATION**

#### LIGHTING OF THE 2nd ADVENT CANDLE OF "PEACE" The Salvant Family

#### Meditation:

.... Peace is the knowledge of the Lord that we proclaim from sea to shining sea.

Congregational Response: Today we light these candles, the candle of joyful hope and the candle of proclaimed peace, in part to remind ourselves that we are a people rising toward God's promise. But we also light them as a sign to the world, an announcement there are some who hold on to hope and there are some who work the ways of peace. We stand as a sign that Emmanuel is still our fervent praver.

\*Response:

"O Come, O Come Emmauel, vs 1"

UMH #211

\*LESSON FROM SCRIPTURE

From the Prophet Isaiah 11:1-10

MESSAGE

"The Paradox of Peace"

Bishop J

# **RESPONSE**

#### INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

#### PRAYERS OF COMPASSION/ PASTORAL PRAYER

You are invited to lift names for prayers of celebration or concern; respond with "Thanks be to God/Lord, in your mercy hear our prayers"

#### PRESENTATION OF TITHES, GIFTS AND OFFERINGS

#### Special Offerings:

Hope for Family and Friends in Need "People to People" Emergency Food Service

#### PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

For your giving convenience, Congers UMC now has online giving with Givelify: go to https://www.givelify.com designate Congers UMC. Or, Use our QR code by pointing the camera on your cell phone to this image:

\*RESPONSE

"My Tribute"



**UMH #99** 

#### CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

The Lord be with you And also with you Lift up your hearts We lift them up to the Lord Let us give thanks to the Lord our God It is right to give our thanks and praise...

THE LORD'S PRAYER

\*SENDING SONG

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

### SENDING

"This Little Light of Mine"

#### OPPORTUNITIES FOR PRAYER, FELLOWSHIP AND SERVICE

UMH #585

\*DISMISSAL WITH TABLE BLESSINGS

**POSTLUDE** (Please be seated)

Jim West

Acolytes carry the Light into the world!

# Opportunities for Prayer, Fellowship, and Service

### We thank our Worship Team Leaders:

Music: Jim West, Jayon Anthoy Lighting the 2nd Advent Candle of Hope: The Salvant Family Communications/Sunday School: Cheery Villaseñor Facebook Coordinator: Roberto Villaseñor Hospitality: Carole Anderson Team

Compassion Prayers

 Please keep in heart and prayer church members, families, and friends who stand in the need of prayer. You can find the complete list on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall. (If there are additions, removals, or amendments to this list, please let Pat Williams know.)

• We pray for God's Peace and Justice throughout our country and throughout this world; such as the ongoing wars between Israel and Palestine, Ukraine and Russia, Israel and Iran, The Congo, Somalia and other parts of Africa, and other parts of our world. Global issues, such as, immigration, atomic energy, women and children abuse, active shootings, climate change, attacks on democracy, disarmament, food insecurity, the unsheltered, etc.



#### <u>Service</u>

If you didn't bring your non-perishable food item to be donated to PEOPLE TO PEOPLE, this Sunday, and you would like to donate, bring it next week or see Francs Reid, coordinator, for more information.

# Future Opportunities





Tuesdays December 9, 16, 23, 7pm, Advent Bible Study by Zoom, Congers and Pearl River UMC. Pastor Gabrielle and Bishop J will lead these studies: This week scripture: Matthew 3:1-12, Bishop J, leading,Link: <u>https://calendar.app.google/gfVhJRBv4hoPPn9E7</u>

Saturday, December 13, "Pop-Up Tea Tasting & Afternoon Tea" 12 and 1:30pm, Tea Tasting, 3-4:30 Tea Service, by our own, Sonya Burnham, Nyack Angel Center, 18 South Broadway, Nyack, NY

# Sunday, December 14, Lighting of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Advent Candle



Sunday December 21, 10am

A Jazzy Christmas Service,

with Joe Ham and

Hamitup Productions, Inc

Invite Your family and Friends. All are invited!

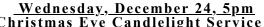




Sunday December 21 -3pm Rockland County United Methodist Churches Christmas Concert, at Pearl River UMC, 130 Franklin Avenue, Pearl River, NY. -Our CongersUMC Music Team will sing!

-Combined Choir rehearses 2:30pm- music: "Give Me An Old Time Christmas, by Mary McDonald" please obtain the music and practice in advance





Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
CongersUMC at New City UMC, 76 Congers Road, New City, NY. Donate a \*Poinsettia in honor or memory of a loved one to decorate the worship space. See next page to order by December 15.

Saturday, June 13, 2026, Joshua: "Sight and Sound Production, Lancaster County, PA. with Spring Valley UMC, \$300, payable in stages beginning October 19. Info: please contact Shantelle Williams Johnson (to date: 3 Congers UMC members attedning, join us!)

# **December Birthdays**

Dorothy Miller 12/5, Evelyn Jaeger 12/6, Amor Oliva 12/13, Cheery Villasenor 12/14, Carol Oliver 12/19 Lorenzo Tacadena 12/20, Khayrie Bullock Hayes and Jaeden Hollis, 12/25, Ellen Strauss Reed and Shui Kurian 12/31





# \*Poinsettias 2025 For those attending the 5pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship with CongersUMC at the UMC of New City

Help fill the worship space and your home (or the home of a loved one) with beauty this Christmas!

\$12 each. Can be purchased "in memory of," "in honor of," or "to the glory of God."

Poinsettias will be available for pick-up following the 5:00pm Christmas Eve worship service. (Please do not order if you will not be attendance.)

Acknowledgment:
(check one) in memory of in honor of to the Glory of God
If "in memory" or "in honor," loved one's name:
Your name (who the plant is from):
<u></u>
\$ Amount enclosed:

<u>Place this completed form in the offering plate during offering, along with your payment (checks can be made out to New City UMC: Note:</u> Candlelight Service.

Alternatively, you may mail this form with a check to The UMC of New City, 76 Congers Rd, New City, NY 10956 or email/text your order info to Pastor Amanda at umcofnewcity@gmail.com / 973-978-5162.

Orders with payment due no later than Mon, Dec 15.



The Angel Nyack 18 S Broadway Nyack, NY





Saturday, December 13, 2025

# Tea Tasting (2 seatings)

Reservations required

12:00 pm & 1:30 pm &

**Tea Service** 

3:00 pm - 4:30 pm

Reserve savannaandsteep.com

Come for Tea, Shop w/ Nyack Makers Market for unique Holiday finds