

# Memorial First India United Methodist Church

JANUARY 1, 2023 10:30 A.M. EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Ministers: The Whole Congregation Together We Can Make a Difference

**\*\*Indicates that you are invited to stand as you are able. At those places marked “unison” or printed in bold you are invited to join in reading aloud with the entire congregation**

## CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

**PRELUDE:**

*Peter Kotiah*

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

*Rev. Saroj Sangha*

**CHORAL INTROIT**

**“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”**

*UMH #626*

*Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand;  
ponder nothing earthly minded, for with blessing in His hand,  
Christ our God to earth descendeth, our full homage to demand .*

**\*\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

*Sanjeeth Thomas*

Leader: The Holy One rules.

**People: Let those who oppress the poor tremble.**

Leader: The God of heaven and earth is righteous.

**People: Let those who stray return to the Lord.**

Leader: The Eternal Judge is seated in the judgement chair.

**People: Let those who love justice shout for joy.**

Leader: The Holy One rules.

**ALL: Let us worship. Amen.**

**\*\*HYMN OF PRAISE**

**“While Shepherds Watch Their Flocks”**

*UMH #236*

**\*\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**“The Apostles’ Creed (Traditional)”**

*UMH #881*

**\*\*GLORIA PATRI**

**“Glory Be To The Father”**

*UMH #70*

## SERVICE OF CONFESSION

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)**

**Eternal God, following only a star in the sky, kings of old left their families and their lands to find a child whose birth was so profound, it was proclaimed in the heavens above. When we would rather sit comfortably in our homes than make spiritual pilgrimages of our own, clothes our feet of clay in walking shoes and send us on our way. At this season of light, help us shine your light in the darkness to honor the King of kings. Open our closed hearts to those in need, that the gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh might not be the last gifts offered to the one who brings light into our lives. Amen.**

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

Minister: The power that brought light and salvation to the kings of old is at work in  
The world today, granting eternal life to those who turn to God.

People: Thanks be to God! Amen.

**JOYS AND CONCERNS**

*Pastor*

**PRAYER RESPONSE**

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

*Children may go to their Sunday School Classes*

**SERVICE OF PROCLAMATION**

**ANTHEM**

*“One holy night in Bethlehem”*

*Chancel Choir*

**THE OLD TESTAMENT READING: Isaiah 60: 1-6**

*Jayakumar Durgam*

L: This is the Word of God.  
All: Thanks be to God.

**\*\*THE GOSPEL READING:**

**Matthew 2: 1-12**

*Neelima Valaparla*

L: This is the Word of God.  
All: Thanks be to God.

**MESSAGE:**

*“Covenant of Promise”*

*Dr. Hanock Gnana Mithra*

**MUSICAL SELECTION**

*Telugu Chancel Choir*

**THE HOLY MEAL AND SERVICE OF COMMITMENT**

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING .....**

**UMH Pages 13 &14**

*Communion Music “Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross” [1 & 2 only]*

*UMH #301*

*(When you Come to the Lord’s Table bring your Offerings & place them in the basket)*

*The two bowls are for your Communion Offering, which will be used to help the needy.*

*As we participate in the Sacrament, please join in singing the following Hymn:*

*Communion Hymns*

*“There Is a Fountain Filled with Blood”*

*UMH #622*

*# Telugu Lyric*

*Jesu, Jesu”*

*UMH #432*

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (unison):**

**Eternal God, having shared in your sacred covenant-renewing meal, let us now also share in your sacred work on earth. As we have received sustenance for our bodies, minds, and spirits, may we share our transformed selves with other persons and families in our local and global communities. Amen.**

**\*\*Doxology**      *“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”*

UMH #95

**DEDICATION OF THE OFFERING**

**SENDING FORTH**

**\*\*HYMN**                      *“We Three Kings”*

UMH #254

**\*\*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING**

Minister:      Follow the kings of old in search of God’s Son.

**People:**      **We go with promise of new life in Christ.**

Minister:      Follow the magi in search of meaning and purpose.

**ALL:**      **We go with the promise of new life in Christ.**

**Amen.**

**\*\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE**      *“Let the Beauty of Jesus Be Seen in Me”*

*Let the beauty of Jesus be seen in me...*

*All His wondrous compassion and purity.*

*O Thou Spirit divine, all my nature refine .....*

*Till the beauty of Jesus be seen in me!*

**POSTLUDE**

*Peter Kotiah*

***We thank everyone who donated generously towards the Christmas decorations and Carol Singing.***

***Welcome Visitors and Guests. We are glad you chose to worship with us today. We trust you will experience the presence of God in our worship. And may His presence go with you everywhere!***

Ones again we express our gratitude to **Dr. Hanock Gnana Mithra**, for bringing God’s message to us. Dr. Mithra is accompanied by his wife, Irene and daughter Disha. We thank him and his family and pray for God’s blessings upon them.

**Even if you are coming early, could you kindly leave the Upper Level parking for the elderly and handicapped. Rest of the members, please try and use the lower level parking.**

**Thank you!!!**

*Wishing you a Blessed & Prosperous New Year !!*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**The Altar flowers are presented to the Honor and Glory of God!**  
**Please inform the Pastor or the Church Office if you are planning to host a Fellowship hour in the Parlor, so proper arrangements can be made.**  
**Please remember to take home the altar flowers you placed in celebration or memory of your loved ones.**

Every Saturday at 9:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study is held via Zoom.  
Every Sunday at 9:30 a.m. Adult Bible Study is in the Church Parlor.

### PRAYER SUPPORT FOR THE FOLLOWING:

**Mr. Sikander Henry, Mr. Sandeep Keshiah, Mr. John Punith, Mr. Scott Whittemore** (Liz Roth's cousin), **Dr. T. Vishwas Rao Jude, Dr. Prabha Clarence, Mr. Moses Peram** (Kalyani Bezwada's brother), **Mr. Paul Jerome Kola, Mr. Anil Keshiah, Mrs. Pauline Robinson and her son, Mr. Anthony Robinson, Mrs. Victoria Jaipal, Mrs. Stella Samuel, Mr. Sherlock Ratanjee, Mr. Raphael Neville Victor, Mr. Richard McMullen, Mrs. Esther Cornelius and Mrs. Asuntha Francis** (Mrs. Rachel Samuel's sister).  
**CHILDREN RECEIVING CARE AT HOME:** Elysia Durgam and Abigail Channuri.

*Memorial First India United Methodist Church*

9226 Colesville Road – Silver Spring, MD 20910

Pastor, Rev. Saroj Sangha at 301-879-0374 or Church at 301-585-8015

Office hours 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday thru Friday, [www.mfiumc.org](http://www.mfiumc.org)

### *Our attendance and Offering for December 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>, 2022*

Tithes and Offering = \$483.00 & \$9,828.00 = \$10,311.00

Attendance: Adults 168 Youth 15 Children 10 = 193

### *Worship Leaders*

**Liturgist:** Sanjeeth Thomas; **Readers:** Jayakumar Durgam & Neelima Valaparla;

**Acolyte:** Johanna Jagga

## **“One holy night in Bethlehem”**

One holy night in Bethlehem, the air was filled with song.  
Angelic voices sang on high, and shepherds piped along:  
Sing glory, glory, gloria! God's love is given birth!  
Be not afraid, Sing gloria, and peace to all the earth!

And heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing,  
And heaven, and heaven and nature sing!

Their music echoed through the town, into the stable stall,  
Where Mary sang a lullaby, and rocked her Baby small:  
Sing glory, glory, gloria! God's love is given birth!  
Be not afraid! Sing gloria, and peace to all the earth!

Repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy!

As Joseph touched the lamb's soft wool, and fed the donkey hay,  
He whistled his own happy tune, and thanked God for this day:  
Sing glory, glory, gloria! God's love is given birth!  
Be not afraid! Sing gloria, and peace to all the earth!

And wonders of His love, and wonders of His love,  
And wonders, wonders of His love!

Be still, and you will hear today, these melodies of old.  
Then join your voice in harmony, until the tale is told:  
Sing glory, glory, gloria! God's love is given birth!  
Be not afraid! Sing gloria, and peace to all the earth!

Let peace begin with me: let this be the moment now.  
With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow:  
To take each moment, and live each moment, in peace eternally.  
Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me!