



# SONGS OF THE SEASON

## Series Overview

The long awaited coming of the Messiah is certainly something to sing about. This series of song-inspired sermons rings in the tradition of Advent with a culmination on Christmas Eve and charge to Go Tell It on the last Sunday of the year!

### **Week 1: Born to Deliver**

Theme Verse: Isaiah 40:1-5

Traditional Song: *Come Thou Long Expected Jesus*

Advent Candle: Hope

When all life seems hopeless, mass shootings and hate are on the rise, a voice cries out from the wilderness! As we begin our journey to Christmas, we remember the hope that never ends and that we have a Savior who prepares a way for each and every one of us.

### **Week 2: Path of Peace**

Theme Verse: Isaiah 2:2-5

Traditional Song: *Blessed Be the God of Israel*

Advent Candle: Peace

As we walk towards Christmas, part of our journey is to walk in the path of the Lord. In a world that so quickly jumps to vengeance and retribution, this season we will learn to walk in the path of peace.

### **Week 3: Rejoice! Rejoice!**

Theme Verse: Isaiah 35

Traditional Song Base: *O Come, O Come Emmanuel*

Advent Candle: Joy

On the verge of the collapse of Israel, the prophet cries out with words of joy. One day, we will all be free, Jesus comes to free the captive, provide healing for the broken and sorrow and sighing will fall away and we will sit in the presence of our God. To prepare for Christmas means to work with Jesus for the freedom of all people.

### **Week 4: Lift Up Your Heads**

Theme Verse: Psalm 24

Traditional Song Base: *Lift Up Your Heads, O Ye Gates*

Advent Candle: Love

As we prepare for the birth of a baby, we remember that it leads to Christ on the cross. The psalms teach us that we can walk from feelings of desperation, "My God, My God why have you forsaken me." To the knowledge of a presence even in the valley of the shadow of death and ultimately to the praising and rejoicing of the love of the King of Glory.

### **Week 5: Light of The World**

Theme Verse: Luke 2:1-20

Traditional Song Base: *Jesus the Light of the World*

Advent Candle: Christ

This is it! The night is finally upon us and our four weeks of preparation leads to the birth of Jesus. Just as Jesus is the Light of the World, we are to be that light sent into the world.



**UNITED METHODISTS**  
OF GREATER NEW JERSEY



**SONGS**  
OF THE SEASON

**Week 6: Go Tell It**

Theme Verse: Luke 2:8

Traditional Song: Go Tell it on the Mountain

Christmas may be over and the holiday week may end in a few short days, yet our role in the world has just begun. Jesus prepares the way; now we are to follow the example of the shepherds to go and tell the entire world the Good News!



**UNITED METHODISTS**  
OF GREATER NEW JERSEY