

Third Sunday after the Epiphany

9:30AM, January 25th, 2025

Asterisk (*) indicates standing, as able. Bold/colored type indicates text spoken in unison.

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP Responsive

Children of God, when fears press in on every side, we can proclaim with confidence:

God is our light and salvation! Whom shall we fear?

When our problems overwhelm us and we feel pressed in on every side, we can declare with confidence:

God is the stronghold of our lives! Of whom shall we be afraid?

No matter the troubles we face, we seek after God and to live in the house of God forever.

God shelters and protects us in the day of trouble.

Come, let us worship God with joy, for God is our light and salvation!

We come to worship as bearers of the Light. Thanks be to God! Amen.

*HYMN "How Great Thou Art" **UMH # 77**

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Apostles' Creed **UMH # 881**

OPENING PRAYER Unison

Light of the World, shine upon us this day. Break through the clouds that separate us from one another, that we may worship you as one body. Guide our steps, that we may walk in your light and live as your people of love.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND PARDON Unison

Holy Christ, we come to You knowing that we have fallen away from your intentions for us. We have followed the paths of greed and envy, turned away from our brothers and sisters in need in order to satisfy our own desires. You gave your life for us, and yet we are willing to give

so little at times. Forgive us for not understanding that You laid down your life for us. Forgive us for not recognizing the sacrifice of love, to live for others instead of ourselves. Call us back to repent and return to the kingdom of God. In your precious name, we pray. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Christ continues to lay down his life for us, so that we might have life. Christ continues to show us the way, so that we might live into the truth and the life. Christ continues to love us, so that we might love God and love our neighbors as ourselves. Know that you are forgiven, loved, and given new life. **Amen.**

JOYS, CONCERNS AND PASTORAL PRAYER

SCRIPTURE READING **Isaiah 9:1-4 (NRSV)**

- 1 But there will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.
- 2 The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness-on them light has shined.
- 3 You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder.
- 4 For the yoke of their burden and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

MESSAGE "Light Has Shined" **Rev. Dongkue Jee**

RESPOND TO THE WORD

* HYMN "Pass It On (It Only Takes a Spark)" **UMH # 572**

THE LORD'S PRAYER **UMH # 895**

OFFERING

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

*DOXOLOGY "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" UMH # 95

*PRAYER OF OFFERING Unison

Steadfast Light of our salvation, in a world that trembles with uncertainty and teaches us to fear, you shine with unwavering hope. You call us to seek your face and trust in your presence more than in our own strength. Receive these gifts, given not out of fear but in joyful confidence that your love casts out fear and your grace makes us bold. Use our offerings to build a world where your light leads, your justice reigns, and your people—unafraid—become living testimonies of your goodness. In the name of Christ, our rock and redeemer, we pray. Amen.

SENDING FORTH

*HYMN "We've a Story to Tell to the Nations" UMH # 569

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

* The offering plate is located at the entrance of the sanctuary. Please feel free to participate.

* Fellowship follows the worship service. Please join us for refreshments and fellowship in the Parlor.



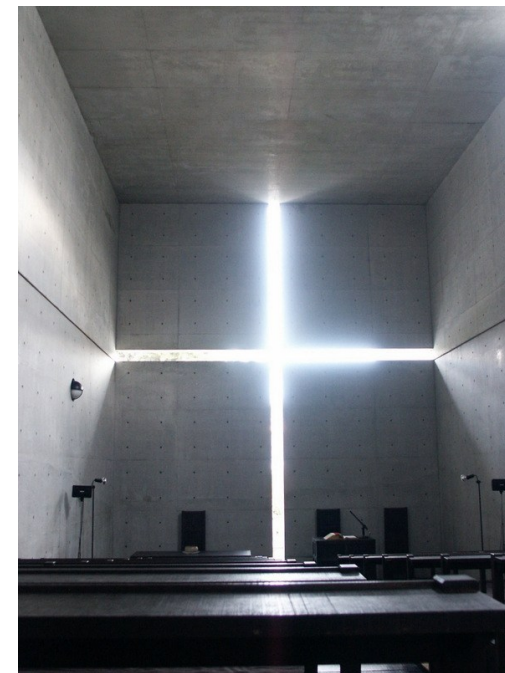
Welcome to **Mendham United Methodist Church**

www.mendhamumc.org

10 East Main Street, Mendham, NJ 07945

Third Sunday after the Epiphany

Sunday, January 25th, 2026



Interior of the Church of the Light, 1999, Andō, Tadao, 1941-,
Church of the Light, Architecture, Ibaraki, Japan

Rev. Dongkue Jee, Pastor

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