

# SENECA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Christmas

January 8, 2023

**Pastor: Rev. Dr. Zayzay Gwepougee Kpadeh**

**Worship Leader: Dave Grau**

**10:00 A.M. Morning Worship**

**Prelude**

**- George Wilbur**

**Announcements and Welcome**

**Greet One Another**

**Ministry of the Acolytes and Time of Preparation**

### Invocation (All)

God of all time, we praise and adore you for breaking into the darkness of this world with the glorious light of your presence. A light which made your love for the world visible in the babe born in Bethlehem, Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior. A Light which guided those gift-bearing travellers from afar to find and worship the Christ-child. A light which leads us to you, now revealed in Jesus Christ. We pray that you will accept our worship for it arises from hearts and minds in awe over the enormity of your gift to us of pure love. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

**\*Opening Hymn**

**“Angels from the Realms of Glory”**

**- 220 (P)**

**Old Testament Reading**

**Isaiah 60:1-6**

**Prayer of Confession**

God of Light, we confess that we have gone astray and have left Your light. We follow the dim lights of the world of success and fortune. We follow the dime lights that call us to be more religious by following rules. Forgive us for not seeking the true Light, of Your love for all the world. Forgive us for not following the ways of Jesus, who commanded us to love one another. Deploy us to be light-bearers of love and compassion, in which the Mystery of Your Love is revealed. In the name of Jesus the Messiah, we pray. Amen.

**\*Hymn**

**“Stepping in the Light”**

**(Insert) - 459 (R)**

### Epiphany Prayer

God of Light, we are still the people walking. We are still people in the dark, and the darkness looms large around us, beset as we are by fear, anxiety, brutality, violence, loss – a dozen alienations that we cannot manage. We are – we could be – people of your light. So we pray for the light of your glorious presence as we wait for your appearing; we pray for

the light of your wondrous grace as we exhaust our coping capacity; we pray for your gift of newness that will override our weariness; we pray that we may see and know and hear and trust in your good rule. That we may have energy, courage, and freedom to enact your rule through the demands of this day and the days to come. In Jesus Name we pray. Amen.

**Time for Tots**

**Doxology**

**\*Response of Praise**

**Prayers of the People**

**Gospel Reading**

**Matthew 2:1-12**

**\*Hymn**

**“The First Noel”**

**- 245 (P)**

**Sermon**

**“Epiphany”**

**- Rev. Rick Osberg**

### LORD’S PRAYER

**- 881 (P)**

**\*Hymn of Response**

**“We Three Kings”**

**- 254 (P)**

**(Vs. 5)**

**Blessing of the Blankets**

**\*Benediction (ALL)** Jesus, You are the Light of the world. Shine Your light in me today. Chase away the darkness of sin, the darkness of fear and doubt and despair. Fill me with the light of Your truth, Your Word. Produce in me the fruit of righteousness, the evidence that Your Holy Spirit lives in me. Teach me what is pleasing to You. Make me a shining example of Your amazing grace, redeeming love, and life-changing power. May others be drawn to You through me. Amen.

**\*Response**

**“He Is Lord”**

**- 177 (P)**

**\*Postlude**

Indicates when the Congregation is welcome to stand, (if able)

#### TODAY

- Sunday School 9:00 – 9:45 a.m. - Worship Service – 10:00 a.m.  
Please greet Rev. Rick Osberg – Guest Minister

#### THIS WEEK

- Mon. Jan. 9 – Celebrate Recovery – 7:00 p.m.  
- Weds. Jan. 11 – NO Bible Study

#### FUTURE EVENTS

- Sun. Jan. 15 – Sun. School – 9:00- 9:45 a.m. - Worship Service – 10:00 a.m.  
Deb Keister – Lay Speaker)  
- Mon. Jan. 16 – Celebrate Recovery  
- Weds. Jan. 18 – NO Bible Study

### PLEASE SAY A PRAYER FOR:

Hunter Anderson; Tim and Jennifer Anderson; George Bryan; Willda Chutz; Karen Conant; Owen Cope; Elliot Crawford; Joe Drozdo; Tammy Flick; First Responders; Pat and Nancy Gibbons; Mukiza Gorett & Son; Josh Harman; Health Care Workers; Mary Ann Kaminske; Greg Kassick; Lydia Kelly; John “Bags” King; Sue Lindey; Long-term Care Facility Staff; Residents and Families; Peggy Mathers; Raymond Kellerman; Stacy Kellerman; Bishop Cynthia Moore-Koikoi; Jan Marzolf; Ricky Myers; Alex and Joey Petkavich; Joyce Riddle; Shirley and Steven Rickenbach; Family of Jim Ruby; Family of Rose Roush; Mike Russell; Mike Roxberry; Jodene Sandin; Ed Shreffler; Angelo Sibio; Marcia Slye; Georgie Staab; Gerry Stivanson; Lauren Stocker; Deputy Troy; Jeanne Udovic; Unspoken; US Military men and Women; Emily Vanhook; David Waters; Katie Welms; Dot Wilson; Ruth Wilson; Ann Ziegler; Fred and Judy Ziegler; Doug Zimmerman.

**\*Mon. Dec. 26, 2022, Pastor Zayzay departed for an overseas trip to Africa. Pastor will return the first week of February.**

**\*Sun. Jan. 15, 2023- Guest Lay Speaker: Deb Keister**

Covering during the absence of Pastor Zayzay will be Rev. Rick Osberg (814) 221-0414 & Deb. Keister (814) 227-8191 (Cell) Jeff Bobin and Denise Mains for emergencies: Jeff Bobin (814) 853-8181... Denise Mains (724) 867-2214 (Cell)

The SPPRC Chair at Seneca is Brian Creighton. Mr. Creighton's number is (814) 671-8324. Mr. Creighton is also attached to this communication. Please reach out whenever there is a need. Wishing you a joyous and blessed season. Prayerful wishes for a happy and prosperous New Year. Ubuntu, Pastor Zayzay

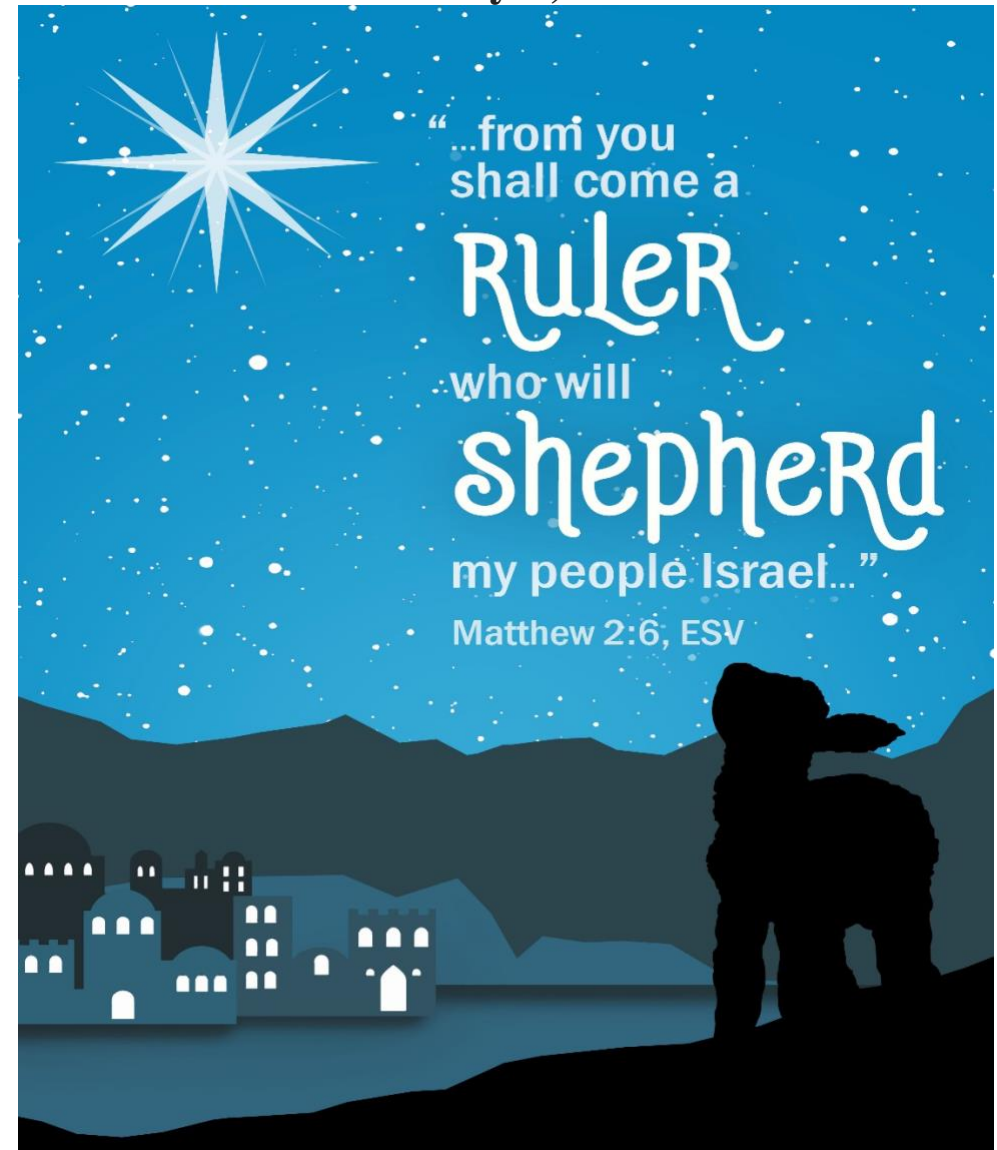
**Pastor: Rev. Dr. Zayzay G. Kpadeh**  
**Ministers: Congregation**  
**Organist: George Wilbur**  
**Pianist: George Wilbur**  
**Children's Church: Wendy Struthers**  
**Jan. Greeters: TBA**  
**Jan. Ushers: TBA**  
**Welcome Connection Center**

### Reflection for the Month of January 2023

“Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain” (Corinthians 15:58)

# SENECA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

January 8, 2023



196 East State Rd.  
Seneca, PA 16346  
[Sumchurch16346@gmail.com](mailto:Sumchurch16346@gmail.com)  
Pastor's Cell (610)931-5118  
Office (814) 676-1759