**Asbury United Methodist Church**

143 Ann Mary Brown Drive, Warwick, RI 02888

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Worship Leader: Jan Jones Chancel: Michelle Dorsey

\* Please rise in body or in spirit

**January 5, 2025**

**Gathering Song** “Amazing Grace” Hanna Noh

**Greeting**

**Asbury Mission Statement**

We are Asbury! Abundantly thankful to God; Saved by Christ’s resurrection; Blessed by God; United by Christ’s love for each of us; Reaching out to our church family and our community; Yearning to tell the Good News to all by being Christ’s voice, hands, and feet in the world.

**Centering hymn** TFWS 2025 “As the Deer” x1

**\*Call to Worship**

**Leader:** As a new year dawns, we gather to remember: In the beginning was the Word, the source of all life and light.
**People:** In the Word, we find our beginning, our purpose, and our hope for the days ahead.

**Leader:** The Word became flesh and dwelled among us, bringing grace and truth.
**People:** This grace meets us today, renewing us for the journey of a new year.

**Leader:** Though the world may not recognize the light, the darkness cannot overcome it.
**People:** We step into this year trusting in the light that shines for all creation.

**Leader:** From the fullness of God’s grace, we have received blessings upon blessings.
**People:** As God’s beloved children, we will walk in faith, with gratitude and wonder.

**Leader:** Come, let us worship the Word made flesh, the light of the world, the promise of new beginnings!
**People:** With joyful hearts, we praise God, who makes all things new.

**Opening Hymn:** UMH 89 “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee” vs 1, 3

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Loving God, Word made flesh,**
You have been with us from the beginning, bringing life and light to all creation. Yet we confess that we often live as though your light has not come. We cling to darkness, choosing our own ways over your truth. You came to dwell among us, full of grace and truth, but we have failed to recognize your presence. We are quick to receive your blessings but slow to reflect your grace to others. We allow pride, fear, and selfishness to overshadow the abundant life you offer. Forgive us, God of new beginnings. Open our hearts to your Word, that we may walk in your light and live as your children. Shape us with your truth, so that our lives may radiate your love in this new year and always.

**In Jesus’ name, we pray. Amen.**

**Assurance of Pardon**

**Leader:** Hear the good news: The Word became flesh and lived among us, full of grace and truth. From the fullness of God's grace, we have all received blessing upon blessing. God did not send the Word into the world to condemn us but to save us. Through Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, renewed, and made whole.

**People:** Thanks be to God, who brings light into our darkness and grace into our lives. Amen.

**\* Sharing Passing the Peace of Christ Among Us**

**Choir Anthem** “Holy, Holy, Holy”

**Scripture Reading:** John 1:1-5, 10-18

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being 4 in him was life,[a] and the life was the light of all people. 5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it.

10 He was in the world, and the world came into being through him, yet the world did not know him. 11 He came to what was his own,[a] and his own people did not accept him. 12 But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, 13 who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. 14 And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father’s only son,[b] full of grace and truth. 15 (John testified to him and cried out, “This was he of whom I said, ‘He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.’ ”) 16 From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.[c] 17 The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. 18 No one has ever seen God. It is the only Son, himself God, who[d] is close to the Father’s heart,[e] who has made him known.

**Songs of Illumination**

UMH#454 Open My Eyes, That I May See vs1

Open my eyes that I may see / glimpses of truth thou hast for me.

Place in my hands the wonderful key that shall unclasp and set me free.

Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.

Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!

**Sermon:** “Anchored in the Living Word” Rev. Yohan Go

**Response Song:** TFWS 2140 “Since Jesus Came Into My Heart” vs. 1

**Joys and Concerns**

**Hymn: (UMH 186 Alleluia)**

**Alleluia Alleluia Alleluia Alleluia x 2**

**Pastoral Prayer** Rev. Yohan Go

**Lord’s Prayer**

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name;

thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory,

for ever and ever. Amen.

**Offering Invitation**

**Interlude** “Great Is Thy Faithfulness” Hanna Noh

**Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,

Praise Jesus Christ, our burdens know,

Praise Spirit through whom our hearts grow,

Praise Three-in-One, from here below.

**Offering Prayer** Rev. Yohan Go

**Hymn TFWS#2268 As we gather at your table vs 1**

**Holy Communion**

**\* Closing Hymn:** UMH 664 “Sent Forth by God’s Blessing” vs. 1

**Benediction** Rev. Yohan Go

**\* Prayer for peace through Hymn UMH #431 “Let There Be Peace on Earth”**

**Postlude** “Just a Closer Walk with Thee”Hanna Noh

**Announcements**

1. Rev. Yohan will be on leave from January 6 to 12. If you need assistance during this time, please contact the church office or a member of the church council.

2. Joan White will deliver the message next Sunday.

**Birthdays**

6th Derek LaCroix

8th August Carl Whitham

10th Lisa Arnold & Judy Rogers

**Flowers** *The flowers on the altar this week are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of David Pratt, by his wife LaDonna and loving family.*