



**BROOK HILL**  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**BHUMC.ORG**  
**301-662-1727**

**January 5, 2025**



## **Fortune Cookie Faith**

**Scripture ~ Matthew 2:1-12 NIV**

**PASTORAL TEAM:**

**REV. DR. DANA WERTS, LEAD PASTOR**

**REV. KATHY ALTMAN, ASSOCIATE PASTOR**

**PASTOR JENNIFER MAURAS-RIVERA, PASTOR OF SHALOM HISPANIC MINISTRY**

***Welcome, We Are Glad That You're Here!***

## **CELEBRATING CHILDREN AT BROOK HILL UMC**

### ***TO THE PARENTS OF OUR YOUNG CHILDREN, MAY WE SUGGEST...***

Relax! God put the wiggle in children; don't feel you have to suppress it in God's house. All are welcome!

Sit toward the front where it is easier for your little ones to see and hear what's going on. They tire of seeing the backs of others' heads.

Quietly explain the parts of the service and actions of the pastor, ushers, choir, etc.

Sing the hymns/songs, pray, and voice the responses. Children learn liturgical behavior by copying you.

If you need to leave the service with your child, feel free to do so, but please come back. As Jesus said, "Let the children come to me."

Remember that the way we welcome children in church directly affects the way they respond to the Church, to God, and to one another. Let them know that they are at home in this house of worship.

### ***TO THE MEMBERS OF OUR CHURCH***

The presence of children is a gift to the Church, and they are a reminder that our congregation is growing.

Please welcome our children and give a smile of encouragement to their parents.

## **Informal Worship – 9:00am**

Song of Welcome

Welcome and Connection Points

Opening Prayer

Songs of Praise

Children's Message ~ Shelly Evans

Prayer Time

*(Anyone is welcome to come forward and kneel at the rail)*

Giving to God

Scripture ~ Matthew 2:1-12 NIV ~ *Ella Wilson*

Message ~ Fortune Cookie Faith ~ Pastor Dana

Holy Communion ~ Pastor Kathy

Song of Sending

Blessing

***Our worship service has ended. Our service of worship begins.***

# Traditional Worship

\* *Stand as you are able*

Prelude

*Garrett Harmon*

Welcome and Connection Points

\* **Call to Worship**

*Pastor Kathy*

Leader: Lord, this year, we will follow the Star of Bethlehem.

**All: Too long we've gone the wrong way, followed the wrong stars!**

Leader: We went South following movie stars, greed, and lust.

**All: Star of Wonder...**

Leader: We went East following stars of militarism, nationalism, and war.

**All: Star of Light...**

Leader: We even went North following our own visions, our own intuition, and our own way.

**All: Star with Royal Beauty Bright...**

Leader: Lord, this year, we will follow the Star of Bethlehem.

**All: The Star of Hope.**

Leader: The Star of Peace.

**All: The Star of Joy.**

Leader: The Star of Love.

**All: The Star that is You.**

\* **Hymn #254 "We Three Kings of Orient Are"**

**Opening Prayer**

**God of Promise and mysterious Light, be with us this day as we journey in our faith; to meet your Gift. Give us courage and hope along our way, as your light will continue to glow brightly in our path, leading us to service and discipleship in Jesus' Name. AMEN.**

Children's Message

Shelly Evans

*(Please join in singing "Jesus Loves Me" as the children leave)*

**Hymn**

**"Jesus Loves Me"**

*Jesus loves me this I know, for the Bible tells me so.*

*Little ones to Him belong; they are weak, but He is strong.*

*Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!*

*The Bible tells me so.*

Special Music

"Mary Had a Little Baby"

Chancel Choir (2018 Recording)

*(words and music by Virginia Rathert-Zetterberg)*

Pastoral Prayer and **Lord's Prayer**

*(Anyone is welcome to come forward and kneel at the rail)*

**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, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Offering Invitation

Offertory

Garrett Harmon

\* **Doxology Hymn #95 "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"**

\* Offering Prayer

\* **Hymn #219 "What Child is This"**

Scripture

Matthew 2:1-12 NIV

Sue Everhart

***The Magi Visit the Messiah***

*After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him."*

*When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. "In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied, "for*

*this is what the prophet has written: "But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel."*

*Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him." After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.*

Message "Fortune Cookie Faith"

Pastor Dana

**Holy Communion pg. 12**

Pastor Kathy

\* **Hymn #251 "Go Tell it on the Mountain"**

\* Blessing

\* Postlude

Garrett Harmon

***Our worship service has ended. Our service of worship begins.***

Thank you for continuing to be faithful in giving to support the ministries of Brook Hill! We couldn't do it without you! We are partnering with God, investing in God's kingdom work, and reaping the blessing of generosity as we experience the faithfulness of God to provide all we need to be the Church of Jesus Christ.

Thank you to all those who excel in this grace of giving!



For those who prefer, Electronic Giving is available by texting "brookhillgive" to 833-245-6424, on our webpage, QR code, or your offering can be mailed in.

# Want to get Connected to Brook Hill?

Check out the CONNECT Wall

Go to our Website [bhumc.org](http://bhumc.org)

Sign up and Watch for our Emails

Follow our Facebook Page

Call the Church Office 301-662-1727

