

Scripture Theme for 2025
For God gave us a Spirit not of Fear
But of Power and Love and Self Control
2 Timothy 1:7



First United Methodist Church

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Pastor Melissa Smith Nelson

2nd Sunday after Christmas Day

The 12th Day of Christmas

January 5 2024- 10:30 a.m.

Welcome All!

*We are pleased that you are worshipping with us either
on Face book Live or in the fellowship hall*

**Congregation, please stand if able*

Point to Ponder: Worship of Christ is one of the things we forget to pay attention to, our need to worship. It's not just a need, but a longing, a deep longing that nothing else will fill. We are incomplete without it;

PRELUDE

Tom Hoehn

*HYMN

TFWS 2236

"Gather Us In"

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rudy Hyde

Leader: Children of God, we enter the new year as we ended the last: gathered together for worship!

People: We gather to seek, find, and follow the Light.

Leader: The prophet Isaiah calls to us from deep in the past: "Arise, shine; for your light has come."

People: We gather to seek, find, and follow the Light.

Leader: The magi followed a star to find a small child who is the Light of the world.

People: We gather to seek, find, and follow the Light.

Leader: So, let us receive the call of Isaiah and follow the example of the magi as we begin this new year turning our faces to God whose glory shows up among us as a vulnerable child, a poor carpenter, and a foot-washing servant who is the salvation of the world.

People: We gather to seek, find, and follow the Light today and every day. Amen.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENT

Rudy Hyde

*HYMN OF PRAISE

No. 249

"There's a Song in the Air"

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

Pastor: Gracious God, we would like to be among those who saw the coming of the Christ Child, those who dropped all that they were doing and traveled to worship the coming of God's love into this world.

People: We would like to be those who cared for God in His infant vulnerability. We would like to have been among those who gave him comfort as a child so that he might know love and safety.

Pastor: And yet, merciful God, we know we get caught up with other things and we fail not only to follow the star but we even fail to see it shining.

People: Forgive us when we are not even aware of your presence in our life.

A moment of silence with God to use as you choose.

Meditative Music

Leader: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

People: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Followed by the Lord's Prayer

YOUR GIVING MAKES A DIFFERENCE

OFFERTORY PRAYER: Gracious Lord, whose light guides our steps, we bring these gifts in humble adoration. May they be used to spread your truth and love to all nations. As we journey into this new year, let our hearts remain focused on your presence and our hands open to your service. In the name of Christ, our guiding star, we pray. Amen

OFFERTORY

Tom Hoehn

***DOXOLOGY**

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Bill Elliott

Isaiah 60:1-6

Liturgist: This is the Word of God for the People of God

People: Thanks be to God!

***GOSPEL LESSON**

Louise Humble

Matthew 2:1-12

Liturgist: This is the Word of God for the People of God

People: Thanks be to God!

MESSAGE

Pastor Melissa

"Come Together"

HOLY COMMUNION

2ND Mile Giving for January

100% of Your Gift Goes to Support

The 11th Annual First Responders Thanksgiving Feast

***SENDING FORTH HYMN**

No. 254

"We Three Kings of Orient Are"

*** BENEDICTION**

Pastor Melissa

Pastor. Beloved, go from this place carrying the blessing of the Light who has come among so that the love of the Christ child may shine within you,

People: We go with the help of God to cast rays of good news wherever we go.

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit

People: Submit to God and God will bring the best out of you. Amen.

POSTLUDE

Tom Hoehn