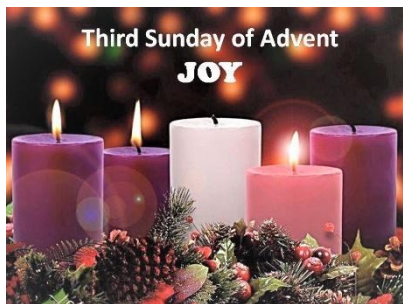


United Methodist Church forms disciples of Jesus Christ who, empowered by the Holy Spirit, love boldly, serve joyfully, and lead courageously in local communities and worldwide connections."



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Pastor Melissa Smith Nelson



December 14, 2025- 10:30 a.m.

Welcome All!

*We are pleased that you are
worshipping with us either
on You Tube Live or in the Sanctuary*

**Congregation, please stand if able*

PRELUDE

Tom Hoehn

Lighting of Advent Candle:

Evelyn Geiseke & Mary Lou Tillison

*Point to Ponder: Today is Rejoice Sunday. We in our Advent Journey need to
have glimpses of Light in the Darkness. . . both are a part of our life. . . Joy &
Sadness.*

**Placing Chrismon's On Tree
(You are invited to Come Forward and
Place a Chrismon on the Christmas Tree)**

Special Christmas Songs will be played as you come forward.

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Rudy Hyde

Beloved, we gather to rejoice in God who does wondrous
things, who promises that someday all manner of things
shall be well.

We rejoice in the truth of the day that all the earth awaits.

We worship with joy now, confident that God will not stop until
all creation is at peace.

We rejoice in the truth of the day that all the earth awaits.

We lift up our voices in song and story, in prayer and praise, as
we remember and rejoice in all that God has done and
will do among us.

We rejoice in the truth of the day that all the earth awaits.

Come! Let us worship God with joy as we work with God toward
the day when all of creation lives in everlasting joy.

Come! Let us rejoice in the truth of the day that all the earth awaits.

***OPENING HYMN**

No. 218

"It Came Upon a Midnight Clear"

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENT

Rudy Hyde

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

Pastor Melissa

Pastor: God, we confess that we have often placed our hope in people and things that can't fulfill our every need.

People: We have searched for peace in shallow places. We have mistaken joy for temporal pleasure and artificial exhilaration. We have put limits on the ways we love, excluding those who need our loving kindness the most. God, when we have lost our way, show us yours. Guide us to the hope in you that will renew our strength.

Pastor: Lead us to your peace that transcends all understanding. Fill us with a joy we can only experience in your presence. Remind us that you have always loved us with an everlasting love, so that we may share that love with others.

A moment of silence with God for your personal prayer of confession.

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

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

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYERS:

FOLLOWED BY THE LORD'S PRAYER

YOUR GIVING MAKES A DIFFERENCE

OFFERTORY PRAYER: Gracious God of deep joy, even when storms rage and doubts rise, you call us to see with kingdom eyes—to look for healing, hope, and signs of your grace breaking in. In this Advent season of expectation and weariness, we bring these gifts as expressions of joy, rooted not in ease but in trust. In Jesus Holy name.

OFFERTORY
***DOXOLOGY**

Tom Hoehn

Scripture for Month of December

Psalm 29:11

The Lord gives STRENGTH to his People: He blesses them with PEACE.

Psalm 29:11

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Bill Elliott

Isaiah 35:1-10

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

People: Thanks be to God!

***NEW TESTAMENT LESSON**

Louise Humble

Matthew 11:2-11

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

People: Thanks be to God!

MESSAGE

Pastor Melissa

"Sign & Truth"

SPECIAL MUSIC

Little Drummer Boy

Performed by "Young Peoples Group"

accompanied by Corine Samuelson

***HYMN OF GOING FORTH**

TFWS 2030

"First Song of Isaiah"

***BENEDICTION**

Pastor: Advent people, go now in the blessing of God's joy, confident that the day we await is close at hand and ready to cooperate with God in building the kingdom of God on earth as it is in heaven.

People: Amen.

Pastor: In the name of the Father, Son & and Holy Spirit.

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

POSTLUDE

Tom Hoehn

