

FUMC San Benito 1st Core Belief : To be effective and serve God we need to be a community of joy that celebrates easily and laughs freely.



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Pastor Melissa Smith Nelson



First Sunday in the New Year
& Remembrance of Baptism Sunday
January 4, 2026 - 10:30 a.m.

Welcome All!

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

*Congregation, please stand if able

PRELUDE

Tom Hoehn

*Point to Ponder: We are called to live our baptism every day, as new
creatures, clothed in Christ.*

Pope Francis

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Rudy Hyde

Leader: Come! Let us follow Jesus to the edge of the Jordan
River to be baptized.

People: We come to be cleansed and made whole.

Leader: Come! Let us witness John's confusion and Jesus'
insistence that John baptize God Incarnate.

**People: We come to join Jesus in choosing life in the
kingdom of God.**

Leader: Come! Let us hear God declare the truth of Jesus'
identity and the truth of our identity as baptized people.

**People: We come to remember and embody who we are as
beloved children of God.**

Leader: Come! Let us worship God who leads us into the
baptismal waters and salvation life.

**People: We come to worship God who empowers us
through divine presence to live together as the family
of God.**

*HYMN OF PRAISE

No. 64

"Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty"

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENT

Rudy Hyde

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

Pastor Melissa

We are incredibly stubborn, O Lord. We have entered the season in which your light has been given to the world, your blessings have been poured out on the world, and yet we too often only think about our own problems, our own needs, and our own desires.

Help us to desire you, Lord. Help us to yearn for your presence. Let the baptismal waters flow again, cleansing us from our self-pity and arrogance. Wash away our jealousy, greed, and all negative thoughts and behaviors that stand in the way of our truly being the people you have called us to be.

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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

followed by THE LORD'S PRAYER

YOUR GIVING MADE A DIFFERENCE

OFFERTORY PRAYER: Faithful and Calling God, continue to draw us into community, into covenant, and into new life through waters of grace and acts of justice. Just as Jesus stepped into the river to stand with us and for us, we bring these gifts today to stand with others—to serve, to uplift, and to proclaim your kingdom. Use these offerings to fulfill your righteousness among us. Help us, your baptized people, to be instruments of healing, hope, and holy change in a world longing for good news. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

OFFERTORY

Tom Hoehn

*DOXOLOGY

SCRIPTURE FOR JANUARY:

2 Timothy 1:7

**For God has NOT give us a spirit of fear; but of POWER 7
Love & of a SOUND MIND.** **2 Timothy 1:7**

***GOSPEL LESSON**

Louise Humble

Matthew 3:13-17

*Liturgist: This is the Word of God for the People of God
People: Thanks be to God!*

MESSAGE

Pastor Melissa

“Power of Presence”

***HYMN OF NEW YEARS**

No. 383

“This Is a Day of New Beginnings”

INVITATION TO Our SACRAMENTS & BAPTISM

Pg 45

“Holy Communion”

The Remembrance of Your Baptism

All are invited to come forward as we take Holy Communion and Place your Hands in the Waters of the Baptismal Font. You may remain and kneel afterwards if you wish.

***HYMN OF GOING FORTH**

No. 89

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

***BENEDICTION**

Pastor: Go in peace; love and care for one another in the name of Christ; and may the Spirit of God, which filled John and Jesus, also fill our hearts, souls, and minds with the love of God, which directs our every action,

People: **God is our guiding light and our shining star, both now and forevermore.**

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