

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 28, 2025- 10:30 a.m.

Welcome All!

*We are pleased that you are worshipping
with us*

*Either in the Sanctuary or on You Tube Live
or in the Sanctuary*

**Congregation, please stand if able*

PRELUDE

Tom Hoehn

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Rudy Hyde

Leader: Beloved, we have waited, watched, and witnessed the coming of the Christ child. As we gather today on the other side of Christmas, we might be tempted to ask, "What now?"

People: We continue to wait and watch for the day that all the earth awaits.

Leader: In this season of Christmas, we remember that though Christ has come among us, the good news of freedom for captives, flourishing for the poor, and power returned to the disempowered does not reign in so many places.

People: We continue to wait and watch for the day that all the earth awaits.

Leader: With Mary and Joseph, we listen for God to show us how to protect and advocate for the vulnerable among us.

People: We continue to wait and watch for the day that all the earth awaits.

Leader: As we gather to worship today, may God bind us together in love, empowering us to live as followers of the Christ child who declare good news wherever we go.

People: We gather today as people who wait, watch, and work for the day that all the earth awaits. Thanks be to God! Amen.

***OPENING HYMN**

No. 219

"What Child Is This"

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENT

Rudy Hyde

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

Pastor Melissa

Loving God, we confess our sins against you and one another, and pray that you will fill us with your light, that we may live our lives as true disciples in your name, without counting the cost.

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.

HYMN OF THE PRAYER

No. 235

"Rock-a-Bye, My Dear Little Boy"

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYERS:

FOLLOWED BY THE LORD'S PRAYER

YOUR GIVING MAKES A DIFFERENCE

OFFERTORY PRAYER: Steadfast God of refuge and promise, even when the world makes no room, even when fear seems stronger than hope, you are with us. In the flight to Egypt, in the cries of grief, in the fragile beginnings of new life, you make a way. Receive these gifts, O God, as signs of our willingness to make room for your kingdom among us. Use what we bring—not just our treasure, but our time, our voices, our compassion—to heal what is broken, to protect the vulnerable, and to embody your saving love. In the name of Jesus, our Light in the shadows. Amen.

OFFERTORY

Tom Hoehn

*DOXOLOGY

Scripture for Month of December

Psalm 29:11

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

Psalm 29:11

***NEW TESTAMENT LESSON**

Louise Humble

Matthew 2:13-23

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

People: Thanks be to God!

MESSAGE

Pastor Melissa

"Signs of Power"

***HYMN OF GOING FORTH**

No. 246

"Joy to the World, the Lord Is Come!"

***BENEDICTION**

Pastor: Family of Christ, go now into the world to resist the misuse of power in our world,

People: We go to point to the signs of good news all around us, and to work for the empowerment and flourishing of all people, especially the vulnerable among us.

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

Remember there are



