

Elm Grove United Methodist Church



January 5, 2025

Second Sunday After Christmas

Welcome

Prelude

“To Follow the Star“
Anita Chops, Organist

by Franklin Ritter

*Opening Hymn

“The First Noel”

UMH #245

*Call to Worship

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.**

(by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, July 2024.)

*Opening prayer

Dear God, reveal to us this day what our eyes look for but cannot see; what our ears hear and cannot understand. Shine your light on the pages of our lives. In the places where we share the dark, everyone looks bright, and everything looks right. We are not anxious to move out of our darkness where we are fooled. In the darkness, our motives are not clear, our ideas are not voiced, and our relationships are not questioned. But when your light shines, everything is like an open window. We see clearly. Help us to move on with you, Light of lights. We praise you and pray in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.

(Written by T. Anne Daniel, The Africana Worship Book, Year B (Nashville: Discipleship Resources, 2007), 129.)

Sharing Joys & Concerns
Pastoral Prayer

The LORD'S Prayer

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 of Gifts, Prayers, and Tithes

Special Music

"We Three Kings"
Anita Chops Organist

By John Henry Hopkins, Jr.
8:30

"Star Child"
Chancel Choir

Carlton R. Young
11:00

Presentation of Gifts

*Doxology

"Bless Thou the Gifts"

UMH #587

*Prayer of Dedication

By the light of a star you guided the nations to the Light of the world. Accept these gifts from your people; the GOLD of our faithfulness, the INCENSE of our prayer, and the FRAGRANCE of our lives. Use these gifts to guide us to being the light for our world today. All this we do through Jesus, who is Lord for ever and ever. AMEN.

(Author unknown, edited by Pastor Deb)

Dismissal for Children's Church (ages infant-5th grade)

*Passing the Peace

*Hymn

"What Child is This?"

UMH#219

Scripture

Matthew 2: 1-12

Doug Whitecotton

Message

Doug Whitecotton

Prayer of Confession

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. And yet, merciful God, we must recognize all the times we are more like Herod. Whenever we, in our actions or in our inactions, find our own needs more compelling than the needs of others. 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. In the name of Christ, the one who showed us the way, we pray. Amen.

Words of Assurance

God's light is present in this world.

We are loved, we are forgiven. Alleluia! Amen.

*Hymn

"We Three Kings"

UMH # 254

Sending Forth

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, casting rays of good news wherever you go. Amen.

(Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, July 2024.)

Postlude

"Joy to The World"
Anita Chops Organist

By Roger C. Wilson

*Congregational standing, if able.

Bold congregational response

Monthly Financial Report for December

Income - \$29,985.91

Expenses - \$29,667.97

Balance - \$317.94

**Calendar of Events
January 5 through January 12**

Sunday	1/5	Worship Service - 8:30am Sunday School - 9:45am Worship Service - 11:00am Taking down decorations - 4.00pm All helpers welcome! Old Fellowship Hall in use - 7:00pm
Monday	1/6	Lois's Stitches of Caring - 1:00pm Boy Scouts - 6:30pm
Tuesday	1/7	Administrative Council Meeting - 6:00pm
Wednesday	1/8	Newmeyer Hall in use - 10:00am - 12:00pm Choir - 6:30pm
Thursday	1/9	Nothing Scheduled
Friday	1/10	Nothing Scheduled
Saturday	1/11	Iney's Pre-Loved Boutique - 9:00am– noon Community Luncheon—11:00am - 12:00pm
Sunday	1/12	Worship Service - 8:30am Sunday School - 9:45am Worship Service - 11:00am Old Fellowship Hall in use - 7:00pm

WELCOME!
2025



Monthly Calendar of Events

2025
January

11th - Iney's Pre-Loved Boutique 9:am

11th - Free Community Luncheon 11am

17th - Mystery Dinner - 6pm

18th - Mystery Dinner - 6pm

20th - Martin Luther King Day - Office Closed

21st - Night To Shine Training - 6pm

***No Bible Study in January

WELCOME! 2025

MISSION OF THE MONTH

House of the Carpenter
&
Street Moms

Collecting in January

Hats
Gloves
Mittens
Scarves

Place your donations in the baskets at the back of the sanctuary. Thank you for your support, so we can support others.

- And as always, we gladly accept non-perishable food items for the Blessing Box all year.

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Pastor: Rev. Debra Dague
Choir Director & Organist: Ms. Anita Chops
Administrative Assistant: Terri Helt
Maintenance Supervisor: Ms. Jan Coffey
Elm Grove United Methodist Church
125 Kruger Street, Wheeling, WV 26003

