

**Sunny Side United Methodist Church**  
**First Sunday After Christmas**  
**December 28, 2025**

*We are so glad you are worshipping with us this morning! We hope you feel the love and peace of Christ in this place! If you have a prayer request or are a first-time guest, please complete a card from the pew rack in front of you and put it in the offering plate.*

**Gathering Music**

**Tom Robinson**

**Welcome and Call to Worship**

The heavens are bursting forth with God's glory!

**God's mighty acts of power and love are sung by God's angels!**

From the darkness of our night, God has brought us salvation!

**We have not been forgotten!**

Thanks be to God who, in a little child, has again reminded us of God's love.

**Praise be to God who comes to save and lead us.**

**\*Chiming of the Hour**

**\*Opening Prayer**

God of hope and light, your good news has been emblazoned across the skies, the great starry night of Jesus' birth, sung by angels, celebrated by shepherds, witnessed by animals. You have given to us a new chance, a reminder of your continual love for us. Be with us in this worship, we pray. Guide our thoughts, our lives, our spirits. Heal and restore us. For we ask this in Jesus' Name. **Amen.**

**Prelude**

*For your reflection: Where and how did you experience the loving presence of God during the past week?*

**\*Hymn: "There's a Song in the Air"**

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**\*Affirmation of Faith by Rev. Sarah Speed, used with permission**

We have seen the valley. We have seen a sky without stars.

We have seen the longest night, **and still we believe.**

**We believe in Emmanuel- a with-us God.**

**We believe in the hope of tomorrow.**

**We believe that good news is louder than fear.**

**We believe this good news is for all people.**

So even when our knees shake, even when our voice trembles, even when fear is all around us,

We will hold onto that good news.

We will reach for each other.

We will look for God in our midst.

We will sing songs of joy.

**We will proclaim: *Unto us, Love is born.***

We have seen the longest night, and we have seen unimaginable, miraculous love. **So still, we believe.**

**Response:** *Emmanuel, Emmanuel, His Name is called Emmanuel*  
*God with us, revealed in us, His Name is called Emmanuel.*

**Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer**

**Christmas Carol Sing-Along:** *Request your favorites!*

**Offertory**

**\*Doxology and Prayer of Dedication**

**Scripture:** John 1: 1-14

**Message:** He Dwelt Among Us

**Rev. JoAn Kinrade**

**\*Hymn:** "Go Tell it on the Mountain"

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**\*Benediction**

**\*Postlude**

\*You are invited to stand at this point in the service, as you are able.  
Please silence cell phones during the worship service.

**Serving in Worship**

Organist: Jonna McRae

Pianist: Tom Robinson

Choir Director: Dr. Kay Wideman

Acolytes: Carrie Love, Olivia Love, and Charley Kendrew

Ushers: Richard Overley, Don Smith

Sound and Livestream: Charlie Love, Janice Kulp,  
Skylan Cavender, Taegin Montgomery

**Pastoral Care:** Rev. JoAn Kinrade, [joan.kinrade@ngumc.net](mailto:joan.kinrade@ngumc.net)

**For your calendars:**

**Wed, Jan. 7** Food Pantry  
Bible Study, **5pm**  
Choir Practice, **6:45pm**

**Thurs, Jan. 8** Finance Committee Meeting, **6:30pm**

**Sun, Jan 11** Commissioning of Church Leaders, **11am**

**Tues, Jan 13** Trustees Meeting, **5:30pm**  
Administrative Council, **6:30pm**

**Wed, Jan 14** Bible Study, **5pm**  
Choir Practice, **6:45pm**

# Sunnyside United Methodist Church

December 28, 2025

## Our prayer, by Hans Holznagel

Christmas is for mystery, O God.

We scarcely understand the ways  
you break into this world and into our lives.

Yet, we know you do.

The whole earth still needs your peace,  
with peoples in conflict and the earth in distress.

May the ancient story of your arrival  
make us courageous bearers of good news  
and doers of good deeds.

For the sake of your beautifully created world, we pray. **Amen.**

## It Is Not Over, by Ann Weems

*It is not over,*

*this birthing.*

*There are always newer skies  
into which*

*God can throw stars.*

*When we begin to think*

*that we can predict the Coming of God*

*that we can box the Christ*

*in a stable in Bethlehem,*

*that's just the time*

*that God will be born*

*in a place we can't imagine and won't believe.*

*Those who wait for God*

*watch with their hearts and not their eyes,*

*listening,*

*always listening*

*for angel words.*



## GIVING REPORT (Dec 21, 2025)

	<u>Weekly</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Actual	\$ 2,796.00	\$149,386.77
Budget	<u>\$ 3,414.23</u>	<u>\$174,125.77</u>
Difference	\$ -618.23	\$ -28,153.23