

BETHESDA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

10:30 a.m. Sunday 28 December 2025

First Sunday after Christmas

ENTRANCE

Announcements

Greeting: Christ is born; give him glory!
Christ has come down from heaven; receive him!
Christ is now on earth; exalt him!
O you earth, sing to the Lord!
O you nations, praise him in joy,
for he has been glorified!
(Traditional Byzantine Christmas Prayer, Alt.)

*Opening Hymn: 250 “Once in David’s Royal City”

*Opening Prayer: 231 “Christmas”

Congregational Anthem: 249 “There’s A Song in the Air”

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson: Isaiah 63:7-9

Psalter: 861 Psalm 148

Second Lesson: Hebrews 2:10-18

*Hymn of Preparation: 235 “Rock-a-Bye, My Dear Little Boy”

*Gospel: Matthew 2:13-23

Sermon

Joys, Concerns, Prayers

Children’s Time

(2)

Prayer: **Heavenly Father,**
whose children suffered at the hands of Herod,
though they had done no wrong:
give us grace neither to act cruelly
nor to stand indifferently by,
but to defend the weak
from the tyranny of the strong;
in the name of Jesus Christ who suffered for us,
but is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.
(Alternate Service Book, Church of England)

*The Peace: Let us offer one another signs of reconciliation and love.
The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

THANKSGIVING

Invitation: As forgiven and reconciled people,
let us offer ourselves and our gifts to God.

Offering/Offertory

*Doxology: 95 “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

*The Lord’s Prayer: 895

SENDING FORTH

*Closing Hymn: 238 “Angels We Have Heard on High”

Dismissal with Blessing:
May the Christ who by his Incarnation
gathered into One things earthly and heavenly,
fill you with the sweetness of inward peace and goodwill;
and the blessing of God Almighty,

(3)

the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always.

Amen.

Go forth in peace and joy.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

*Postlude/Going Forth

*Indicates the people standing, if willing and able

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+PREACHING THE REVISED COMMON LECTIONARY, YEAR
A, Abingdon Press, Page 87.

The weekly calendar reprinted on the reverse of the scripture insert is
from The United Methodist Global Ministries Prayer Calendar. Please
use it this week.