

December 28, 2025 First Sunday After Christmas 10:30 AM

**Those who are able, please stand*

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

WELCOME

We are pleased that you are worshipping with us today. We hope the service today will be a blessing to you as we end a year and start a new one. This is the First Sunday after Christmas. Today is Jesus' birth revealed in Scripture Readings.

Announcements:

December 29, 2025 Free Lunch 11:00-12:30

January 4, 2026 Service in First Floor Chapel @ 10:30 with Lay Servants

January 10, 2026 Undecorate the Church

January 11, 2026 Service in Sanctuary with Communion Service

January 18, 2026 Annual Trustee Meeting and Election of Officers @ 12:00

January 18, 2026 Administrative Board Meeting After Church @ 12:00 Noon

January 19, 2026 Martin Luther King Service @ Johnstown Lutheran Church

January 19, 2026 Food Pantry - 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM

January 20, 2026 Wells House Service - Lay Servants Service @10:30 AM

MUSICAL PRELUDE "Love Came Down at Christmas" Mavis Baldwin, Pianist

WORDS OF ASSURANCE (In Unison)

Blessed Lord, into our darkness you have brought the Light of your love. You have given to us a reminder of the many ways in which you care for us and guide us. Celebrate the joy that is given you. Live in God's hope, peace and joy and bring all of these to all God's people in his Son, Jesus' name. AMEN.

INVITATION TO WORSHIP:

LEADER: From the Stillness of the blessed night of Jesus Birth

PEOPLE: WE COME BEFORE YOU, O GOD, IN PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING THIS DAY.

Leader: The heavens are bursting forth with God's glory! Praise be to God.

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

Leader: God has given us his Son. Jesus is the light which God has given especially to the world to bring great joy to all of us.

People: Help us to remember that the light draws us to you.

Leader: Today open your hearts, take courage. See the light. Experience great Joy today as God is with us!

People: Thanks be to God who, in a little child, has again reminded us of God's love and given us hope.

All: God has placed His trust in all of us to be those who will bring good news of hope, peace and joy to this world. Pour your peace upon us. Amen

GATHERING SONG "Angels from the Realms of Glory" UMH 220

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (In Unison)

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 who came into this world bringing hope, love, peace and joy. AMEN

TIME WITH GOD'S KIDS

SHARING OUR JOYS & CONCERNS

(Prayer request forms are available at the back of the sanctuary)

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.

PRAYER RESPONSE "Hark! the Herald Angels Sing (1st Line) UMC 240

GIVING OF OURSELVES & OUR OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY "The Snow Lay on the Ground" Chancel Choir

DOXOLOGY "Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow" UMH 95

UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND THANKSGIVING

Lord, the gifts we offer to you pale when our minds try to grasp all we have been given to us in this season. May your light shine in the darkness and the world be filled with hope, peace and joy. We offer these gifts in Jesus’ name to be used in our church, our community and the entire world. Help us embrace your extravagant generosity as we give ourselves to others. May our lives proclaim the joy of these gifts throughout the world. AMEN.

SONG OF COMMITMENT “O Little Town of Bethlehem“ UMH 230

PRAYER (Unison) For True Singing UMH 69

PSALTER READING “Canticle of Mary” UMH 199

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (please stand) “A Modern Affirmation” UMH 885

GLORIA PATRI *(We use this ancient response to praise God)* UMH 70

SCRIPTURE Isaiah 63: 7-9 -- Gospel Reading Matthew 2: 13-23

SHARING THE STORY “Now we Finish our Journey” Pastor Joyce Royal

SENDING SONG “Joy to the World” UMH 246

THE SENDING FORTH

The Magi watched and waited knowing that something wondrous would be happening. The light of God was on its way. May the God of light, love, joy and mercy be in your hearts and spirits this day. Go into the world with God’s peace in your hearts. Know that our Saviour, Jesus Christ walks with you in the newly found light of the world. Praise God for the gift of Jesus Christ. AMEN

If you still have flowers on the Alter, please take them today. Fill out the Flower Chart which is on the Wall near the office..

MUSICAL POSTLUDE “Come Thou long Expected Jesus” Mavis Baldwin, Pianist

Prayer List: The Family of Mark Locatelli, Maryanna’s Friend Michael, Nancy Marsh, Sandy Marsh, Baby Noah, Margaret White, Mike Frederick, Gloria Sutler, Joan Alley, Calae Bonfey, Carol Johnson, Don Rubsha, The Baldwin Family, Ivy Patterson, The Sanfords, Don Williams

Prayer Requests can be sent to prayers.nmsumc@gmail.com

Welcome to Worship

**NORTH MAIN STREET UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**
316 North Main Street, Gloversville, NY 12078

FIRST Sunday AFTER CHRISTMAS

