



# MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Epiphany Sunday

January 4, 2026

(\* Indicates when people are invited to stand)

**PRELUDE:** *"Variations on a French Noel"* Arr David Sarandon

## WORDS OF WELCOME

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

In this holy season of Christmas,

**Christ comes to us again.**

In this quiet after the harried days of December,

**God invites us to pause and reflect.**

Our journey has led us here.

**The Spirit is with us now.**

Let us bow down as sages of old,

**and worship Christ our King.**

## OPENING PRAYER

Christ of power and justice, help us embrace the power that comes from love, and guide us to seek the justice that love reveals. Open our hearts and minds, that we may hear your wisdom in this time of worship. Open our lives in the year ahead to the power and strength of your loving Spirit. In your holy name, we pray.

**Amen.**

**\*HYMN: 203** *"Hail to the Lord's Anointed"* vs 1-4

## PRAYER OF YEARNING

Light of the world, we yearn to walk in the light, but the shadows are all around and oh-so-familiar. Pull us from the darkness of fear of gloom—familiar places where we hide from you, from ourselves, and from others. Shine upon us with your grace, and pull us forward with your love. For we yearn for the courage of sages of old who left hearth and home to draw closer to you. Give us the passion to stand up for justice, to share our gifts and talents generously, and to offer our love unconditionally. For we long to build your realm upon this earth. Amen.

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Arise! Shine! Christ the light has come, and this light will guide us well.

## \*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

May peace prosper in our world and in this place. And may we foster the abundance of peace by sharing signs of peace and love with one another.

## OLD TESTAMENT: Isaiah 60:1-6 (NIV)

“Arise, shine, for your light has come,  
and the glory of the Lord rises upon you.  
See, darkness covers the earth  
and thick darkness is over the peoples,  
but the Lord rises upon you  
and his glory appears over you.  
Nations will come to your light,  
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

“Lift up your eyes and look about you:  
All assemble and come to you;  
your sons come from afar,  
and your daughters are carried on the hip.  
Then you will look and be radiant,  
your heart will throb and swell with joy;  
the wealth on the seas will be brought to you,  
to you the riches of the nations will come.  
Herds of camels will cover your land,  
young camels of Midian and Ephah.  
And all from Sheba will come,  
bearing gold and incense  
and proclaiming the praise of the Lord.

## SCRIPTURE RESPONSE

This is the Word of God, for the People of God.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM: 72:1-7, 10-14 (NIV)

Endow the king with your justice, O God,  
**the royal son with your righteousness.**

May he judge your people in righteousness,  
**your afflicted ones with justice.**

May the mountains bring prosperity to the people, the hills the fruit of righteousness.

**May he defend the afflicted among the people and save the children of the needy; may he crush the oppressor.**

May he endure as long as the sun, as long as the moon, through all generations.

**May he be like rain falling on a mown field, like showers watering the earth.**

In his days may the righteous flourish and prosperity abound till the moon is no more.

May the kings of Tarshish and of distant shores bring tribute to him. May the kings of Sheba and Seba present him gifts.

**May all kings bow down to him and all nations serve him.**

For he will deliver the needy who cry out, the afflicted who have no one to help. He will take pity on the weak and the needy and save the needy from death.

**He will rescue them from oppression and violence, for precious is their blood in his sight.**

### **EPISTLE: Ephesians 3:1-12 (NIV)**

For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles—

Surely you have heard about the administration of God's grace that was given to me for you, that is, the mystery made known to me by revelation, as I have already written briefly. In reading this, then, you will be able to understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, which was not made known to people in other generations as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to God's holy apostles and prophets. This mystery is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members together of one body, and sharers together in the promise in Christ Jesus.

I became a servant of this gospel by the gift of God's grace given me through the working of his power. Although I am less than the least of all the Lord's people, this grace was given me: to preach to the Gentiles the boundless riches of Christ, and to make plain to everyone the administration of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things. His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms, according to his eternal purpose that he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord. In him and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence.

### **SCRIPTURE RESPONSE**

This is the Word of God, for the People of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **\*GOSPEL: Matthew 2:1-12 (NIV)**

The gospel according to Matthew.

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him."

When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. "In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied, "for this is what the prophet has written:

"But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;  
for out of you will come a ruler  
who will shepherd my people Israel."

Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him."

After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose

went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

### **SCRIPTURE RESPONSE**

This is the Word of God, for the People of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **REFLECTIONS ON GOD’S WORD**

*Pastor Rob Odum*

**HYMN: 237**

*“Sing We Now of Christmas”*

*vs 1-4*

### **OFFERING PRAYER**

Gracious God, bless these gifts, that they may be as impactful as the gold, frankincense, and myrrh given to the Christ child by kings long ago. May our treasures bring honor to your name and support justice in your world. May our worship bring humility to our hearts, and may our time and talents bring love to life in all that we say and in all that we do.

**Amen.**

**OFFERTORY MUSIC:**

*“On This Day Earth Shall Ring”*

*Arr Gustav Holst*

**\*DOXOLOGY: 94**

*“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”*

### **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**

### **SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION**

### **INVITATION**

### **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty (almighty God), creator of heaven and earth.

Before the mountains were brought forth, or you had formed the earth, from everlasting to everlasting, you alone are God.

You created light out of darkness and brought forth life on the earth.  
You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life.  
When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast.  
You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God,  
and spoke to us through your prophets. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of  
heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your  
glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ,  
in whom you have revealed yourself, our light and our salvation.  
You sent a star to guide wise men to where the Christ was born;  
and in your signs and witnesses, in every age and through all the world,  
you have led your people from far places to his light.

By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection  
you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death,  
and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.  
On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread,  
gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said:  
"Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.  
Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over he took the cup,  
gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said:  
"Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,  
poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,  
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving  
as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us,  
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,  
and on these gifts of bread and wine.  
Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,  
that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.  
By your Spirit make us one with Christ,  
one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world,  
until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet.  
Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church,  
all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father (God), now and for ever.

**SERVING THE BREAD AND CUP**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Eternal God, as we have shared together of your body and your blood, remind us that we are called to share of ourselves with all who we might encounter. Help us to welcome the stranger, the outcast, the unloved and the forgotten. In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord we pray. Amen.

**\*CLOSING HYMN: 157**

*"Jesus Shall Reign"*

*vs 1-4*

## \*BENEDICTION

Arise, shine, as you go into the world!

**We will shine as we go into the world!**

Shine with love and justice.

**We will shine for all the world.**

## \*POSTLUDE:

*"There's a Song in the Air"*

*Arr Cindy Berry*

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January	Liturgists	Ushers
4th	Carolyn Ettlie	To be determined
11th	Lynn Sirna	To be determined
18th	John Hurley	To be determined
25th	Connie Ziegler	To be determined

## SNOW/WEATHER CLOSINGS



When inclement weather necessitates closing of the church for Sunday worship, meetings, etc., WISN - Channel 12 will be notified and the announcement of the closing will be televised. Please tune in to WISN - Channel 12 before venturing out in inclement weather.

## Memorial UMC

### General Information & Staff

3450 South 52<sup>nd</sup> Street, Greenfield, WI 53219

**Church Phone:** 414-545-2440

**Church Email:** [mumcgreenfield@gmail.com](mailto:mumcgreenfield@gmail.com)

**Pastor:** Rev. Rob Odum, 414-238-8367

**Pastor's Email:** [robdodum@gmail.com](mailto:robdodum@gmail.com)

**Director of Music:** Sarah Brumm

**Hymn Leaders:** Sarah Brumm,

Summer Ketchell, Emily Bergeron

**Pianist & Organist:** Karen Fetzer

**Live Stream Production Team:**

Brad Weller, Xylia-Sophia Conn,

John Stoekl, Tom Rowe, Greg Ettlie

**Office Administrator:** Peggy Leonhardt

**Hours:** Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 9am-1pm

**ADULT BIBLE STUDY:** Sunday, 9:15am

**CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL:** Sunday, 10:30am

**CERAMICS:** Mondays, 1-9pm

**CHANCEL CHOIR:** Thursday, 6:30-7:25pm

**JOYFUL BELLS:** Thursday, 7:30-8:30pm

**DINING OUT GROUP:** Jan. 10<sup>th</sup> at 5pm at:

Area 51 Sports Bar & Grill, 5121 W. Howard Ave

**SASSY SOWERS:** 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday & 3<sup>rd</sup>, Thursday, 10am-1pm

**WOMEN'S BREAKFAST:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday, 9am at Meyers

**MEN'S BREAKFAST:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday, 8:30am at Meyers

