

 **Who Are We?**

We are a welcoming church that wants everyone to know God's love.

Love First Foster Belonging
Grace-Powered Hope, Help, and Healing

 **Our Core Values****PRELUDE****WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Welcome visitors – please take this opportunity to register your attendance in the red attendance pads located in the pews.

***CALL to WORSHIP:**

Friends, we have waited, watched, and witnessed the coming of the Christ child. As we gather today on the other side of Christmas, we might be tempted to ask, "What now?"

We continue to wait and watch for the day that all the earth awaits.

In this season of Christmas, we remember that though Christ has come among us, the good news of freedom for captives, flourishing for the poor, and power returned to the disempowered does not reign in so many places.

We continue to wait and watch for the day that all the earth awaits.

With Mary and Joseph, we listen for God to show us how to protect and advocate for the vulnerable among us.

We continue to wait and watch for the day that all the earth awaits.

As we gather to worship today, may God bind us together in love, empowering us to live as followers of the Christ child who declare good news wherever we go.

We gather today as people who wait, watch and work for the day that all the earth awaits. Thanks be to God! AMEN.

(Lisa Hancock)

***OPENING HYMN**

UMH 229

"Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"

***OPENING PRAYER:**

**Send, O God, into the darkness of this troubled world,
the light of your Son.**

**Let the star of your hope touch the minds of all people
with the bright beams of mercy and truth;**

**and so direct our steps that we may ever walk in the way revealed to us,
just as the faithful ones in the days of Jesus' birth,
now and always. Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING (see insert)

Isaiah 63:7-9

**Indicates stand as you are able.*

HYMN*THFW 2008****"Let All Things Now Living"**

PSALM 148 (see insert)

Hebrews 2:10-18

EPISTLE READING (see insert)

Grace Notes Choir

SPECIAL MUSIC **"Christmas Sanctus"**

Matthew 2:13-23

GOSPEL READING (see insert)

"God on the Run"

Pastor Andy Petter

Good News: God weeps with the broken-hearted mothers; Jesus suffers with the children who are given to him; God will redeem them all.

Discipleship: Praise, trust, and serve Jesus, not the Herods of this world.

My Response:

HYMN of INVITATION*TFWS 2095****"Star-Child"**

PASTORAL PRAYER and the LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING / *DOXOLOGY **UMH 95**

***PRAYER of THANKSGIVING:**

*All things come from you, O God,
and with praise and thanksgiving we return to you what is yours.
You created all that is, and with love formed us in your image.*

When our love failed, your love remained steadfast.

*You gave your only Son Jesus Christ to be our Savior,
that we might have abundant and eternal life.*

All that we are, and all that we have, is a trust from you.

And so, in gratitude for all that you have done,

*we offer ourselves, and all that we have,
in union with Christ's offering for us.*

*By your Holy Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other,
and one in ministry to all the world;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.*

HOLY COMMUNION

*All who seek Jesus are welcome to share in this grace with us,
whether you are a member of this church, another church, or no church at all.*

CLOSING HYMN*UMH 219****"What Child Is This?"**

BENEDICTION and POSTLUDE

Pianist: Joe Kelley

Do good, be rich in the good things you do, be generous, and share with others. When you do these things, you will save a treasure for yourselves that is a good foundation for the future. That way you can take hold of what is truly life. *1 Timothy 6:18-19*

Offerings may be placed in plates or given online through our website. Offerings can be made using electronic fund transfers from your bank account or by credit/debit card, with the option to be set as a recurring gift. Please go to <https://byronmn.umcchurches.org/giving>, or scan the QR code to be directed to the giving page.



COUNTERS SCHEDULE:

Dec. 28 – Marty Nelson, Terri Nelson
Jan. 4 – Marty Nelson, Paul Riggs
Jan. 11 – Al Miller, Terri Nelson
Jan. 18 – Roger Vick, Nancy White
Jan. 25 – Al Miller, Roger Vick

COMMUNION STEWARDS:

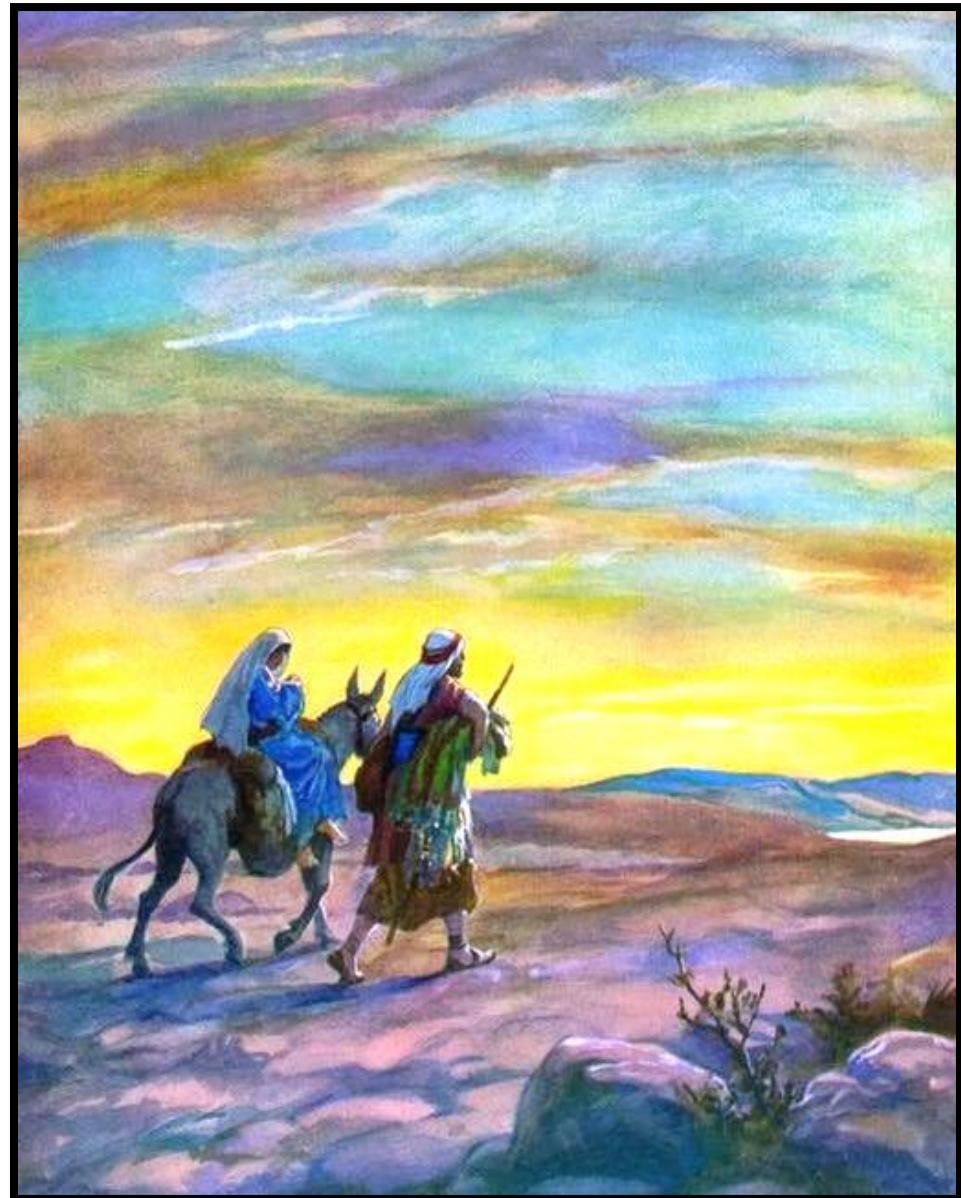
Dec. 28 – Cathy Huntoon
Jan. 4 – NO Communion
Jan. 11 – Chris Miller
Jan. 18 – Aubree / Gauge Hart
Jan. 25 – Cathy Huntoon

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Byron UMC Website: <https://byronmn.umcchurches.org>

Byron United Methodist Church



First Sunday after Christmas
December 28, 2025 -- 9:30 a.m.