

 **Who Are We?**

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

 **Our Core Values**

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

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 and LIGHTING of the SECOND ADVENT CANDLE:**

*Advent Candle Hymn

“Prepare the Way”

Today we light two candles: the candle of hope and the candle of peace. In this season of Advent, we wait for the Prince of Peace, who will come to bring wholeness to a fractured world.

Prepare the way of the Lord with peace.

When division and conflict surround us, we turn to Christ, the source of true peace, and long for his reconciliation in our hearts and in the world.

Prepare the way of the Lord with peace.

In our homes, in our communities, and in our nations, we seek to be instruments of peace, reflecting the love of Christ in all we do.

Prepare the way of the Lord with peace.

When anger and strife seem overwhelming, we trust in the calm presence of Christ, who can still the storms in our hearts and minds.

Prepare the way of the Lord with peace.

In moments of anxiety, fear, or uncertainty, we invite the peace of Christ to fill our hearts and guide our actions.

Prepare the way of the Lord with peace.

O God of peace, we await the coming of your Son, who will bring peace to all the earth. We remember that true peace comes not from the absence of conflict, but from the presence of Christ.

Prepare the way of the Lord with peace.***OPENING PRAYER:**

Lord Jesus, Prince of Peace, King of Kings, Emmanuel,
you are our peace, for you promise us justice and righteousness.
May your way be prepared in our hearts and minds,
that we may repent of division and wickedness,
and so be reconciled to you,
ever ready for the coming of your kingdom,
in which you reign for ever and ever. Amen.

**Indicates stand as you are able.*

OLD TESTAMENT READING (see insert)

Isaiah 11:1-10

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

*HYMN **UMH 211 (vs. 1,4,6,7)**

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

PSALM 72:1-7, 18-19 (see insert)

Romans 15:4-13

EPISTLE READING (see insert)

Matthew 3:1-12

GOSPEL READING (see insert)

SERMON**“Unimaginable Peace”**

Pastor Andy Petter

Good News: God promises justice for the poor and the oppressed that will establish peace beyond our wildest dreams.

Discipleship: Prepare the way of the One who will rule and judge by repenting of unjust ways and working for equity.

My Response:

*HYMN of INVITATION

W&S 3046

“Come, O Redeemer, Come”

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 196

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

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.



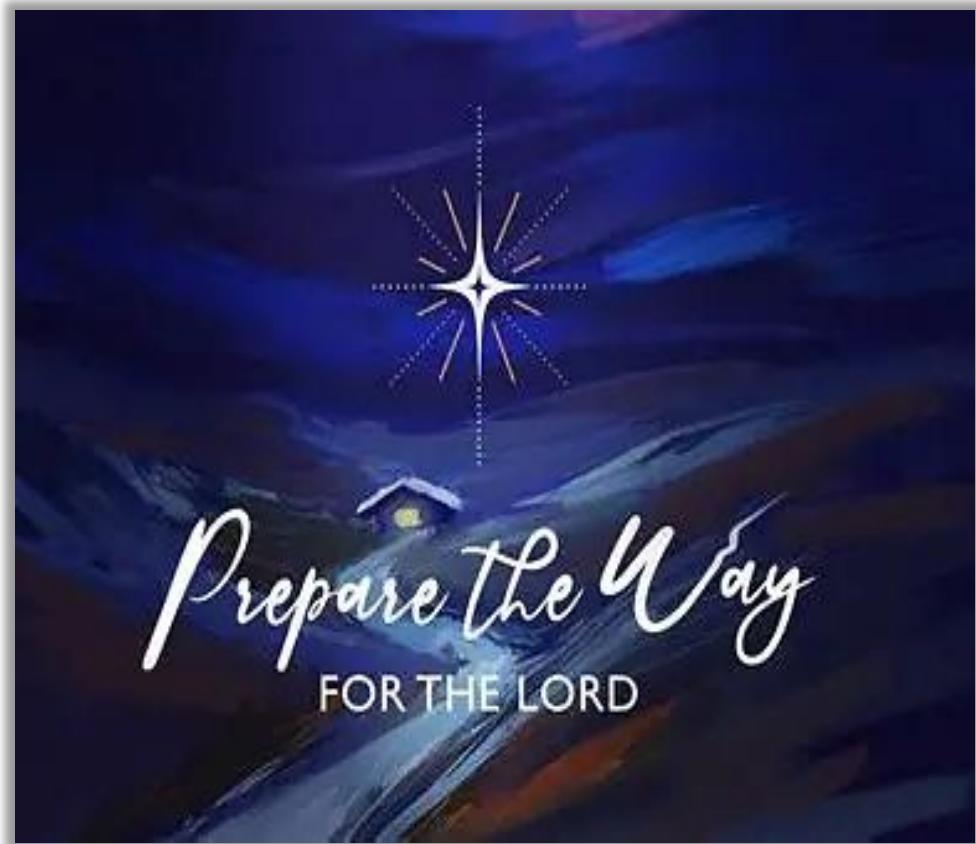
COUNTERS SCHEDULE:

Dec. 7 – Terri Nelson, Roger Vick
Dec. 14 – Al Miller, Marty Nelson
Dec. 21 – Roger Vick, Nancy White
Dec. 24 – Al Miller, Paul Riggs
Dec. 28 – Marty Nelson, Terri Nelson

COMMUNION STEWARDS:

Dec. 7 – Nancy White
Dec. 14 – Chris Miller (RSW)
Dec. 21 – Aubree / Gauge Hart
Dec. 24 – Pastor Andy
Dec. 28 – Cathy Huntoon

Byron United Methodist Church



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

Second Sunday of Advent

December 7, 2025
9:30 a.m.