

### Updates and Announcements

Thank you for worshiping with us at Bethel United Methodist Church! Our worship service is broadcast via live stream on our Facebook page. Please sign and pass the attendance pads located at the end of your pew. If you are a guest, please list your contact information so we can extend a fuller welcome! To be added to the Bethel UMC Weekly Emails, contact the church office at 803.327.4881 or [bethelrockhill@gmail.com](mailto:bethelrockhill@gmail.com).

### This Week

- **Today** – Children's Sunday School at 10:15 am.
- **Today** – Christmas Caroling in ugly sweaters at 5:30 pm.
- **Monday** – Bible study at 11:00 am.
- **Wednesday** – Christmas Eve Service at 5pm.
- **Thursday** – Merry Christmas!
- **Every Wednesday** – AA Meeting in the church library from 7-8 pm.

### Upcoming

- **December 29 - January 4** – Rev. Sutton will be on vacation. Rev. Cam Treece, pastor at St. John's UMC, will be on call. He may be reached at 864-593-0235.
- **1/7/26** – Final Advent Bible study at 12:30 pm.

	12/21	12/24/25	12/28/25
Liturgist	Richard Bickel	Richard Bickel	Isabella Sutton
Children's Time	Marc Sutton	Rev. Emily Sutton	Emily Sutton
Nursery	Lisa Bobak	N/A	Allyson Reid
Counter	Margaret McCarter	Margaret McCarter	TBD
Counter	Debbie Harris	Allyson Reid	Allyson Reid
Usher	Debbie Harris	Tom Craig	Allie Sutton
Usher	Margaret McCarter	Sherri Pankratz	Marc Sutton
Communion	N/A	Cynthia Bickel	N/A

	Month of November	November YTD
Tithes and Offerings	\$ 15,731.00	\$ 110,034.69
Expenses	<u>(8,918.77)</u>	<u>(134,396.84)*</u>
	<u>\$ 6,812.23</u>	<u>\$(-24,362.15)</u>
	<b>December 14</b>	
In-person Attendance	35	
Plate Budget Received	\$13,160.00	

\*These expenses include the final cost of roof repairs not covered by insurance.

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# Bethel United Methodist Church



**December 21, 2025**

*Knowing, Loving, Serving God*

[www.bethelumcrockhill.org](http://www.bethelumcrockhill.org)

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Pastor Cell: 803.554.2298 ♦ Email: [emilyscalessutton@gmail.com](mailto:emilyscalessutton@gmail.com)

Pianist  
Administrative Assistant  
Music Leader  
Pastor

Dena Wade  
Becky Moon  
Chris Wade  
Rev. Emily Sutton

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

December 21, 2025

### GATHERING

WORDS OF WELCOME

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

ADVENT WREATH Tom Craig and Sherri Pankratz

SUNG RESPONSES TO ADVENT WREATH READINGS

*Verse 3*

So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh,  
Come, peasant, king to own Him.  
The King of kings salvation brings;  
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.

*Chorus*

This, this is Christ, the King,  
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:  
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,  
The Babe, the Son of Mary!

OPENING PRAYER

Here, at the nativity of your birth, give us the courage to face this moment with a steadfast love that casts out fear. Open us to new understandings of the unfolding story of your presence among us. Show us how to be with and for one another in ways that add to the flourishing of all creation. We pray in the name of the Child, the Love Enthroned in our hearts and lives. Amen.

\*OPENING HYMN *It Came upon the Midnight Clear* UMH# 218

\*APOSTLES' CREED UMH# 881

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;  
And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;  
the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;  
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

\*RESPONSE *Gloria Patri* UMH# 70

\*PASSING OF THE PEACE

### PROCLAMATION

\*HYMN *Away in the Manger* UMH #217

CHILDREN'S TIME Marc Sutton

SCRIPTURE *Matthew 1:18-25* Richard Bickel

L: This is the word of God for the people of God.

**P: Thanks, Be to God.**

SPECIAL MUSIC *Gesu Bambino* Chris Wade

SERMON *Enthroned by Love* Rev. Emily Sutton

### RESPONSE

\*HYMN *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly* UMH# 229

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

L: Lord in your mercy,

**P: Hear our prayers.**

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 and ever. Amen.

OFFERING

\*DOXOLOGY *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* UMH# 95

### SENDING FORTH

\*CLOSING HYMN *There's a Song in the Air* UMH# 249

\*BENEDICTION

This, this is Christ, the King,  
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:  
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,  
The Babe, the Son of Mary!

\*POSTLUDE

*\*Please stand as you are able.*