

# FIRST METHODIST CHURCH

Second Sunday After Epiphany - January 18, 2026

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WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS.....Rev. Kathy Wafer

PRELUDE.....“Nimrod” from *Enigma Variations*.....E. Ray Peebles, organ  
Edward Elgar

CALL TO WORSHIP & INVOCATION.....Dr. David Hobson

† HYMN OF PRAISE.....“Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah” .....No. 47

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH.....No. 691.....Vicki Sullivan

MUSICAL OFFERING.....*Just a Closer Walk with Thee*.....Gary Elam, tenor  
arr. Richard Walters

† SCRIPTURE READING.....Genesis 37:1-11.....Denny Moton

† GLORIA PATRI.....No.33

*Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost,  
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.*  
‡

CHILDREN’S BLESSING.....Ashley Martin

MORNING & OFFERTORY PRAYER.....Rev. Emily Blair

THE LORD’S PRAYER.....Congregation (speaks in unison)

*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.....No. 670

*Turn your eyes upon Jesus,  
Look full in His wonderful face,  
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim  
In the light of His glory and grace.*

MUSICAL OFFERING.....*Be Not Afraid*.....Ensemble (8:30)  
Taylor Davis Chancel Choir (11:00)

† DOXOLOGY.....Traditional  
*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below:  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose  
power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

MESSAGE.....JOSEPH:.....Dr. Steven Bell  
FAVORED SON, DESPISED BROTHER

**God’s Training Manual**

**Favored Son**

**Despised Brother**

**Lessons Learned from Adversity**

## Scripture Memory Verse

*“For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope.”*

**Romans 15:4**

† HYMN OF INVITATION.....“He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought!”.....No. 73

*(During the singing of this hymn, those who wish to join the First Methodist family are invited to come to the front of the church for reception and recognition.)*

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS.....Lee DuCote

*We rejoice to recognize you as members of Christ’s holy church and bid you welcome to the congregation of First Methodist Church. With you, we renew our vows to uphold it by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness.*

† BENEDICTION .....Dr. Steven Bell

† SENDING FORTH.....*May the Grace of Christ Be with You*.....Ensemble (8:30)  
arr. Dale Wood Chancel Choir (11:00)

POSTLUDE.....*Festival Voluntary*.....E. Ray Peebles, organ  
Flor Peeters

8:30: *Crucifer – Anna Claire Caudle*

*Acolytes – Ellie Caudle and Molly Ann Petree*

11:00: *Banner Carrier – Lily Norris • Crucifer – Mia White*  
*Acolyte – Chloe Meyers*

† *Those who are able may stand.* ‡ *Latecomers may be seated at these times.*

\* **IF YOU WISH TO JOIN** the First Methodist Church family, please come forward at this time.

\*\**Children leaving the service for Children's Chapel may be picked up after the service.*

• *3–4 years (8:30 & 11:00): Children's Ministry Center*

• *K5–3RD graders (11:00): Dawson Building, Room 208, behind the Sanctuary*

Childcare for infants through 4 years is available from 8:15 to 12:15 in the Children's Ministry Center. From the sanctuary, follow the sign located in the hallway between the sanctuary and the Dawson Building. Outdoor access is located on the corner of Douglas