

**Be the Church:** Check out the ways to get involved below!  
Today-7PM Traditional Worship with Communion  
Today-9PM Cross Connections Service  
Today-11PM Candlelight Worship Service  
Through Jan 2 – Office Closed  
Saturday-7AM – Men’s Bible Study  
Sunday-10AM Wesleyan Covenant Renewal Service

**Be the Church:**  
Scan the QR code to see the upcoming events for next week!  
You can also download our app to keep up to date with events in the church!



# MORTON METHODIST CHURCH

- Sunday Schedule:
- Traditional Service: 8:30 am
  - Sunday School: 9:45 am
  - Cross Connections: 10:45 am

Contact us!  
Email: [info@mortonmethodist.org](mailto:info@mortonmethodist.org)  
Phone: (309) 266-7174  
Website: [www.mortonmethodist.org](http://www.mortonmethodist.org)

Office Hours:  
Monday-Thursday 8:30 am - 4:00 pm

For more information, or to download our church app, please scan the QR code below.



Wednesday, December 24th, 2025

## Announcements

### Christmas Eve Offerings

The Christmas Eve Offering this year will be used to pay for Liberia spring semester nursing/midwife scholarships. Gifts may be made over the next 2-3 weeks. Please make checks payable to the church with a note that it is for "Liberia Scholarships".

### Wesleyan Covenant Renewal Service

There will only be one worship service on December 28<sup>th</sup> at 10am.

### Office Closed

The church office is currently closed and will reopen on January 5<sup>th</sup>.

## Worship Service

December 24th, 2025

7:00pm

Welcome	
Prelude	<i>O Holy Night</i>
Processional	<i>People Look East</i> UMH 202 vs.1
Call to Worship*	
L: For a people who have walked in darkness,	
<b>P: On us, a light has shined!</b>	
L: Rejoice as with joy at the harvest,	
<b>P: For to us a child is born!</b>	
<b>All: He is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace!</b>	
Passing the Peace*	
Opening Hymn*	<i>Angels We Have Heard on High</i> UMH 238
Christ Candle Lighting	
Offertory	<i>Mary Did You Know?</i> Jessica Penn UMH 94
Doxology*	
Centering Hymn*	<i>O Little Town of Bethlehem</i> UMH 230 vs.1&3
Pastoral Prayer	
Epistle Reading	Hebrews 8:1-6
Gospel Reading*	Luke 2:8-20
Gloria Patri*	UMH 70
Sermon	<i>"Heaven on Earth"</i> Pastor Bill Novak
Sacrament of Holy Communion	
Closing Hymn*	<i>Silent Night, Holy Night</i> UMH 239
Benediction*	
Postlude	

\*Please stand if you are able

## Scripture Readings

### Hebrews 8:1-6

#### The High Priest of a New Covenant

**8** Now the main point of what we are saying is this: We do have such a high priest, who sat down at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in heaven, **2** and who serves in the sanctuary, the true tabernacle set up by the Lord, not by a mere human being.

**3** Every high priest is appointed to offer both gifts and sacrifices, and so it was necessary for this one also to have something to offer. **4** If he were on earth, he would not be a priest, for there are already priests who offer the gifts prescribed by the law. **5** They serve at a sanctuary that is a copy and shadow of what is in heaven. This is why Moses was warned when he was about to build the tabernacle: "See to it that you make everything according to the pattern shown you on the mountain." **6** But in fact the ministry Jesus has received is as superior to theirs as the covenant of which he is mediator is superior to the old one, since the new covenant is established on better promises.

### Luke 2:8-20

**8** And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. **9** An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. **10** But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. **11** Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. **12** This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

**13** Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

**14** "Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

**15** When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."

**16** So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. **17** When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, **18** and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. **19** But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. **20** The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.