

Epiphany Sunday

January 4, 2026

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We gather as people looking for the star, a sign that God is at work in the world.

People: God, help us find your glory.

Leader: We gather as people listening for the whispers of the Spirit, hints of the good news in the least likely places.

People: God, help us notice your glory.

Leader: We gather as people yearning for Love's presence, the assurance that we are not alone and Love will have the last word.

People: God, help us encounter your glory.

Leader: On this Epiphany Sunday, may the Light of Love shine among us, revealing divine glory through neighbors known and unknown, vulnerable children, and unexpected gifts.

People: God, reveal to us anew the glory of your expansive Love that gathers us together and sustains us in loving service to one another and all creation. Amen.

Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, July 2025.

OPENING PRAYER

*HYMN "Away In A Manger" UMH 217

CHILDREN DISMISSED TO CHILDREN'S CHURCH as we sing:
Lord, listen to your children praying, Lord, send your Spirit in this place; Lord, listen to your children praying, send us love, send us power, send us grace.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read and your Word proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

SCRIPTURE John 1:1-18 NT – page 86

ANTHEM "Go Tell It On The Mountain" Chancel Choir

SERMON "Has Not, Is Not, Will Not" Pastor Ed Priestaf

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & COVENANT PRAYER UMH 607

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION & ASSURANCE OF PARDON

People: Loving God, we confess our sins against you and one another, and pray that you will fill us with your light, that we may live as true disciples in your name, without counting the cost. In the name of Christ, the one who showed us the way, we pray. Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

THE WORSHIP IN TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory "Hymn Of Promise" Solo, Mark Hester N. Sleeth

*DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER No. 94

**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 up lifts! Praise
the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

GREAT THANKSGIVING UMH 13

THE LORD'S PRAYER

SHARING OF THE ELEMENTS

CLOSING PRAYER

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

VISITORS

Welcome to Long Memorial United Methodist Church!

We are glad that God guided you to be a part of our worship today.

___ First time visitor

___ New in the community

___ Would you like to receive our newsletter?

(Place this in the offering plate or give to the Pastor)

Please share your contact information so we may welcome you and fulfill your requests.

Name(s):

Address:

Phone:

Email Address:

May we visit you? _____

___ I need prayer regarding

_____ (be specific)

___ I know someone who needs prayer

(your name)

___ I need a call/visit from the Pastor

___ I would like to become a member of Long Memorial UMC

Name:

Have no anxiety about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. Philippians 4:6

(Place this in the offering plate or give to the Pastor)

CLOSING PRAYER
Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*HYMN "There's A Song In The Air" UMH 249

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION HYMN (8:45 A.M.)

*POSTLUDE

SYMPATHY: Our deepest sympathy is extended to the family of Wayne Grier Winstead who passed away on December 23, 2025.

THIS WEEK AT LONG MEMORIAL UMC:
Sunday: 8:45 A.M. - Early Church - Chapel
11:00 A.M. – Worship – Sanctuary
Tuesday: 6:00 P.M. – Church Council – Harris Hall

PRAYER LIST: Lois Winstead, Leon Long, Linda & Eddie Bridges, Phyllis Tuck, Norma Sabiston, Jean Andrews, Mike Wrenn, Bob Morningstar.

A nursery (located in front of the church office) is available. Parents – please set your phones on vibrate and leave your cell number with the nursery attendants so that if you are needed you can be reached.

Church Staff:
Rev. Ed Priestaf, Pastor
Charles Higgins, Director of Music
Peggy Wade, Church Secretary
Pam Day, Preschool Director
Billie Oakley, Church Treasurer
Autumn Gentry, Children & Youth Ministries' Director
Sherry Clayton & Kayla Brown, Nursery Attendants
Wilbur Brann & Hunt Fitzgerald, Audio Technicians

LONG MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
226 North Main Street
P.O. Box 310
Roxboro, NC 27573
336-599-1193

We are on the web at: longmemorialumc.org
Like us on Facebook: Long Memorial United Methodist Church

*For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life.
John 3:16*

*Our Mission Is To Make Disciples Of Jesus
For The Transformation Of The World*

Leader: This is the day that the Lord has made
People: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
We welcome you to Long Memorial United Methodist Church! It is our sincere desire that your worship time with us will be enjoyable and edifying. If you are interested in learning more about our community please see the "visitor" section of this bulletin.

BUDGET UPDATE:

2025 Budget: \$475,801

Budget divided evenly per Sunday: \$9,150

Budget giving from December 24 and 28, 2025: \$14,257

Average budget given each Sunday in 2025: \$9,042

Budget giving through December 28: \$473,897 (99.6% of budget given through 100% of the calendar year)

Amount of 2025 budget still to raise: \$1,904 (0.4% of the budget)

We thank you for your faithfulness in discerning what God has called you to share. We trust that God will help us all be good stewards of the blessings God has provided! We praise God that we, together as a church, decided what God was leading us to do in ministry, and that through your God-inspired generosity, we have been able to accomplish those goals!

In the coming month, we will be compiling year-end financial reports and making our year-end remittances. Stay tuned!

"Dear Lord, please bless all whom you have called us to serve. We thank you for the gifts of prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness that you have shared with us, and that we have strived to share with others. We pray that you will continue to shape us into the loving people you have made us to be. Thank you for your generosity and grace. In Jesus' name, Amen."