



**December 28, 2025**  
**First Sunday After Christmas**



**Rockport United Methodist Church**  
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**Pastor Tennille Phone:** 773-440-3109  
**Website:** [www.rockportumc.org](http://www.rockportumc.org)



## ORDER OF WORSHIP

December 28, 2025

9:30am

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Please sign the attendance registry found in the pews near the center aisle; pass it through the pew and back again, noting the name of your neighbors.)

### PRELUDE

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We gather in the space between seasons, between celebration and anticipation.

*People: We come carrying gratitude for what has been and hope for what is still unfolding.*

Leader: God meets us not only in grand moments, but in faithful steps taken day by day.

*People: Prepare our hearts, O God, for what is to come.*

Leader: Let us worship the God who is present in every season.

*People: Let us worship with open hearts and willing spirits. Amen.*

### \*HYMN

*"Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"*

UMH 127

### \*UNISON PRAYER

*God of new beginnings and holy preparation, You have carried us through another season of life. Now we stand on the threshold of what comes next. In this quiet space after Christmas, teach us to listen more than rush, to trust more than strive, and to follow even when the path ahead is unclear. Prepare us not just for a new year, but for deeper faithfulness. In Jesus' name, Amen.*

### OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 40:3-5 NRSVUE

A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

## GOSPEL LESSON

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is the only Son, himself God, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

John 1:14-18 NRSVUE

This is the Word of God for the people of God.  
***Thanks be to God!***

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Pastoral Prayer

Offering Prayer

(Place your offering and pledge cards in the treasure chest in the narthex, mail in your giving, or go to the GIVE tab on the website:rockportumc.org)

***Lord's Prayer***

**HYMN**            *"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"*            UMH 206

**SERMON**            *"Faithful In the In-Between"*            Pastor Tennille Power

**\*HYMN**            *"Be Thou My Vision"*            UMH 451

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

\*Please stand as you are able

## **SERVING THE LORD AT ROCKPORT**

Pastor	Tennille Power
Lay Leader	Dan Newman
Music Director/Organist	Susan Shick
Church Office Administrator/Bookkeeper	Sara Chapman
Sound/Video	Scott Holchin
Lector	Andrea Greene
Ushers	Eileen Seppelt & Beverly Cavanah

**CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK:** Fellowship & coffee hour after worship in the parlor.

**Monday, Dec. 29, 2025- Friday, January 2, 2026- CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED**

**Wednesday, Dec. 31st, 2025 – New Year's Eve**

**Thursday, Jan 1, 2026 – New Year's Day**

**Friday, Jan. 2, 2026**

9:45am – Al-Anon

**Saturday, Jan. 3, 2026**

10:00am – A.A

**Sunday, Jan. 4, 2026**

8:30-9:00am – Early Morning Service; Communion

9:30am –Worship & Live Streamed; Communion and choir singing

2-3:30pm – A.A. Book Club