

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

January 3rd, 2021

The Epiphany of Our Lord

GOD SUMMONS US TO WORSHIP

Call to Worship: Psalm 72:8-12

- [8] May he have dominion from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth!
[9] May desert tribes bow down before him, and his enemies lick the dust!
[10] May the kings of Tarshish and of the coastlands render him tribute; may the kings of Sheba and Seba bring gifts!
[11] May all kings fall down before him, all nations serve him!
[12] For he delivers the needy when he calls, the poor and him who has no helper.

Congregational Singing: "O Worship the King"

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|--|--|
| 1. O worship the King
All glorious above
And gratefully sing
His wonderful love
Our Shield and Defender
The Ancient of Days
Pavilion'd in splendor
And girded with praise | 3. Thy bountiful care
What tongue can recite
It breathes in the air
It shines in the light
It streams from the hills
It descends to the plain
And sweetly distils
In the dew and the rain |
| 2. O tell of His might
O sing of His grace
Whose robe is the light
Whose canopy space
His chariots of wrath
The deep thunder-clouds form
And dark is His path
On the wings of the storm | 4. Frail children of dust
And feeble as frail
In Thee do we trust
Nor find Thee to fail
Thy mercies how tender
How firm to the end
Our Maker Defender
Redeemer and Friend |

Responsive Scriptures

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The Lord be with you!

And also with you!

The Christ has appeared to us.

O come, let us worship Him.

Collect

O God, by the leading of a star You made known Your only-begotten Son to the Gentiles. Lead us, who know You by faith, to enjoy in heaven the fullness of Your divine presence; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Congregational Singing: "We Three Kings" (Alt.)

1. We three kings of Orient are
Bearing gifts we traverse afar
Field and fountain moor and mountain
Following yonder star

2. Born a King on Bethlehem's plain
Gold I bring to crown Him again
King forever ceasing never
Over us all to reign

O star of wonder star of night
Star with royal beauty bright
Westward leading still proceeding
Guide us to Thy perfect light

3. Frankincense to offer have I
Incense owns a Deity nigh
Prayer and praising all men raising
Worship Him God on high

4. Myrrh is mine its bitter perfume
Breathes a life of gathering gloom
Sorrowing sighing bleeding dying
Sealed in the stone cold tomb

O star of wonder star of night
Star with royal beauty bright
Westward leading still proceeding
Guide us to Thy perfect light

5. Glorious now behold Him arise
King and God and sacrifice
Alleluia alleluia
Earth to heaven replies

O star of wonder star of night
Star with royal beauty bright
Westward leading still proceeding
Guide us to Thy perfect light

GOD SANCTIFIES US TO HIMSELF

Call to Confession: 1 John 1:8-9

[8] If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. [9] If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silent Confession

Corporate Confession

God of glory, you sent Jesus among us as the light of the world, to reveal your love for all people. We confess that our sin and pride hide the brightness of your light. We turn away from the poor; we ignore cries for justice; we do not strive for peace. In your mercy, cleanse us of our sin, that we may show forth your glory shining in the face of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

God, the Father of mercies, has reconciled the world to himself through the death and resurrection of his Son, Jesus Christ, not counting our trespasses against us, but sending his Holy Spirit to shed abroad his love among us. By the ministry of reconciliation entrusted by Christ to his Church, receive his pardon and peace to stand before him in his strength alone, this day and evermore. **Amen.**

Congregational Singing: "His Mercy Is More"

1. What love could remember

no wrongs we have done

Omniscient all knowing

He counts not their sum

Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore

Our sins they are many His mercy is more

Praise the Lord His mercy is more

Stronger than darkness new every morn

Our sins they are many His mercy is more

2. What patience would wait

As we constantly roam

What Father so tender is calling us home

He welcomes the weakest the vilest the poor

Our sins they are many His mercy is more

Praise the Lord His mercy is more

Stronger than darkness new every morn

Our sins they are many His mercy is more

3. What riches of kindness He lavished on us

His blood was the payment

His life was the cost

We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford

Our sins they are many His mercy is more

Praise the Lord His mercy is more

Stronger than darkness new every morn

Our sins they are many His mercy is more

(2x)

GOD SPEAKS TO US IN HIS WORD

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6

[1] Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

[2] For behold, darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples;
but the LORD will arise upon you,
and his glory will be seen upon you.

[3] And nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your rising.

[4] Lift up your eyes all around, and see;
they all gather together, they come to you;
your sons shall come from afar,
and your daughters shall be carried on the hip.

[5] Then you shall see and be radiant;
your heart shall thrill and exult,
because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you,
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.

[6] A multitude of camels shall cover you,
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;
all those from Sheba shall come.
They shall bring gold and frankincense,
and shall bring good news, the praises of the LORD.

Epistle Reading: Ephesians 3:1-12

[1] For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles— [2] assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God’s grace that was given to me for you, [3] how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. [4] When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, [5] which was not made known to the sons of men in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit. [6] This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

[7] Of this gospel I was made a minister according to the gift of God’s grace, which was given me by the working of his power. [8] To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, [9] and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God, who created all things, [10] so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. [11] This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, [12] in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 2:1-12

[1] Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, [2] saying, “Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.” [3] When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; [4] and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. [5] They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:

[6] “‘And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
 are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
 for from you shall come a ruler
 who will shepherd my people Israel.’”

[7] Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. [8] And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him.” [9] After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. [10] When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. [11] And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. [12] And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

†**Profession of Faith:** The Apostle's Creed

**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, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living 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.**

Sermon: Pastor David Salyer
"Wise Men from the East"

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Doxology:

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures here below. Praise Him
above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Prayer of Dedication

Heavenly Father, you have given yourself to us in the person of your dear Son. United with Him, we now give ourselves to you through these tithes and offerings. Grant that they may be used for the advancement of your kingdom both here and throughout the world. **Amen.**

GOD STRENGTHENS US AT HIS TABLE

*All who are baptized and trust in Jesus Christ are invited to share the Lord's Supper. Baptized children are welcomed to the Supper once they have been admitted by the Elders in accord with the practice of our denomination.

*Once the Pastor has prayed for the bread and wine, we will process down the center aisle to partake. Please maintain six-foot distance between individuals/family units. Parents, please help distribute to your communing children. You may eat and drink at the front of the sanctuary, depositing empty cups in the baskets on either side. Alternatively, you may take the bread and cup to your seat and partake there. Use the outside aisles to return to your seat.

Words of Institution and Prayers

Procession

Congregational Singing: "As With Gladness Men of Old"

1. As with gladness men of old
Did the guiding star behold
As with joy they hailed its light
Leading onward beaming bright
So most gracious Lord may we
Evermore be led to Thee

2. As with joyful steps they sped
To that lowly manger bed
There to bend the knee before
Him whom heav'n and earth adore
So may we with willing feet
Ever seek Thy mercy seat

3. As they offered gifts most rare
At that manger rude and bare
So may we with holy joy
Pure and free from sin's alloy
All our costliest treasures bring
Christ to Thee our heav'nly King

4. Holy Jesus ev'ry day
Keep us in the narrow way
And when earthly things are past
Bring our ransomed souls at last
Where they need no star to guide
Where no clouds Thy glory hide

GOD SENDS US INTO THE WORLD

Commission and Benediction

Matt. 28:18–20 - "And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Num. 6:24–26 - "The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace."

Congregational Response: "Threefold Amen"