

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Perkasie, Pennsylvania

Rev. Barbara Pence

Phone (215) 257-2880

Website: www.standrewsucc.org

9:00 am Faith Formation

10:15 am Worship Service

January 4, 2026

Liturgist: Denise Mayhew

Second Sunday after Christmas

PRELUDE

GREETING

If able, please rise in body or spirit

CALL TO WORSHIP

In the dark of morning,
the stars still shine.

**In the depth of winter,
the birds still climb.**

At the start of the year,
tender and new,

God is here.

God is near.

Do not rest in your fear.

God is here.

So like the stars and the birds,

Let us worship holy God.

Hymn # 231 Arise Your Light is Come

Please be seated

Prayer of Confession

Ever-loving God,

we long for Christmas to usher in a season of peace and joy. However, we know that is not how the world works. Even just days after Christmas, we find ourselves face to face with fear once again.

So today we pray—

forgive us when we allow fear to stop us in our tracks.

Forgive us when our own fear prevents us from following your call.

Forgive us when fear is louder than love.

Show us how to turn our fear into action.

Show us how to live like the magi who searched for you in a fearful world.

With hope we pray, amen.

Words of Grace

Family of Faith,

whether you are brave and courageous or fearful and timid,

God's love for you knows no end. So, join me in these words of forgiveness:

Whether fear inspires us to action, or stops us dead in our tracks,

God's love for us is boundless. We are seen. We are surrounded with grace. We are sent to serve. Thanks be to God! Amen.

Sr. Choir Anthem

Prayer for Illumination

God of the Stars, like the magi, we come to this place searching for you.

So today, just like every day, we ask that you would remove any barricades that keep us from your Spirit. Clear out the distractions. Wipe away the doubt. Open up our hearts, and speak to us through these ancient words. And as you do, we will keep walking.

As you do, we will move toward you. With hope we pray,

Amen.

Scripture: Isaiah 60:1-6

Mathew 2: 1-12

The word of the Lord.

Blessed are they that hear the word of God and keep it.

Children's Message

Sermon

If able, please rise in body or spirit.

Hymn# 229 The First Noel

Please be seated

STAR WORDS

Koinonia Time (community; communion; fellowship; intimacy)
(Please date, sign, and pass the pew pad to your neighbors)

Sharing Joys and Concerns
Prayers of Intercession

Lord's Prayer
**O most Compassionate Life-giver, may we honor and praise you;
May we work with you to establish your new order of justice peace and love;
Give us what we need for growth,
And help us, through forgiving others, to accept forgiveness.
Strengthen us in the time of testing, that we may resist all evil,
For all tenderness, strength and love are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY

As the wise men followed the star to bring precious gifts to the newborn King, let us now open our hearts and hands to offer our gifts to God.

OFFERTORY

If able, please stand in body or spirit

Offertory Response
**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, you heavenly host.
Praise Creator, Christ and Spirit, One. Amen**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Creator God, just as the wise men followed the star to find and worship the newborn King Jesus, guide our hearts to seek You above all else. We dedicate our lives to humbly follow Your leading, offering our gifts of praise, service, and love, so that all may know the light of Your presence. May we be instruments of Your peace and joy in this world, in Jesus' name, Amen.

Hymn # 233 We Three Kings

BENEDICTION

The Light of the Star, the light of God's love, shines before you as you leave this place. Go in peace, go in joy, go in love to meet God's people in the world and greet them with the good news of salvation.

Please be seated

Postlude

Portions of this liturgy are reprinted from "What Do You Fear: Insisting on Hope This Advent, Words for Worship Advent-Epiphany, Worship and Prayers by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed\ A Sanctified Art LLC\ sanctifiedart.org"

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**Head Ushers for January are Lance Ide and Tara Howell
Ushers today are Robin and Lance Ide
Altar Guild the month of January are Karen Rush and Amy Smith**

Pastor Barb's contact information: Email – pastorbarb90@gmail.com; Cell 267-374-5692



**ST. ANDREW'S
UNITED CHURCH OF
CHRIST**

**615 E. WALNUT STREET
PERKASIE**

**ENJOY a traditional
Pork and Sauerkraut
Dinner**

EAT-IN OR TAKEOUT

Saturday, January 10th from 4:30-6:30pm

OR until SOLD OUT

Cost: Donation

**MENU: LOIN OF PORK WITH HOMEMADE SAUERKRAUT, MASHED POTATOES,
GREEN BEANS, ROLLS, BEVERAGE AND PIE FOR DESSERT**

For information call Ken at 215-257-7063

EPIPHANY

Arise, Your Light Is Come! 231

1 A - rise, your light is come! The Spir - it's call o - bey; show
2 A - rise, your light is come! Fling wide the pris - on door; pro -
3 A - rise, your light is come! All you in sor - row born, bind
4 A - rise, your light is come! The moun-tains burst in song! Rise

forth the glo - ry of your God which shines on you to - day.
claim the cap-tive's lib - er - ty, good ti - dings to the poor.
up the bro - ken-heart - ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.
up like ea - gles on the wing, God's power will make us strong.

WORDS: Ruth Duck (1947-)
MUSIC: William H. Walter (1825-1893)
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FESTAL SONG
S.M.

The First Noel

229

1 The first No - el, the an - gel did say, was to cer - tain poor
 2 They look - ed up and saw a star shin - ing in the
 3 And by the light of that same star three wise men
 4 This star drew nigh to the north - west, o'er Beth - le -
 5 Then en - tered in those wise men three, full rev - erent -
 6 Then let us all with one ac - cord sing prais - es

shep - herds in fields as they lay; in fields where they lay keep - ing their
 east, be - yond them far, and to the earth it gave great
 came from coun - try far, to seek for a king was their in -
 hem it took its rest, and there it did both stop and
 ly up - on their knee, and of - fered there in his pres -
 to our heav - en - ly Lord, who hath made heaven and earth of

Refrain
 sheep, on a cold win - ter's night that was so deep.
 light, and so it con - tin - ued both day and night.
 tent, and to fol - low the star wher - ev - er it went. No - el, No -
 stay, right o - ver the place where Je - sus lay.
 sence their gold, and myrrh, and frank - in - cense.
 naught, and with his blood our life hath bought.

el, No - el, No - el, born is the King of Is - ra - el.

WORDS: English carol
 MUSIC: W. Sandys' *Christmas Carols*, 1833; arr. John Stainer (1840-1901)

THE FIRST NOEL
 Irregular

We Three Kings of Orient Are 233

1 We three kings of O - ri - ent are, bear - ing gifts we trav - erse a - far,
 2 Born a king on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I bring to crown him a - gain,
 3 Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I, in - cense owns a de - i - ty nigh;
 4 Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a life of gath - er - ing gloom;
 5 Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise, King and God and Sac - ri - fice;

field and foun - tain, moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.
 King for - ev - er, ceas - ing nev - er o - ver us all to reign.
 prayer and prais - ing, voic - es rais - ing, wor - ship - ing God on high.
 sor - rowing, sigh - ing, bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the stone - cold tomb.
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! sounds through the earth and skies.

Refrain
 O star of won - der, star of night, star with roy - al beau - ty bright,

west - ward lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - fect light.

WORDS and MUSIC: John H. Hopkins, Jr. (1820-1891), alt.

KINGS OF ORIENT
 8.8.8.6.Ref.