



**Fairmont Presbyterian Church
Kettering, Ohio
January 8, 2023**

FAIRMONT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Order of Service for the Worship of God

Fairmont Presbyterian Church nurtures and guides people to live inspired lives.

January 8, 2023
10:30am
Epiphany of the Lord

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Kelley Shin

Prelude

We Three Kings

Mark Bloedow

Call to Worship

Leader: The Word became flesh and lived among us.

People: And we have seen his glory.

Leader: The true light that enlightens everyone has come into the world.

People: The glory of the Lord has risen upon us.

Leader: Come, worship the God of glory.

Hymn 151

We Three Kings of Orient Are

Kings of Orient

1 We three kings of Orient are;
bearing gifts we traverse afar,
field and fountain, moor and mountain,
following yonder star.

Refrain:

O star of wonder, star of night,
star with royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding,
guide us to thy perfect light!

2 Born a King on Bethlehem's plain,
gold I bring to crown him again,
King forever, ceasing never
over us all to reign. (Refrain)

3 Frankincense to offer have I;
incense owns a deity nigh;
prayer and praising gladly raising,
worshiping God Most High. (Refrain)

4 Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume
breathes a life of gathering gloom;
sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,

sealed in the stone-cold tomb. (Refrain)

5 Glorious now behold him arise,
King and God and Sacrifice:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
sounds through the earth and skies. (Refrain)

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

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 hides the brightness of your light. We turn away from the poor; we ignore neighbors who cry for justice; we do not seek peace or wholeness. In your mercy, forgive us and cleanse us of our sin. Baptize us once again with your Spirit, that, forgiven and renewed, we may show forth your glory shining in the face of Jesus Christ...(silent confession)...Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

***Congregational Response #581** *Glory Be to the Father* Gloria Patri
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

Passing of Christ's Peace

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.
People: **And also with you.**

Time with Our Children

Loralei Harding

Anthem

The Wise Kings Three
Chancel Choir

Claude Means

Prayer for Illumination

Leader: The Word became flesh and dwelt among us full of grace and truth.
People: **In Him was life, and that life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness and the darkness cannot overcome it.**
Leader: Come to us now by the power of your Spirit to reveal your truth and illumine our lives.
People: **We ask this in the name of our teacher, the Christ, Jesus. Amen.**

Scripture Reading

Matthew 2:1-12

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least

among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.”

⁷Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.”

⁹When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

The Road Home

Rachel Boden

Hymn 144

In the Bleak Midwinter

Cranham

1 In the bleak midwinter,
frosty wind made moan;
earth stood hard as iron,
water like a stone;
snow had fallen, snow on snow,
snow on snow,
in the bleak midwinter, long ago.

2 Our God, heaven cannot hold him,
nor earth sustain;
heaven and earth shall flee away
when he comes to reign:
in the bleak midwinter
a stable place sufficed
the Lord God incarnate, Jesus Christ.

3 Angels and archangels
may have gathered there;
cherubim and seraphim
thronged the air;
but his mother only,
in her maiden bliss,
worshiped the beloved with a kiss.

4 What can I give him,
poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd,
I would bring a lamb;

if I were a wise man,
I would do my part;
yet what I can I give him: give my heart.

Affirmation of Faith (in unison)

The Apostles' 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 Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Doxology

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

Pastoral Prayer (concluding with the Lord's Prayer)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Anthem

The Road Home
Chancel Choir

Stephen Paulus

Invitation and Prayer of Discipleship

We will not be passing the offering plates to collect tithes and offerings today. There is a basket by each exit door for the collection of tithes and offerings. (*Loose coins go to Children and Youth Ministries.*)

Hymn 152

What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright

Puer Nobis Nascitur

1 What star is this, with beams so bright,
more lovely than the noonday light?
'Tis sent to announce a newborn king,
glad tidings of our God to bring.

2 'Tis now fulfilled what God decreed,
"From Jacob shall a star proceed";
and lo! the eastern sages stand
to read in heaven the Lord's command.

3 While outward signs the star displays,
an inward light the Lord conveys
and urges them, with tender might,
to seek the giver of the light.

4 O Jesus, while the star of grace

impels us on to seek your face,
let not our slothful hearts refuse
the guidance of your light to use.

Charge and Benediction

Postlude

Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

Lani Smith

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Within the Fellowship

We Welcome Fairmont's own Rachel Boden as our guest preacher today. Rachel was baptized and grew up at Fairmont Presbyterian Church, eventually serving on staff as the Director of Children and Youth Ministry and Director of Outreach until August 2020. Rachel is in her last semester at Princeton Theological Seminary in pursuit of her Master of Divinity having passed all of her ordination exams and Committee on Preparation for Ministry requirements on her way to ordained ministry.

Where's Brian? Pastor Brian will be in the Holy Land from January 2-12 leading a group of seminary students on a spiritual pilgrimage and archeological tour.

For prayer concerns or if you would like to be part of the Email Prayer Chain Team, please contact: Rev. Kelley Shin at kshin@fairmontchurch.org.

For emergencies, contact Rev. Kelley Shin at (937) 751-0752.

Announcements

No Connections this week.

Join us for Bible Study this Thursday evening, January 12th at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom. We will be prayerfully considering the text for the following Sunday morning. You do not need any preparations and everyone is welcome. This week we will be reflecting on Matthew 2:13-18. You are invited.

Thursdays, 7:00pm

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82002536057>

Meeting ID: 820 0253 6057

Fairmont Youth Ministries

Sunday, January 8th 12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Shining God's Light: Serving One Another

Lunch, Faith Video, and Games

January Family Night

Join us for our January *Fairmont Family Night* on Friday, January 20, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. Fairmont children, youth, and their families will be meeting **once-a-month** for a fun evening of dinner, games, and fellowship.

WHAT: Fairmont Family Night

WHEN: January 20, 2023

TIME: 6:00 p.m.

WHERE: Fellowship Hall

THEME: Winter Wonderland

Epiphany Prayer Star Word We will be sharing in a year-long spiritual practice as a congregation. You are invited to take an Epiphany star with a “prayer word” on it. This word is your “prayer word” for the year 2023. Through the year, each of us are to use this word in prayer, in Bible study, in faith conversations, in study, and in times of reflection and meditation to see how God will speak to us through this one “prayer word.” Epiphany Prayer Star Words are available in baskets in the Fellowship Hall and the Sanctuary.

Stewardship Update 2023: Total pledges thus far are \$487,205. Thank you for your continued giving.

What is Per Capita and why is it \$53.10? The Presbyterian Church is a connectional church. That means that we share in mutual ministry and accountability with and for each other. One of the ways we do that is by sharing in the cost of the denomination. This is done through individual assessments based on the number of members in each church. These assessments, called “per capita,” are mandatory and are used to support the work of the General Assembly and the Synod. Those funds are obtained either from our general Fairmont revenues or from special offerings of individuals who wish to pay their share individually. The total per member assessment for 2023 is \$53.10. That is the cost of being a member of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) denomination as opposed to the local congregation. If you would like to directly pay your share of our commitment to the greater church, the amount per member is \$53.10.

When is the Annual Meeting? In 2022 we switched from calendar year accounting to fiscal year accounting to correspond more closely to our program calendar. Our current fiscal year will end on June 30, 2023, and we will be holding our annual meeting in July of 2023 instead of early February as we have done in the past.

From the Building and Grounds Team: Now that winter weather is here, please be careful when walking in the parking lots—they do get slick when wet!

Winter Weather Reminder: Fairmont Presbyterian Church programs are cancelled and the church office will be closed on days when the Kettering City Schools are closed (not merely delayed) for weather reasons. As always, please use common sense and do not drive if you feel the conditions are unsafe.

Worship Staff

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Children's Ministry Coordinator

Director of Music Ministries

Church Organist

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151 We Three Kings of Orient Are




1 We three kings of O - ri - ent are; bear - ing gifts we tra - verse 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 glad - ly rais - ing, wor - ship - ing God Most 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!



Although Christians had begun by the 2nd century to speak of these visitors from eastern countries (Matthew 2:1–12) as “kings,” perhaps because of passages like Psalm 72:10 and Isaiah 60:3, it is more accurate to think of them as magi or astrologers, the scholars of their day.

In the Bleak Midwinter

144



1 In the bleak mid-win-ter, frost-y wind made moan;
 2 Our God, heaven can-not hold him, nor earth sus-tain;
 3 An-gels and arch-an-gels may have gath-ered there;
 4 What can I give him, poor as I am?

earth stood hard as i-ron, wa-ter like a stone;
 heaven and earth shall flee a-way when he comes to reign:
 cher-u-bim and ser-a-phim thronged the air;
 If I were a shep-herd, I would bring a lamb;

snow had fall-en, snow on snow, snow on snow,
 in the bleak mid-win-ter a sta-ble place suf-ficed
 but his moth-er on-ly, in her maid-en bliss,
 if I were a wise man, I would do my part;

in the bleak mid-win-ter, long a-go.
 the Lord God in-car-nate, Je-sus Christ.
 wor-shipped the be-lov-ed with a kiss.
 yet what I can I give him: give my heart.

Though this text describes winter weather in England rather than in Palestine, the poet is using familiar surroundings as a means of making the Nativity more immediate and personal. The tune name honors a Gloucestershire village near the composer's birthplace in Cheltenham.

What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright 152

Capo 2: (C) (Am) (G) (C) (F) (C) (G) (C) (F)
D Bm A D G D A D G

1 What star is this, with beams so bright, more
2 'Tis now ful - filled what God de - creed, "From
3 While out - ward signs the star dis - plays, an
4 O Je - sus, while the star of grace im -

(C) (G) (C) (F) (C) (G)
D A D G D A

love - ly than the noon - day light? 'Tis
Ja - cob shall a star pro - ceed;" and
in - ward light the Lord con - veys and
pels us on to seek your face, let

(Am) (D7) (G) (C) (F) (C) (Dm)
Bm E7 A D G D Em

sent to an - nounce a new - born king, glad
lo! the east - ern sa - ges stand to
urg - es them, with ten - der might, to
not our sloth - ful hearts re - fuse the

(G) (C) (G) (C) (F) (G) (C)
A D A D G A D

ti - dings of our God to bring.
read in heaven the Lord's com - mand.
seek the giv - er of the light.
guid - ance of your light to use.

This 18th-century Latin text calls attention to three kinds of light: the light of the star leading the Magi to the Christ-child, the inward light inspiring their journey, and Christ who is the Light of the world. The simple unison melody unites everything in a gentle arc.

TEXT: Charles Coffin, 1736; trans. John Chandler, 1837, alt.

MUSIC: Trier ms., 15th cent.; adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1609; harm. George Ratcliffe Woodward, 1910

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

LM

(alternate harmonization, 254)

