



Epiphany Sunday
Traditional Service
January 9, 2022

The Service for the Lord's Day

WE GATHER

PRELUDE Canzona on "Liebster Jesu"

Richard Purvis

WELCOME AND PASSING OF THE PEACE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Arise, people of God, and shine, for your light is come!

People: Let us follow God's light wherever it leads us;

Leader: in the great corridors of power, and the small houses of the poor;

People: in the places God has promised, and in the places we least expect.

Leader: As the wise men came, let us come and pay homage to Christ our Lord;

People: let us worship the child born in Bethlehem; come, let us worship God!

OPENING HYMN

#63

As With Gladness Men of Old

Dix

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 glorious 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 heaven 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 heavenly King.

4 Holy Jesus, every 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.

WE CONFESS

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious and Loving God, in Jesus Christ your light has come to us, filling the world with the brightness of your love. Yet we confess that we often shade our eyes and turn away. We seek the glow of easy comfort in our lives and in our faith. Forgive us, Lord, and empower us to be bearers of your light in the world. Help us to shine forth your justice, mercy, and peace, so that your love may be revealed in our lives.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

WE LISTEN

CHILDREN'S SERMON

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE Matthew 2:1-12

Don Masters

Leader: The word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

SERMON

The Rev. J.C. Austin

"Follow the Light"

WE RESPOND

HYMN

#68

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.

3 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.

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.

4 To God the Father, God the Son,
And Holy Spirit, Three in One,
May every tongue and nation raise
An endless song of thankful praise.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (adapted from 1 Corinthians 15)

This is the good news which we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved, if we hold it fast: that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day, and that he appeared first to the women, then to Peter, and to the Twelve, and then to many faithful witnesses.

We believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God. Jesus Christ is the first and the last, the beginning and the end; he is our Lord and our God. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.

CALL FOR OFFERING

Call to Give

Offertory "From East to West, From Shore to Shore"

Richard Proulx

*Response - #592

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him, above ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost

*Prayer of Dedication

CLOSING HYMN

#66

We Three Kings of Orient Are

THREE 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, we are raising,
Worshipping 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)

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE The Heavens Declare

Benedetto Marcello

Announcements:

- Please note the pew pads are back. Please sign and pass along.
- Looking ahead: The church building, office, and Preschool will close in observance of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day holiday on Monday, January 17.
- On Sunday, January 30 we will gather for a Combined Worship Service at 10 a.m., followed by the annual Congregational Meeting

Flowers under the cross are in loving memory of Bill Hursh,
husband of Harriet Hursh

If you would like to make a secure online donation to FPCB, you can visit fpc-bethlehem.org/donate, or use this QR code to go directly to that page (on your mobile phone, open the camera and point it at the QR code – it will take you to this website page).



First Presbyterian Church of Bethlehem

2344 Center Street, Bethlehem, PA 18017

610-867-5865 fpc-bethlehem.org

Your attendance at church events constitutes permission to use your image (photos and video) in church communications. Questions about our policy:

info@fpc-bethlehem.org