



Community Presbyterian Church

Epiphany Sunday
7 January 2024

GATHERING

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

*Call to Worship

(One) The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light. We too now see this glorious light.

(All) The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

(One) We have been called out of darkness. We too now see this glorious light.

(All) Like the Magi, we have beheld Christ's glory—His glory as the only Son of the Father.

(One) For to us a child is born, to us a Son is given. In him was life, and the life was the light of all people. Christ is the King of all nations.

(All) Christ is Lord over all creation.

Opening Prayer

Responsive Psalm

Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14

(One) Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to a king's son. May he judge your people with righteousness, and your poor with justice.

(All) May the mountains yield prosperity for the people, and the hills, in righteousness.

(One) May he defend the cause of the poor of the people, give deliverance to the needy, and crush the oppressor. May he live while the sun endures, and as long as the moon, throughout all generations.

(All) May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth.

(One) In his days may righteousness flourish and peace abound, until the moon is no more. May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles render him tribute, may the kings of Sheba and Seba bring gifts.

(All) May all kings fall down before him, all nations give him service.

(One) For he delivers the needy when they call, the poor and those who have no helper. He has pity on the weak and the needy, and saves the lives of the needy.

(All) From oppression and violence he redeems their life; and precious is their blood in his sight.

***Hymn (233)**

We Three Kings of Orient Are

(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, voices raising,
worshipping God on 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

(All) 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, and baptize us once again with your Spirit, that, forgiven and renewed, we may show forth your glory shining in the face of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Silence

Assurance of Pardon

PROCLAMATION

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 60:1-6

New Testament Reading

Ephesians 3:1-12

Gospel Reading

Matthew 2:1-12

Sermon

***Hymn (236)**

As with Gladness

(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 your splendor see.

(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 the 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 you, 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

EUCCHARIST

Welcome to the Table

Prayer of Invitation

Eat This Bread

Eat this bread, Drink this cup.
Come to him and never be hungry.
Eat this bread, Drink this cup.
Trust in him and you will not thirst.

Words of Institution

Communion

Prayer of Thanksgiving

*Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. **I believe** 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 buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated 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 life everlasting. Amen.

Offertory

*Doxology & Prayer of Dedication

Passing of the Peace

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer (sins/trespases)

SENDING

Charge

Benediction

Postlude

Pastor: Rev. Jason Brian Santos, Ph.D. (206) 962-9886

Organist/Pianist: Celeste Scott

Community Presbyterian Church

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SCRIPTURES

Isaiah 60:1-6

60:1 Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

60:2 For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you.

60:3 Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

60:4 Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms.

60:5 Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you.

60:6 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 proclaim the praise of the LORD.

Ephesians 3:1-12

3:1 This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles--

3:2 for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you,

3:3 and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words,

3:4 a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ.

3:5 In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit:

3:6 that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

3:7 Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power.

3:8 Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ,

3:9 and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things;

3:10 so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places.

3:11 This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord,

3:12 in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

Matthew 2:1-12

2:1 In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem,

2:2 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."

2:3 When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him;

2:4 and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born.

2:5 They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

2:6 '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.'"

2:7 Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared.

2:8 Then 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."

2:9 When 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.

2:10 When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy.

2:11 On 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.

2:12 And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

May Christ Bless this Home
20 + C + M + B + 24
Christus Mansionem Benedicat

God of the Incarnation,

We ask that you bless our home and all who inhabit it. May all who come to our doorstep or along our path this year rejoice to find Christ living among us.

Fill us with the light of Christ, that our concern for others might reflect your love.

In Christ we pray,

Amen

