

**Epiphany,
Sunday, January 2, 2022**



Journey of the Magi, oil on canvas
Minneapolis Institute of Art
James Tissot (1836-1902) France

**Faith Presbyterian Church
ORDER OF WORSHIP**

Welcome to worship at Faith Presbyterian Church! We are glad you are joining us this morning. Whoever you are, wherever you come from, whomever you love, whatever your faith or your doubt, we welcome all whom God welcomes, and that means you. As we begin our time together, take a few deep breaths and settle in, to make the transition from getting here to being here, and to prepare your mind and body for worship.

Welcome

Rev. Jack Hodges

Joys and Concerns

GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Prelude *Prelude on "Greensleeves"*

Richard Purvis
(1931-1994)

Call to Worship

Mike Shirey

Today we celebrate Epiphany, remembering the ancient travelers who followed a star, and came to confess Jesus as the Son of God.

We are like those Magi. We have traveled far and wide in search of something worthy, looking in the finest places of wealth and power.

But our search has been in vain; and our lives have become cluttered. In our confusion, we have lost meaning and purpose.

But take heart! God is more present than we imagine. In the Child born so long ago, lies the road to truth and new life.

Thanks be to God!

Hymn 150 *As with Gladness Men of Old*

DIX

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, you delight in creation.

You did not create the earth for sorrow nor humanity for sadness;

You made us for joy and destined us for fullness!

In searching for guidance and growth,

we confess we need to be reminded that life is more than facts and

living is more than holding to a schedule.

We confess we go astray, we lose our way,

we lack the staying power the journey demands.

As You did for those Magi of old,

keep us moving on the road toward the New Life in Christ.

Focus us on Your love, peace and power.

Restore to us the joy of the Gospel's good news

So that we might serve you faithfully. Amen.

Kyrie 121 *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

ST. LOUIS

verse 4

O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;

Cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today.

We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;

O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!

Assurance of Grace

Gloria 113 *Angels We Have Heard on High*

GLORY

refrain

Gloria in excelsis Deo!

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Moment with Faith Kids

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Reading Isaiah 60:1-6

Arise, shine; for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.
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.
Nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

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.
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.
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.

Music *Angels we have Heard on High*

Mary McDonald

Gospel 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." '

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. 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.' 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. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. 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.

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

This is the word of God, for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

They Are Icons for Us All

Rev. Hodges

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Hymn 151 *We Three Kings of Orient Are*

KINGS OF ORIENT

verses 1, 2, 5

Invitation to the Offering

If you wish to contribute online, please scan the QR code with your mobile device to be directed to Faith's online giving site.



Offertory

CELEBRATION OF COMMUNION

Invitation to The Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts

We lift them up to God.

Let us give thanks to God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise...

The prayer continues,

...Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with the faithful of every time and place, saying:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might—
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest!

...Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again...

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us

our debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Words of Institution

Sharing of Communion

When the bread is broken, please break the bread you have at home. When the cup is poured, please pour it at home, or touch the cup if you've already filled it. We give thanks that the Spirit is present wherever we are, knitting us together as the body of Christ in the world.

Prayer after Communion

Gracious God,
You have made us one with Your people in heaven and on earth; neither death nor life can separate us from Your love.
You have fed us with the Bread of Life, and renewed us for Your service.
We give ourselves to You.
May our daily living reflect Your Kingdom purpose.
May we serve faithfully on earth with justice, mercy, and love.
We pray through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SENDING GOD'S PEOPLE INTO THE WORLD

*Hymn 136 *Go Tell It on the Mountain*

GO TELL IT

Charge and Benediction

Postlude *Three Kings' March*

Michael Baker
(1949-2000)

Leading Worship Today

Rev. Jack Hodges, *Guest Preacher*
Dr. Samuel Springer, *Minister of Music and Organist*
Mike Shirey, *Liturgist*
Kristin Herber, *Zoom Moderator*
Dawn Shirey, *PowerPoint*
Andy Fuller, *Audio/Camera*

FAITH PRESBYTERIAN PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Cat Dodson Goodrich, *Pastor*
Dr. Samuel Springer, *Minister of Music and Organist*
Rev. Doris Cowan, *Parish Associate*
Rev. Bill Millen, *Parish Associate*

This week we pray for:

Neal Hairston
John Reale and the Seavers-Reale family

Robert Ingram
Ann Scheck
Faith's homebound members

Announcements

Worship During January, worship will be **exclusively on Zoom** to maintain the health and safety of our congregation.

Wednesday Bible Study *11:00 a.m. on Zoom*

Join Cat every Wednesday to reflect on the coming Sunday's lectionary passage. All are welcome! The Bible Study will not meet on December 29 and will gather only on Zoom on Wednesday in January.