

Epiphany of the Lord
Sunday, January 7, 2023



Arrival of the Magi, watercolor
Frank Wesley (1923-2002) India

**Faith Presbyterian Church
ORDER OF WORSHIP**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Cat Dodson Goodrich

JOYS AND CONCERNS

GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

PRELUDE *Berceuse*

Louis Vierne
(1870-1937)

*Please rise in body or in spirit

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Paula Burger

We gather because we have heard stories of grace:
hands outstretched across difference, bringing us together.
We gather because we have seen the light:
pushing back the shadows with hope and joy.
We gather because we long for peace:
real and lasting, for us and for all.
We gather in search of God:
so with hearts open to possibility, we seek, and listen.
Let us worship God.

***HYMN 155** *Raise a Song of Gladness*

JUBILATE DEO

sung twice

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Light has come into the world,
but we find ourselves still in shadow.
Love has come into the world,
but hatred persists.
Grace has come into the world,
but it is difficult to forgive others, and ourselves.
Peace is possible,
and yet conflicts continue to tear us apart.
Holy one, shaper of the stars, have mercy on us! Help us find our way to embrace the light, love, grace, and peace Christ makes possible this day. We open our hearts to you in silent prayer...

Kyrie 121 *O Little Town of Bethlehem (verse 4)*

ST. LOUIS

**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

3 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
now ye need not fear the grave: Je - sus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all to gain the ev - er - last - ing hall.
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

***PASSING THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you...
... and also with you.

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

A MOMENT WITH FAITH KIDS

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 60:1-7

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, 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.
All the flocks of Kedar shall be gathered to you,
the rams of Nebaioth shall minister to you;
they shall be acceptable on my altar,
and I will glorify my glorious house.

MUSIC *If with All Your Heart from Elijah*

Felix Mendelssohn
(1809-1847)

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

Seeking

Rev. Goodrich

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*HYMN 152 *What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright*

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

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, concluding with...

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

If you are in the sanctuary, please come forward by the center aisle to receive the bread and cup, and return by the outside aisle. Gluten free, dairy free bread is available in a dish on each plate. If you are at home, when the bread is broken, please break the bread. When the cup is poured, please pour it 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

God, we trust you are creating new paths and possibilities, even as we journey into the year ahead. May Christ free us with newfound love and grace, that we might learn from where we have been. And may the Spirit reveal new dreams to guide us, as we chart new paths into the future. We take courage from the meal we have shared and the fellowship of the people around us as we go forth: companions on the way. Amen

SENDING GOD'S PEOPLE INTO THE WORLD

***HYMN 138** *Who Would Think that What Was Needed*

WHITE ROSETTES

CHARGE & BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Toccatà in E minor*

Johann Pachelbel
(1653-1706)

Leading Worship Today

Rev. Cat Dodson Goodrich, Pastor

Vivian Slacum, Guest Organist

Paula Burger, Liturgist

Karen Meyers, Elder of the Day

Jack Nesbitt, Usher

Patrick Baker, Zoom Moderator & PowerPoint

Andy Fuller, Audio/Camera

****Joys and Concerns:** We are a community who prays with and for each other. There is a book in the narthex where you may write your joys and concerns, to be included in the Prayers of the People and shared in our weekly prayer chain email. If you would like to be added to the prayer chain email: faithchurchbalt@gmail.com.

This week we pray for:

Faith's homebound members and
those receiving long-term care.
Our partners in Cuba

Victims of gun violence
The people of Ukraine, Israel, Palestine, Sudan,
and all those who suffer from war and disaster.

WELCOME to Faith Presbyterian Church! If you are visiting with us this morning, we hope you find our worship to be meaningful - your presence enriches our community. If you are seeking a church home, we hope you will return soon so that we might get to know you better. To learn about ways to get engaged in the life of Faith, check out our website, www.faithpcbalt.org, and speak with our pastor, Rev. Cat Goodrich, cgoodrich@faithpcbalt.org.

KIDS are welcome at Faith! Our PRAYGROUND at the front of the sanctuary is for children 6 and younger during worship. There are books and quiet activities to keep hands busy so ears can listen, and it's close to the action so that our youngest members can experience the beauty of worship in a space that's just for them.

Sign up for our weekly **News & Notes** email by completing the visitor card or go to the website: faithpcbalt.org and navigate to "Contact Us."

The Forum: Faith formation gathering for youth and adults, *Sundays, 9:15 in the Woodmont Room and on Zoom.* cgoodrich@faithpcbalt.org! There will be no Forum on December 24 and 31.

January Forum Schedule

- 1/7 - New Year's Resolutions (John and Deb Colmers)
- 1/14 - Cuba Partnership (Cuba team)
- 1/21 & 1/28 - Matthew 25 (John Colmers)

February Forum Schedule

Living the Questions is an open-minded alternative to studies that attempt to give participants all the answers. Here we'll look at essential questions in the Christian faith and explore what's next for Christianity. The class will be facilitated by Rev. Dr. Jerrett L. Hansen, a retired pastor of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

- 2/4 - Taking the Bible Seriously
- 2/11 - Thinking Theologically
- 2/18 - The Myth of Redemptive Violence
- 2/25 - Stories of Creation

Wednesday Bible Study 11:00 a.m. on Zoom Wednesday - Join Cat every Wednesday to reflect on the coming Sunday's lectionary passage. All are welcome! Meeting ID: 818 8551 6595; passcode: 716331

Children's Sunday School has begun. On Sunday mornings, after the Moment with Faith Kids, kids ages 4 and up are invited to explore the passage of the day with games, crafts, and other activities. They will return at the end of worship to the sanctuary.

ROPAGOFA Youth Group meets every third Sunday at 5:30! Join young people from Faith, Govans, and Roland Park churches to build a durable faith through fun, games, and encountering God together. The next gathering will be – **January 21 at Faith.**

An Evening with Dan Rodricks

Baltimore Sun Columnist, Author, Playwright, Radio and TV Personality

Saturday, January 20 - 6pm

Faith Presbyterian Church

Join Dan for dinner and a night of storytelling.
Seating is limited, reserve your tickets today!



Join us for a captivating evening with the renowned Dan Rodricks, journalist with the Baltimore Sun, playwright, and storyteller. This in-person event will take place on Saturday, January 20, 2024 at 6:00 PM at Faith Presbyterian Church.

While Dan shares stories of his life in Baltimore, enjoy dinner provided by The Pantry Catering and bid on a silent auction - including a fly fishing outing and lesson guided by Dan Rodricks and Scott McGill. All net proceeds will be donated to Faith Presbyterian Church's Bread Fund, which supports those with food insecurity in Baltimore and around the world, including our partner churches in Cuba.

Use the south building entrance adjacent to the small parking lot off of Woodmont Road. Vegan and gluten-free options will be available.

Faith Church welcomes and invites all community members to this event.

Tickets are \$20 (sliding scale tickets available; call the church office for details at 410-435-4330).

Please contact the church office for more information (faithchurchbalt@gmail.com).