

CELEBRATING THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

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.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

When passing the bread to your neighbor say, "The body of Christ, broken for you."

When passing the cup to your neighbor say, "The blood of Christ, shed for you."

We will hold each element until all are served and then partake together.

PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN OF SENDING #233 "We Three Kings of Orient Are" (verses 1 and 5 only)

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #12 "Be Exalted, O God"

Be exalted, O God, above the heavens; let thy glory be over all the earth.

Be exalted, O God, above the heavens; let thy glory be over all the earth.

*CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Zachary Smith



WELCOME VISITOR! We are delighted that you are here to share worship of our Lord Jesus this morning together with the rest of us. We want you to be well informed about the Christian faith and about the church so don't be afraid to ask. You may communicate with us in several ways. Ask a neighbor in your pew, fill out a blue first-time visitor card, add your name to the Ritual of Friendship pad and by all means do not hesitate to contact our pastor. May God bless you this morning and throughout the week.

Rev. Susan Bennett, Pastor
Stephanie Dunn, Youth Director
Ward Gailey, Music Director
Zachary Smith, Musician

Linda Hodges, Office Manager
Tom Francis, Custodian
Nursery Attendants: Stephanie Phillips and Megan Bennett

Stockbridge Presbyterian Church

January 4, 2015

11:00 am



Celebrating the Sacrament Of Communion

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.

Matthew 2:10-11a

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

*(Please silence and refrain from using all electronic devices during this hour of worship.
Otherwise, Susan will turn into her evil twin and give you The Look.)*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Acolyte: Collin Roberts

PRESENTATION OF THE WORD

Beadle: Darin Clipper

Please use this time for silent meditation and preparation for worship. Prayer cards are in the pew rack in front of you for submission to church prayer list.

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

*Those who are able, please stand.

*CONGREGATIONAL INTROIT #131 "Surely the Presence"

Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place;

**I can feel his mighty power and his grace. I can hear the brush of angels' wings,
I see glory on each face; surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.**

*CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 72)

Liturgist: Jason Howard

Leader: Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel!

All: He alone does wondrous things.

Leader: Blessed be his glorious name forever!

All: May his glory fill the whole earth.

All: Hallelujah! Let us worship God!

*HYMN OF PRAISE #236 "As with Gladness"

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Gracious God, save us from resentment. Save us from the darkness that is both around us and, too often, within us. Forgive us when we choose darkness over your light and love. Strengthen us to choose to forgive, and to stay open to the light and warmth of your presence. Please continue to hear us as we confess now in silence ...

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (1 Timothy 1:15a)

Leader: The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. Friends, give thanks again for God's amazing grace:

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Amen.

*GLORIA PATRI

GLORIA

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.

PROCLAIMING AND ENACTING THE WORD

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Aaron Roberts

ANTHEM "Ring Out, Wild Bells" Thomas Gibbs, composer

Ward Gailey

(Children will be dismissed to Children's Worship following the anthem.)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING Isaiah 60:1-6

Page 649, Pew Bible

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING Matthew 2:1-12

Page 1, Pew Bible

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON "How to Celebrate Epiphany"

Rev. Susan Bennett

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH 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.

MINISTRY OF GIVING

OFFERTORY

Zachary Smith

*DOXOLOGY

OLD 100TH

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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE