

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

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.

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.

SERVING OF BREAD AND CUP

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

BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN OF SENDING #233 "We Three Kings of Orient Are"

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #236 "As With Gladness" (verse 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.**

*POSTLUDE



Andrea Emmel

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. Betsy Turner, Interim Pastor
Dorothy Clark, Organist
Tom Francis, Custodian Emeritus

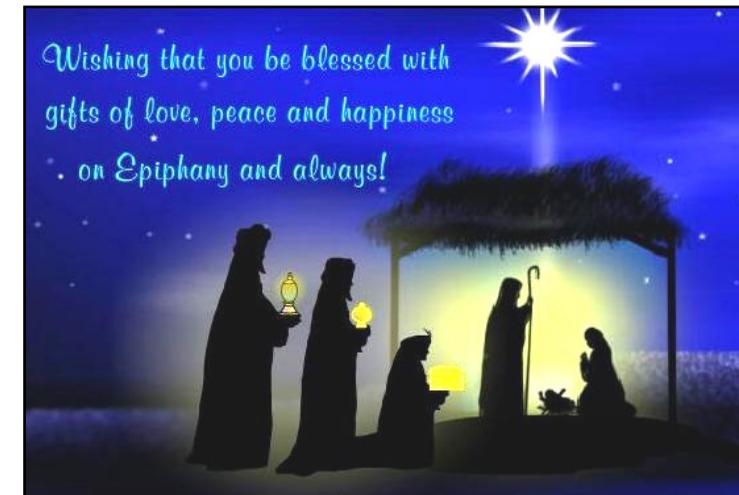
Ward Gailey, Music Director
Linda Hodges, Office Manager
Nursery Attendants: Suzie Wharton and Allie Dunn

Stockbridge Presbyterian Church

January 6, 2019

11:00 a.m.

Celebrating the Sacrament Of Communion



"We have observed his star at its rising and have come to pay him homage..." Matthew 2:2

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

(Please silence and refrain from using all electronic devices during this hour of worship.)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

CHIMING THE TRINITY

PRELUDE

Andrea Emmel

PRESENTATION OF THE WORD

Beadle: Terry Holmes

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 #236 "As With Gladness" (verse 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.**

*CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 72)

Liturgist: Terry Holmes

One: Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things.

All: **For he delivers the needy when they call, the poor and those who have no helper.**

One: He has pity on the weak, and saves the needy.

All: **May kings fall down before him, and all nations give him service.**

One: Blessed be his glorious name forever, and may his glory fill the whole earth.

All: **Long may he live! May all his children be blessed! May his name endure forever!**

*HYMN OF PRAISE #229 "The First Noel"

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Merciful God, you have given light to the world in Jesus Christ, but we have preferred to live in darkness. Your justice protects the weak and distressed, yet we seek the shelter of privilege and power. Your righteousness redeems the poor and the needy, yet we seek the status of wealth and possessions. Your peace upholds the oppressed and the defenseless, yet we seek the security of weapons and retribution. We humbly bow before you now. Hear us as we confess in silence the particular ways we need your grace...

[silence]

God of light, forgive us our sins, and lead us to true repentance, that we may trust you in all things; through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: This is the good news: Christ is the light of the whole world, who grants forgiveness and healing of our sins.

All: **We are forgiven. Thanks be to God!**

*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

Stephanie Dunn

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

DUET "What Child is This?"

Marie Anne and Monica Andrea Coutin-Baxter

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING Isaiah 60:1-6

Page 649, Pew Bible

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING Matthew 2:1-12

Page 1, Pew Bible

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON "His Star at Its Rising"

Rev. Betsy Turner

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

Andrea Emmel

*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