



Sunday Worship



January 8, 2023

Draw near to God

for God is waiting for you.

* indicates where the congregation is to stand if able
italic type is spoken by the liturgist – bold is spoken by the congregation

PRELUDE

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Shout to the Lord your praises!

Sing to the Lord the joy of this day!

For God's might and power are established in the universe!

God's transforming love beckons us.

Come, let us worship God whose Light bursts forth into our darkness!

Let us praise the God of salvation who brings us home.

***OPENING PRAYER**

God of hope and light, your good news has been emblazoned across the skies, the great starry night of Jesus' birth, sung by angels, celebrated by shepherds, witnessed by animals. You have given to us a new chance, a reminder of your continual love for us. Be with us in this worship, we pray. Guide our thoughts, our lives, our spirits. Heal and restore us. For we ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

***HYMN #147 The First Nowell**

1. The first Nowell the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay,
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep, on a col winter's night that was so deep.

Refrain: Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel

2. They looked up and saw a star shining in the east beyond them far;
and to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night. *Refrain*

3. And by the light of that same star three wise men came from country far;
to seek for a king was their intent, and to follow the star wherever it went. *Refrain*

4. This star drew nigh to the northwest; o'er Bethlehem it took its rest,
and there it did both stop and stay, right over the place where Jesus lay. *Refrain*

5. Then entered in those wise men three, full reverently upon their knee,
and offered there in his presence their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense. *Refrain*

6. Then let us all with one accord sing praises to our heavenly Lord,
that hath made heaven and earth of nought, and with his blood our life hath bought. *Refrain*

CALL TO CONFESSION AND RECONCILIATION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND BROKENESS

God, we confess that ours is still a world in which Herod seems to rule: the powerful are revered, the visions of the wise are ignored, the poor are afflicted and the innocent are killed. You show us that salvation comes in the vulnerability of a child, yet we hunger for the "security" of weapons and walls. You teach us that freedom comes in love of service, yet we trample on others in our efforts to be "free." Forgive us, God, when we look to the palace instead of the stable, when we heed politicians more than prophets. Renew us with the spirit of Bethlehem, that we may be better prepared for your coming. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND BLESSING

... Jesus died for me. Jesus forgives me. Jesus loves me. Jesus is good to me. Amen.

***GLORIA PATRI**

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.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Psalm 46

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

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

1. What star is this, with beams so bright, more lovely than the noonday light?
'Tis sent to announce a newborn king, glad tidings of our God to bring.
2. 'Tis now fulfilled what God decreed, "From Jacob shall a star proceed";
and lo! The eastern sages stand to read in heaven the Lord's command.
3. Whole outward signs the star displays, an inward light the Lord conveys
and urges them, with tender might, to seek the giver of the light.
4. O Jesus, while the star of grace impels us on to seek your face,
let not our slothful hearts refuse the guidance of your light to use.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Matthew 2:13-23

SERMON God Rest Ye

RECOGNITION OF THE OFFERING

***DOXOLOGY**

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

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

God of all good gifts, who gives freely to us, you have shown us how to give with love. Accept the gifts we bring; use them for the work of Jesus' reign. Keep us in remembrance of the magi and grant us their generosity and courage. In the name of Jesus, your greatest gift. Amen.

SHARING JOYS, CONCERNS AND FRIENDSHIP (Please sign the friendship pad and pass it to those seated next to you that there may be no strangers among us.)

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND 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.

***HYMN** God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen

1. God rest you merry, gentlemen, let nothing you dismay; remember Christ, our Savior
was born on Christmas Day to save us all from Satan's pow'r when we were gone astray.

Refrain: O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy, O tidings of comfort and joy.

2. From God our heav'nly Father a blessed angel came and unto certain shepherds brought tidings of the same,
how that in Bethlehem was born the son of God by name. *Refrain*

3. "Fear not," then said the angel, "let nothing you affright; this day is born a Savior, the true and radiant light,
to free all those who trust in him from Satan's pow'r and might." *Refrain*

4. Now to the Lord sing praises, all you within this place, and in true love and fellowship each other now embrace; this holy tide of Christmas is filled with heav'nly grace. *Refrain*

***BENEDICTION
POSTLUDE**

ANNOUNCEMENTS January 8, 2023

This week's carillon is in memory of Brent W. Daniels, infant son of Steve and Joanne Daniels and Grandson of Doris Daniels.

YOUTH GROUP NEWS: Will meet tonight, January 8 at 6:30pm. It will be a regular meeting focusing on the new year.

RISE AGAINST HUNGER EVENT AT THOMPSON MEMORIAL: On January 16, 2023, all are invited to join in an MLK Day of Service that will be held at Thompson Memorial Presbyterian Church. The day begins at 9:00 AM with registration and breakfast. At 9:30 there will be a performance by Parkway Drumline followed by the meal packing event with Rise Against Hunger.

We had so much fun at our own Rise Against Hunger event back in November, here's another opportunity to share the love of Christ with others and have a good time doing it. Registrations are required. Please go to www.tmpc.org/mlk or call Pastor Su. She will be happy to help get you registered. Friends and neighbors are also welcome.

THURSDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY RESUMES: Each week a group joins together to explore scripture on Zoom from 7:00 – 8:30 PM. After finishing the lessons around the angels of Christmas, the group will resume its study of the Ten Commandment. These rules were given by God to be a blessing, allowing for a close relationship with the Law-Giver and for the peaceful cohabitation of all creation. You don't have to be a biblical scholar to participate, just a heart that longs for a closer walk with the Lord.

ANNUAL REPORTS ARE DUE With the ushering in of the New Year, we remember 2022 by our annual report. All reports are due to the church office by January 16. Let's celebrate our faithful work for and with Jesus Christ in our review!

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS: **This week we are asking for canned meats Tuna, Chicken, and Salmon.** Bring your item(s) to the church during the week or next Sunday morning. Donations are to be placed in the wagon located in the vestibule.

<u>Calendar:</u>	January 8	10:00am 6:30pm	Worship Service, Sunday School, Fellowship. Youth Group
	January 9	10:00am 7:00pm	Parish Life meeting Boys Scouts. Bell Choir Rehearsal
	January 10	10:00am	Worship and Music meeting.
	January 11	12:00pm	Bring you brown bag lunch and join us for fellowship.
	January 12	7:00pm	Bible Study on Zoom

Elder of the Month: Michael Myers Deacon of the Month: Marilyn Cook
Coffee volunteer: Donna Jencks Sunday School teacher: Karen Myers.

In our thoughts and prayers:

The Conner/Lang Family, Aleena Lang, Raymond Tinari,
Jim Turner, Violet Sanders, Steve Rash, Bill Yerkes, David Posnett, Mary Lou Humlhanz



Church Staff **Susan Fall, Pastor**

Leanne Yerkes, Director of Music
Susan Flanagan, Office Administrator
Frank Orzechoski, Financial Manager



Natalia Blinova, Childcare Mark Lempp, Grounds Keeper