

Nurture Good News

"For all of you share in God's grace." (Philippians 1:7)



INDEPENDENCE PRESBYTERIAN
THE OLD STONE CHURCH OF INDEPENDENCE



EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

January 5, 2025 (Second Sunday of Christmas)



C.J. Briggs, Music Director
Julie Lehmann, Secretary

Dean Jermann, Liturgist
Rev. David B. Wigger, Pastor

When we see images from Hubble, we "realize that there is all this incredible beauty in the universe that surrounds us." ~ Mario Livio

~ *GATHERING TOGETHER* ~

EPIPHANY BLESSING (*Matthew 2:10, Philippians 1:7 & Kate Bowler*)

When they saw the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy.

For all of you share in God's grace.

PRELUDE

LITANY FOR EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Arise, shine; for your light has come!

The glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

Nations will come to his light, and rulers will seek his radiance.

Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

He will judge the people with righteousness and defend the cause of the poor. **Jesus Christ is the light of the world.**

The mystery of the ages is revealed; the eternal plan of God is known to all. **Jesus Christ is the light of the world.**

Let us kneel down before him to give honor, glory, and praise.

Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

Let us offer him all the treasures of our hearts and our lives.

Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

In the light of Christ, come, let us worship God.

HYMN

WE THREE KINGS OF ORIENT ARE

GTG #151

by John Henry Hopkins Jr.

POURING OF THE BAPTISMAL WATERS

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

God of glory, you sent Jesus among us the light of the world, to reveal your love for all people. We confess that our sin and pride hide the brightness of your light. We turn away from the poor; we ignore cries for justice; we do not strive for peace. In your mercy, cleanse us of our sin, and pour out the gifts of your Spirit, that, forgiven and renewed, we may show forth your glory shining in the face of Jesus Christ.

Amen. [*Silent Confession*]

***RESPONSE**

O LORD, HAVE MERCY

GTG #578

Guarani melody

ORÉ PORIAJÚ VEREKÓ

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Christ our Savior gave himself for us,

that he might redeem us from our sin and claim us as his own people.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Amen.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE** *(from Rev. Bruce Reyes-Chow)*

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

~ THE WORD ~

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

HEBREW BIBLE

ISAIAH 60:1-6

Pew Bible p.649(OT)

The mystery of the ages, revealed to all. **Thanks be to God.**

WORD

ARISE, YOUR LIGHT IS COME!

GTG #744

by Ruth Duck

FESTAL SONG

EPIPHANY LESSON

MATTHEW 2:1-12

Pew Bible p.1(NT)

SERMON

~ RESPONDING TO THE WORD ~

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *(from A Declaration of Faith)*

Jesus, the long-expected Savior, came into the world as a child, descended from David, conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of Mary, a virgin. He announced to his people the coming of God's kingdom of justice and peace on earth. We affirm that Jesus was born of woman as is every child, yet born of God's power as was no other child. In the person and work of Jesus, God and a human life are united but not confused, distinguished but not separated. The coming of Jesus was itself the coming of God's promised rule. Through his birth, life, death, and resurrection, he brings about the relationship between God and humanity that God always intended. Alleluia. Amen.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

*RESPONSE

GLORIA A DIOS
Peruvian melody

GTG #585
MACHU-PICHU

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

~ *SENDING* ~

*HYMN

LORD, THE LIGHT OF YOUR LOVE IS SHINING
by Graham Kendrick

GTG #192
SHINE, JESUS, SHINE

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE



Next Week: Baptism of the Lord & Installation of Elders and Deacons

Pieces of today's liturgy are from: *Book of Common Worship* (PCUSA)

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