

# Worship at Glendale Presbyterian Church

January 6, 2019  
Epiphany of the Lord

## We Gather

Welcome

Prelude

Cradle Song  
Kirkpatrick

Introit

*Come and Adore Him*  
Hughes

+Call to Worship (responsive)

We have seen a star in the East!

**God is with us. Light has come!**

we have heard the songs of the angels.

**God is with us. Love has come!**

Now we follow the light into the world.

**God is with us. Light has come!**

+Prayer of the Day

Let us pray...

Everlasting Light,

shine upon us this day,

gift us with your radiance,

that we might be led to your eternal kingdom. **Amen.**

+Hymn 152

*What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright*

Unison Prayer of Confession

In his letter to the Ephesians, the Apostle Paul tells us  
that Jesus Christ is our access to God and, because of this,  
we may approach God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.  
Let us approach God with the confession of our sins  
knowing that forgiveness awaits us on the other side.

**Mighty God,**

**you are worthy of our greatest gifts.**

**But we often do not bring you the gifts you deserve or desire.**

**The wise men brought your Child gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.**

**But these days you require different gifts:**

**radical hospitality, enduring faithfulness,**

**relentless compassion, restorative justice.**

**Help us bring the gifts that matter to you. Amen.**

*Silence is kept.*

Assurance (responsive)

Friends,

do not be daunted by the enormity of our sin.

God's love is even stronger.

In the name of Jesus Christ, Emmanuel,

I declare to you that our sins are forgiven.

**Alleluia! Amen.**

The Peace of Christ (responsive)

Be kind with one another,

and tenderhearted,

forgiving one another,

as God in Christ has forgiven you.

The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

All who come to this sanctuary are welcome companions on this day.

Please turn to those nearest you and greet them with words of peace.

+Gathering Song 113 (refrain)

*Gloria in excelsis Deo!*

*Gloria in excelsis Deo!*

## Sharing the Story

First Scripture Reading

Isaiah 60:1-6

Holy God,  
shine your light upon us  
that we might lift up our eyes and be radiant.  
Give our hearts cause to thrill and rejoice  
at the beauty and wonder you are bringing to us. **Amen.**

1 Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. 2 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. 3 Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. 4 Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. 5 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. 6 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.

Opening the Word with Young Disciples

Gospel Reading

Matthew 2:1-12

1 In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, 2 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." 3 When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; 4 and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. 5 They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: 6 "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.'" 7 Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. 8 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."

9 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. 10 When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. 11 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. 12 And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Rev. Liz Rolf Kanerva

Anthem

*Sing Gloria*  
David  
Chancel Choir

## Eucharist

Offering

Invitation

From the fullness of God  
we have all received grace upon grace.  
Let us offer our lives to the Lord.

Offertory

\*Doxology 84 (verse 4)

*Creator of the Stars of Night*

*To God the Father, God the Son,  
and God the Spirit, Three in One,  
praise, honor, might, and glory be  
from age to age eternally. Amen.*

+Prayer of Dedication

Glorious God, you led three men of wisdom to seek Jesus, your Holy Child, born of Mary. Overjoyed in the presence of his radiant light, the men knelt down at the infant's crib and offered him precious gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. We, too, offer our gifts in gratitude, reverence, and thanksgiving for the birth of your child, whom you called to lead the world into fullness of life. Receive and bless this offering as a joyful sign of the boundless love and abundant life we are called to share in Christ. Amen.

+Hymn 158

*Born in the Night, Mary's Child*

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving (responsive)

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**  
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Good and gracious God,  
your creation is relentless.  
Just when we thought you were leaving us to our own devices,  
just when we thought that creation had been irreparably separated from you,  
you sent us your Son, the Christ-child, to make his home in our arms.  
To a maid named Mary and to a young man named Joseph,  
you blessed a child who would be the savior of the world.  
But their blessing is our blessing and we are called to share it.

The star hovered in the heavens, guiding the wise men in their journey.  
So, too, we ask that you guide us that we may see clearly the hope we have in you.  
We come from all walks of life and in our own way struggle to find your promise.  
Illuminate the way, Gracious God, that we might find you and kneel before you.  
So that, with all of creation, with people in every time and place,  
we may join the everlasting chorus:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

We remember how, on that holy night,  
Mary and Joseph could find no place to stay,  
so they found a manger and made their bed with the animals of the stable.  
Through these marginalized people seeking refuge,  
you made your presence known to the world.

We remember how the wise men gathered  
to worship the child who would redeem all of creation.  
Their gifts were brought to pay homage to the true King  
and not some narcissist who believed he was the world's savior.

Therefore, we give you thanks for the gifts of this Table,  
not gold, frankincense, or myrrh,  
but bread and juice, the most common of elements.

We remember how this child would grow up  
and gather with his friends on the night he was betrayed.  
How he took the bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to his disciples saying:  
"take, eat, do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, he took the cup and, pouring it, said:  
"this is the cup of salvation, shed in my blood, for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this in remembrance of me."

For as long as we eat this bread and drink this cup,  
we proclaim the resurrection of our living savior until he comes again.

As we ponder with the wise men,  
we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

We give thanks for your gifts of grace and goodness as we begin a new year of faithfulness.

May this meal of remembrance transform us into your servants,  
going out into the world to proclaim your resurrection in word and deed  
and to welcome all to partake in your reign of peace and love.

As we prepare to live as your disciples, hear us as we pray as you taught us to pray, saying: **Our Father...**

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.**

Sharing the Bread and Cup

Prayer after Communion

We give you thanks, O God,  
for the gifts of this table -  
precious, prayerful, and poignant -  
like gold, frankincense, and myrrh.  
Lead us forth by your light  
to share the gifts of your grace  
with all people everywhere,  
giving glory, honor, and praise  
to Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

## Sending

+Hymn 156

*Sing of God Made Manifest*

+Blessing and Charge

Let us go forth rejoicing in the light of  
God's love.

Thanks be to God.

May the love of Christ that shines in you shine brightly in the world wherever you go. And the blessing of  
God, Divine Giver, Radiant Light, and Fountain of Life bless you and keep you always.

+Congregational Response 127 (refrain)

*We'll walk in the light, beautiful light.  
Come where the dewdrops of mercy shine bright.  
O, shine all around us by day and by night.  
Jesus, the light of the world.*

Postlude

*Go Tell It On The Mountain*  
Spiritual

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Worship Resources: Call to Worship; Year C; Stephen M. Fearing - Confession, Assurance, Great Thanksgiving