



Fox Chapel Presbyterian Church

Worship Service for the Lord's Day

January 7, 2024
11:00 AM
Epiphany of the Lord

Prelude O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright *Dietrich Buxtehude*

Welcome and Invitations Rev. Ginger Thomas

Introit A Star is Moving Through the Sky *Melchior Franck*
A star is moving through the sky, Alleluia! Before the Wise Men wondrously, Alleluia!

Call to Worship and Opening Prayer

Tell the good news throughout the earth:
the saving grace of Jesus Christ is for all.

Let us pray:

Everlasting God, the radiance of faithful souls, who brought the nations to your light and kings to the brightness of your rising: fill the world with your glory, and show yourself to all the nations; through him who is the true light and the bright morning star, Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

***Hymn 151** We Three Kings of Orient Are *Kings of Orient*

Call to Confession and Silent Prayer

Prayer of Confession

O God, our guide, who once used a star to lead people to Christ, we confess our poor sense of direction. We let ourselves become confused, easily distracted, and lose our way. We fail to follow the signs you provide. Forgive our waywardness, O God. Lead us to the Christ so that we may follow his way to you. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the gift of becoming children of God.

Thanks be to God!

The asterisk (*) in the bulletin invites you to rise in body or spirit.
Words printed in **bold** are for the congregation to speak in unison.

For Children and Families during 11:00 AM Worship

Children of all ages are welcome to remain in worship with their families, and we provide the following opportunities for children and families:

Children age 3 to 5th grade are invited to sign up for Kids' Church prior to worship near the entry to the Sanctuary. Children may join Pastor Lori at the front of the Sanctuary for a Children's Message during worship (except on the first Sunday of the month). Following the Children's Message, children are led to the lower level Kids' Space, where parents/guardians can pick them up following worship. The lower level is accessed via the elevator in the Atrium or the staircase near the main entrance to the building.

Nursery care is available for ages 0-3 in Room 109 (near the main entrance).

The **Comfort Space** is available in Room 107 (next to the nursery) to comfort or feed a child and watch the worship service via livestream.

*Passing of the Peace

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

*All are invited to exchange signs of reconciliation and peace with others.
Children attending Kids' Church may meet Pastor Lori in the Narthex at this time.*

Scripture Reading

Matthew 2:1-12 (NT, pg. 2)

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Two Rooms

Rev. Roger Owens

Offering

Please complete a connect card and place it in the offering plate.

Offertory Anthem

There Shall a Star from Jacob Come Forth

Felix Mendelssohn

When Jesus, our Lord, was born in Bethlehem, in the land of Judea; behold, from the east to the city of Jerusalem there came the wise men and said: Say, where is he born, king of Judea? For we have seen his star and are come to adore him. (Matthew 2:1-2) There shall a star from Jacob come forth, and a Scepter from Israel rise up, and dash in pieces princes and nations. How brightly shines the morning star! With sudden radiance from afar with light and comfort glowing! Thy Word, Jesus, inly feeds us, rightly leads us, life bestowing. Praise, oh praise such love o'erflowing! (Numbers 24:17; Psalm 2:9)

*Kelly Lynch, soprano; Andrew Boag, tenor;
Tommy Walters, baritone; and Logan Newman, bass*

*Doxology

Old Hundredth

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; praise God above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication

Invitation to the Table

This is Christ's table, and all who seek to follow Christ are welcome at this table, regardless of their age or understanding. Parents are encouraged to bring their children to participate in the sacrament. The opportunity to eat and drink with Christ is not a right bestowed upon the worthy but a privilege given to the undeserving who come in faith, repentance, and love.

Great 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.**

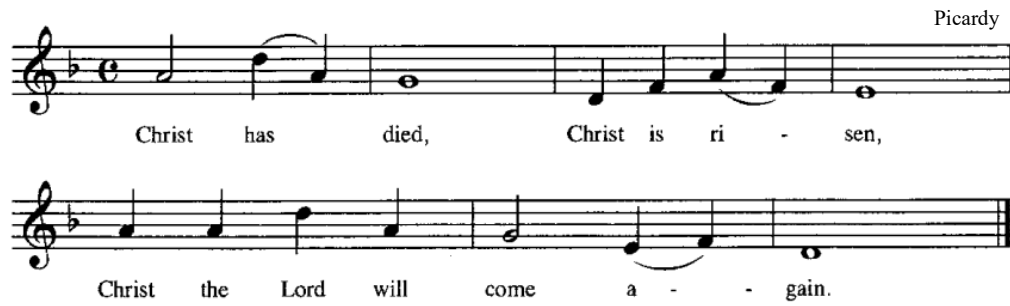
Revealing God, you send the light of a star, and in that light we see.....

...around your eternal throne, singing their hymn of unending praise.

Picardy

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, reign - ing God of
pow'r and might, heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry,
all cre - a - tion seeks your light! Bles - sed is the one who
comes in your name. Bles - sed be the Lord most high!

God of wonder, as the magi brought gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh, ...
 ...for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."
 Great is the mystery of faith.



God of wisdom, as the magi brought gold, bring your whole church, living, and departed...
 ...unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory are yours, now and forever. **Amen.**



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.

Sharing the Bread & Cup

Today we will receive communion in our pews. We will serve the bread first. Take a piece of bread from a tray as it is passed to you, and eat. A server will be walking down the center aisle with gluten-free wafers. Please raise your hand and this server will pass the gluten free elements to you. When the cups are passed in the pew, hold onto your cup. Once everyone has received a cup, we will drink together at the same time.

Communion Music

Three Kings from Persian Lands Afar

Peter Cornelius

Three kings from Persian lands afar to Jordan follow the pointing star. And this the quest of the travelers three, where the newborn King of the Jews may be. Full royal gifts they bear for the King: gold, incense, myrrh are their offering. The star shines out with a steadfast ray. The kings to Bethlehem make their way. And there in worship they bend the knee, as Mary's child in her lap they see. Their royal gifts they show to the King: gold, incense, myrrh are their offering. Thou child of man, lo, to Bethlehem the kings are travelling, travel with them! The star of mercy, the star of grace, shall lead thy heart to its resting place. Gold, incense, myrrh thou canst not bring. Offer thy heart to the infant King. Offer thy heart!

Logan Newman, bass

Communion Hymn 128

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

Traditional Polish Carol

Prayer After Communion

Loving and gracious God, from east and west, from north and south, you have gathered us at your table, called us your beloved, and fed us from your body. Transform us to be your body in the world, and fortify us by your Spirit, so that we may serve you and our neighbors with great joy. Amen.

***Hymn 152**

What Star is This, with Beams So Bright

Puer nobis

***Benediction**

***Benediction Response**

O Thou Who by a Star Didst Guide
*O thou who by a star didst guide the Wise Men on their way,
until it came and stood beside the place where Jesus lay.*

Arthur Cottman

Postlude

Carillon on *Puer nobis*

Richard Purvis

+++++

All are invited to remain for the postlude.

Participants Today

Rev. Ginger A. Thomas, Co-Senior Pastor (ginger@fcpc.us)
Rev. Dr. L. Roger Owens, Co-Senior Pastor (roger@fcpc.us)
Dr. David A. Billings, Director of Music Ministries and Organist (david@fcpc.us)
Guy Russo, Director of the Chancel Choir (guy@fcpc.us)
Kelly Lynch, soprano
Andrew Boag, tenor
Tommy Walters, baritone
Logan Newman, bass
Howard Havlicsek, Audio Engineer
Jenny Clark, Livestream Producer (jenny@fcpc.us)
Armand Caldwell, Caretaker (armand@fcpc.us)
Don Moyer, Caretaker (don@fcpc.us)

Chancel Choir

Andrew Boag, Don Boyd, Nick Graef, Margaret Groninger, David Houggy,
Helen Houggy, Dee Hoyt, June Hurh, Zelene Hutchison, Fran Jetcyk,
Beth Lockwood, Kelly Lynch, Brian Miller, Scott Miller, Gwen Minshall,
Jerry Minshall, Logan Newman, Barbara O'Connell, Jack Oehrle,
Ray Overmyer, Takako Petek, Wilberta Pickett, Audrey Russo, Polly Swanson,
Terry Thompson, Louise van Mook, Tommy Walters, Joanne Welsh

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Fox Chapel Presbyterian Church

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