



ORDER FOR THE
PUBLIC WORSHIP *of* GOD

January 4, 2015
8:15 a.m.


Second
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

*As you enter the Sanctuary, please prepare your heart for worship
and silence your mobile devices.*

Reflection on Epiphany

It was the very ordinary people, busy about very ordinary tasks,
whose eyes first saw the glory of the coming of the Lord.
What is the significance? It means, first, that the place of duty,
however humble, is the place of vision. And it means, second,
that it is those who have kept a child-like heart
to whom the gates of the Kingdom most readily open.

James Stewart

Preparation for Worship

Lord God, King of the Universe and Ruler over the turning centuries,
we lift up grateful hearts to see You in this new year.
Give us grace to keep in step with Your Holy Spirit,
to love You with our whole heart, soul, mind and strength,
and to find new ways to love our neighbors as we so readily love ourselves.
In Jesus' name we ask, Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

ORGAN PRELUDE: "The Old Year is Passed Away Dear Lord" J.S. Bach

Samuel Metzger, organ

CHORAL INTROIT: "Star in the East" Sacred Harp Hymn

Hail the blest morn. See the great Mediator
Down from the region of glory descend.
Shepherds, go worship the Babe in the manger.
Lo, for His guard the bright angels attend.

Brightest and best of the sons of the morning,
Dawn on our darkness and lend us Thine aid.
Star in the East, the horizon adoring,
Guide where our Infant Redeemer was laid.

*Laudis Domini Vocal Ensemble
Gabriel C. Statom, Director of Music*

CALL TO WORSHIP David A. Bowen

♠ PROCESSIONAL HYMN: No. 226 "As with Gladness Men of Old" DIX

♠ FIRST GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 2:1-12 Jennifer W. Thompson

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea
in the days of Herod the king, behold,
wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, saying,

**"Where is he who has been born king of the Jews?
For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him."**

When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled,
and all Jerusalem with him;
and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people,
he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born.
They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:

**'And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler
who will shepherd my people Israel.'"**

Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly
and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared.
And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying,
“Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him,
bring me word, that I too may come and worship him.”

**After listening to the king, they went on their way.
And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them
until it came to rest over the place where the child was.**

When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy.
And going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother,
and they fell down and worshiped him.

**Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts,
gold and frankincense and myrrh.
And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod,
they departed to their own country by another way.**

✦ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE DIX

**Christ, whose glory fills the skies, Christ, the true, the only Light,
Sun of Righteousness, arise, triumph o’er the shades of night;
Dayspring from on high, be near; Daystar, in my heart appear.**

✦ PRAYER OF ADORATION

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: “Jesus, I Adore Thee” arr. Stephen Caracciolo
Based on 13th c. chant
Text by Thomas Aquinas (1227-1274)

Jesus I adore Thee, Word of truth and grace,
Who in glory shineth light upon our race.
Christ, to Thee surrendered, my whole heart is bowed.
Alpha and Omega, Thou true Son of God.

Taste and touch and vision to discern thee fail;
Faith that comes by hearing, pierces through the veil.
I believe whate’er the Son of God hath told.
What the truth hath spoken that for truth I hold.

Word of God incarnate, Lord of life and light,
Teach me how to love and worship thee aright.
Holy Spirit, ever ‘bide within my heart,
Speaking thy commandments, telling all thou art.

Wondrous revelation, verity and grace.
Lo, in glory’s heav’n I see thee face to face.
Light of endless light whom heav’n and earth adore,
Fill me with thy radiance, now and evermore.

✦ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE CARITAS

**My Jesus, I love Thee, I know Thou art mine;
For Thee all the follies of sin I resign.
My gracious Redeemer, my Savior art Thou;
If ever I love Thee, my Jesus, ‘tis now.**

✦ PRAYER OF DEDICATION Dan G. Burns

✦ GREETINGS

A WORD TO THE CHILDREN Lee Taylor

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

All flesh is grass, and all its beauty is like the flower of the field;

**The grass withers, the flower fades,
but the Word of our God will stand forever. Amen.** (Isaiah 40:6b, 8)

HOMILY

Living Water

Sanders L. Willson

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

✦ INVITATION TO THE TABLE

All those who have publicly professed their faith and joined a Christian church as a communing member are warmly welcomed to receive communion today. Non-communing worshipers are encouraged to contemplate the love of Jesus Christ during this time. At Second Presbyterian, we encourage our children not to take communion until they have joined the church as communicant members.

We do, however, encourage non-communing children to come forward with their parents to receive a blessing. Those wishing to be served communion together as a group or family, please stand together in front of the two serving elders before taking the elements.

Gluten free communion bread is available upon request from the elder at the east side of the transverse aisle (opposite from the door leading to the Connector).

✦ PROFESSION 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.**

✦ GLORIA PATRI GREATorex

**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!**

CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Gracious heavenly Father,
our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo.
Forgive what our lips tremble to name,
what our hearts can no longer bear,
and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment.
Set us free from a sinful past that we cannot change.
Open to us a future in which we can be changed;
and grant us grace to grow more and more in Your image;
through our Lord Jesus Christ who is the Lamb
who guides us to Your springs of living water. Amen.**

INDIVIDUAL PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF DIVINE PARDON

If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand?
But with you there is forgiveness, that you may be feared.

Psalm 130:3-4

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION 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.**

SHARING THE BREAD AND THE CUP

For those unable to come forward for communion, please raise your hand and an elder will serve you in your seat. Throughout this time of communion, we invite you to join in singing the hymns printed in bold below.

"Come, Ye Disconsolate" arr. Terri Johnson

Come, ye disconsolate, where'er ye languish,
Come to the mercy seat, fervently kneel:
Here bring your wounded hearts, here tell your anguish;
Earth has no sorrows that heav'n cannot heal.

Joy of the comfortless, light of the straying,
Hope of the penitent, fadeless and pure!
Here speaks the Comforter, in mercy saying,
"Earth has no sorrows that heav'n cannot cure."

Here see the Bread of Life; see waters flowing
Forth from the throne of God, pure from above:
Come to the feast prepared; come, ever knowing
Earth has no sorrows but heav'n can remove.

"How Deep the Father's Love for Us" Stuart Townend

**How deep the Father's love for us, how vast beyond all measure,
That He should give His only Son to make a wretch His treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss; the Father turns His face away,
As wounds which mar the Chosen One bring many sons to glory.**

**Behold the Man upon a cross, my sin upon His shoulders;
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held Him there until it was accomplished;
His dying breath has brought me life, I know that it is finished.**

**I will not boast in anything no gifts, no power, no wisdom;
But I will boast in Jesus Christ, His death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from His reward? I cannot give an answer.
But this I know with all my heart: His wounds have paid my ransom.**

"Joy Has Dawned" Keith Getty, Stuart Townend

**Joy has dawned upon the world, promised from creation;
God's salvation now unfurled, hope for every nation.
Not with fanfares from above, not with scenes of glory
But a humble gift of love — Jesus, born of Mary.**

**Sounds of wonder fill the sky with the songs of angels
As the mighty Prince of Life shelters in a stable.
Hands that set each star in place, shaped the earth in darkness
Cling now to a mother's breast, vulnerable and helpless.**

Shepherds bow before the Lamb, gazing at the glory;
Gifts of men from distant lands prophesy the story.
Gold, a King is born today; incense, God is with us;
Myrrh, His death will make a way; and by His blood, He'll win us.

Son of Adam, Son of heaven, given as a ransom
Reconciling God and man — Christ our mighty Champion!
What a Savior, what a Friend; what a glorious mystery.
Once a babe in Bethlehem, now the Lord of history.

“Fairest Lord Jesus” CRUSADER’S HYMN

Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of all nature,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Thee will I cherish, Thee will I honor,
Thou, my soul’s glory, joy, and crown.

Fair are the meadows, fair are the woodlands,
Robed in the blooming garb of spring:
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer,
Who makes the woeful heart to sing.

Fair is the sunshine, fair is the moonlight,
And all the twinkling, starry host:
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer
Than all the angels heav’n can boast.

Beautiful Savior! Lord of the nations!
Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor, praise, adoration,
Now and forevermore be Thine.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

✦HYMN OF EPIPHANY CWM RHONDDA

Hail, Thou Source of every blessing,
Sovereign Father of mankind!
Gentiles now, Thy grace possessing,
In Thy courts admission find.
Now revealed to Eastern sages,
See the Star of Mercy shine.
See the Star of Mercy shine.

Once far off, but now invited,
We approach Thy sacred throne;
In Thy covenant united,
Reconciled, redeemed, made one.
Grateful now we fall before Thee,
In Thy Church we have a place.
In Thy Church we have a place.

✦BENEDICTION

✦CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE CWM RHONDDA

Hail, Thou all-inviting Savior!
Gentiles now their offerings bring;
In Thy temple seek Thy favor,
Jesus Christ, our Lord and King.
May we, body, soul, and spirit,
Live devoted to Thy praise.
Live devoted to Thy praise.

ORGAN POSTLUDE:

Festival Toccata on “O God Our Help In Ages Past” Frederick Swann

✦Indicates congregation standing

CCLI License #252778