



ORDER FOR THE
PUBLIC WORSHIP *of* GOD

January 1, 2017
Christmastide


Second
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

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

We marvel that God revealed the birth of the Messiah to magi from the East through a star. He led them to a little town in Judea for the purpose of finding and worshipping Christ. They found him not amidst the tokens of honor and royalty, but in a place of poverty and contempt. Yet, they worshipped Him with exceedingly great joy! For He was the ruler of God's people — the King who defends, saves, and preserves us against all of His and our enemies.

John Calvin reminds us that our duty, like the magi, is to adore Him by consecrating ourselves and all that we have to His service.

Edward Hopkins wrote a children's hymn in the 1800s that challenges us to consider what our gifts to the King should be during this new year:

*The wise may bring their learning, The rich may bring their wealth,
And some may bring their brilliance, And some bring strength and health;
We too would bring our treasures to offer to the King;
We have no gifts deserving — What shall we children bring?*

*We'll bring Him hearts that love Him; We'll bring Him thankful praise,
And young souls humbly striving, to walk in holy ways.
And these shall be our treasures, we offer to the King,
And these are gifts that even, the youngest child may bring.*

SEEK THE KING'S PRESENCE

PIANO PRELUDE: "Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella/Gesù Bambino"arr. L. Story
"What Child Is This"arr. L. Story
Brad Jones, pianist

CHORAL INTROIT: "God Himself Is with Us" WUNDERBARER KÖNIG
God himself is with us: let us now adore Him,
And with awe appear before Him.
God is in His temple — all within keep silence,
Prostrate lie with deepest reverence.
Him alone Go we own, Him, our God and Savior;
Praise His name forever.

Mary Grace Walters, Mary Edwards, and Robert Sutton

CALL TO WORSHIP Dan G. Burns

♠HYMN OF PRAISE: No. 441 "Jesus Shall Reign" DUKE STREET
stanzas 1-4

♠PSALTER LESSON: Select verses from Psalm 72. Betty Eubank (8:15)
Marjorie Bowman (11:00)

Give the king your justice, O God,
and your righteousness to the royal son!

**May he judge your people with righteousness,
and your poor with justice!**

May they fear you while the sun endures,

and as long as the moon, throughout all generations!

May he have dominion from sea to sea,
and from the River to the ends of the earth!

**May desert tribes bow down before him,
and his enemies lick the dust!**

May the kings of Tarshish and of the coastlands render him tribute;
may the kings of Sheba and Seba bring gifts!

**May all kings fall down before him,
all nations serve him!**

For he delivers the needy when he calls,
the poor and him who has no helper.

**From oppression and violence he redeems their life,
and precious is their blood in his sight.**

Long may he live;
may gold of Sheba be given to him!

**Blessed be his glorious name forever;
may the whole earth be filled with his glory!
Amen and Amen!**

♠ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE DUKE STREET

**Let every creature rise and bring
Peculiar honors to our King;
Angels descend with songs again,
And earth repeat the loud amen!**

♠ PRAYER OF ADORATION

SAVOR THE KING’S PARDON

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Westminster Shorter Catechism Question 26

How does Christ execute the office of a king?

**Christ executes the office of a king
in subduing us to himself, in ruling and defending us,
and in restraining and conquering all his and our enemies.**

CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God our heavenly Father,
You are the One worthy of our exclusive devotion.
Yet, our hearts are restless and prone to manufacture idols.
We look to other things and people to satisfy us and make us happy.
We confess that the world and its values seduce us away
from a simple, pure, and undistracted devotion to You.
Forgive us for the times that we have believed the devil’s lies
and have not resisted the flesh’s enticements.
Rule and defend us by your Word and Spirit
so that You might reign unrivaled in our hearts.
For we pray in the mighty name of Jesus Christ our King, Amen.**

INDIVIDUAL PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF DIVINE PARDON

♠ HYMN OF HOPE: No. 642 “Be Thou My Vision” SLANE

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS. David A. Bowen

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: "Rock of Ages" Mark Hayes

Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in Thee;
Let the water and the blood, from Thy riven side which flowed,
Be of sin the double cure, cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.

Not the labors of my hands can fulfil Thy law's demands;
Could my zeal no respite know, could my tears forever flow,
All for sin could not atone; Thou must save, and Thou alone.

Nothing in my hand I bring, simply to Thy cross I cling;
Naked, come to Thee for dress; helpless, look to Thee for grace;
Foul, I to the Fountain fly; wash me, Savior, or I die.

While I draw this fleeting breath, when mine eyelids close in death,
When I soar to worlds unknown, see Thee on Thy judgment throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in Thee.

✦ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE TOPLADY

**Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in Thee;
Let the water and the blood, from Thy riven side which flowed,
Be of sin the double cure, cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.**

✦ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SERVE THE KING'S PLEASURE

✦ GREETINGS

A WORD TO THE CHILDREN (8:15)

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.**

GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 2:1-13
(page 807 in the pew Bible)

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)

SERMON *Seeking, Finding, Worshipping* Sanders L. Willson

PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

✦ HYMN OF THE KING: No. 310 "Rejoice, the Lord Is King" DARWALL

✦ BENEDICTION

✦ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE DARWALL

**Lift up your heart, lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again, I say, rejoice!**

PIANO POSTLUDE: "Rejoice, the Lord Is King" arr. Dan Forrest

✦ Indicates congregation standing

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