

St. Andrews Presbyterian Church



January 5, 2025

Epiphany of the Lord

January 5, 2025

10:30 A.M.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE

"Away in a Manger"
"Be still and know that I am God."
(Please use this time to prepare for worship in silence.)

Wilbur Held
Psalm 46:10

WORDS OF WELCOME AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR DISCIPLESHIP

PASSING THE PEACE *"...I was a stranger and you welcomed me."*
The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.
(The people may greet each other in the spirit of Christ.)

Matthew 25:35b
And also with you.

CALL TO WORSHIP

The glory of God has now appeared
through Christ our light, in flesh.
The reign of God has now arrived
through Christ our king, our eternal ruler.
The mystery of God has been revealed
through Christ our peace, ever reconciling.
With the stars to lead us and the magi to teach us,
we come, bringing our gifts to worship God. Amen.

Liturgist

OPENING PRAYER

*HYMN 151

"We Three Kings of Orient Are"
(Verses 1, 2, & 5)

THREE KINGS OF ORIENT

*CONFESSION AND PARDON

The light of Christ shines in our lives, even in those corners where sin lurks. Let us seek God's forgiveness as we pray together.

God of glory, you sent Jesus among us as 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 baptize us once again with your Spirit, that, forgiven and renewed, we may show forth your glory shining in the face of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Silent Confession

*KYRIE

**Lord, have mercy,
Christ, have mercy,
Lord, have mercy upon us.**

Grace, mercy, and love – these are the gifts God has given us in Jesus Christ. This is good news! **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Alleluia! Amen.**

THE WORD

CHILDREN'S TIME

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Traditional)

(Page 35, *Glory to God Hymnal*)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Liturgist

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: Isaiah 60:1-6

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC

"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: Matthew 2:1-12

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

"In the Realm of Mystery"

THE RESPONSE

*HYMN 135

"There's a Star in the East"

FOLLOW

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY

"Once He Came in Blessing"

Helmut Walcha

*DOXOLOGY/Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow (606)

*PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

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.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give you our thanks and praise, O God! You created light out of darkness and brought forth life on the earth. You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life.

When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast.

And so with the community of faith from every place and time – with those who know how deeply you love us, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, **holy Lord, God of power and might,**
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of our God.

Hosanna in the highest.

You are holy, o God, and blessed is your son Jesus Christ, in whom you have revealed yourself, our light and salvation. You sent a star to guide wise men to where Christ was born; and your signs and witnesses in every age and throughout all the world have led your people from far places to your light. In his baptism and in his table fellowship, he took his place with sinners.

In Christ, we have seen and heard the good news of God: the sick are healed, strangers are welcomed, the poor have hope, and the dead are raised to new life.

We remember that on the night in which he gave himself up for us. . .

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

And now remembering your gracious acts in Jesus Christ,
we take from your creation this bread and this cup and joyfully celebrate his dying and rising, as we await the day of his coming.

With thanksgiving, we offer our very selves to you to be a living and holy sacrifice, dedicated to your service. And we proclaim the great mystery of our faith:

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

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us gathered here and upon these our gifts of bread and cup, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ.

By your Spirit, unite us with Christ and with your church in all the world. Help us to grow in faith and love, as your people in Christ. Strengthen our hearts and teach us patience as we watch and pray for the coming of the Lord.

Through your son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy church, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

And now with the confidence of children of God, we pray:

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.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

(To receive communion when you come forward, please open your hands and a portion of bread will be given to you to partake. If you prefer gluten free, please tell the server. Then pick up a small cup from the tray and partake. As you return to your seat, there will be a basket in which you can place your cup. If you would like a server to come to you, please raise your hand.)

COMMUNION HYMN 314 "Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness" CHRIST BE OUR LIGHT

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Gracious God, you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. You have fed us with the bread of life, and renewed us for your service. Help us, who shared Christ's body and received his cup, be faithful disciples so that our living may be part of the life of your kingdom, and our love be your love reaching into the life of the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE SENDING

*HYMN 152

"What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright"

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

*COVENANT PRAYER OF THE CONGREGATION

**Shepherd of Israel, you sent a star to enlighten the wise
and a child to topple the tyrant.
Make us wise enough to seek you among the least of your children,
and genuine enough to trade our treasure for the gift of overwhelming joy.
Amen.**

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

"As With Gladness Men of Old"

Robert Hobby



PARTICIPANTS IN WORSHIP

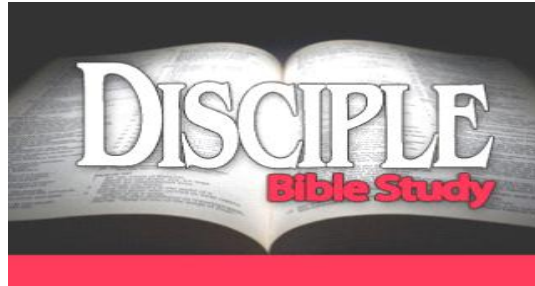
The Rev. Dr. Anne Hébert, Pastor
Jennifer Abel, Liturgist
Dennis and Sally Keeney, Ushers
March Dye, JoAnne Beare Greeters
Jim Trent and Judy Bosma, Communion Preparers
Michael Beery, Music Director
Tim Quist, Organist

OPPORTUNITIES FOR MINISTRY

<p>Today 9:00 Bible Study 10:30 Worship 11:30 Coffee Hour 4:00 A.A./Al-Anon Serenity Group</p> <p>Monday, January 6 2:00 Grief Group 3:30 Adult Ed Mtg</p> <p>Tuesday, January 7 1:00 Worship and Music Mtg</p>	<p>Wednesday, January 12:30 Centering Prayer Group 4:30 NO Choir Rehearsal</p> <p>Thursday, January 9 4:30 Peace and Justice Mtg</p> <p>Friday, January 10 9:00 Men's Breakfast-Platte River Inn</p> <p>Sunday, January 12 9:00 Bible Study 10:30 Worship 11:45 Coffee Hour 4:00 A.A./Al-Anon Serenity Group</p>
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PRAYER LIST

<p>MILITARY: All of our US Military deployed and their families.</p> <p>INTERNATIONAL PEACEMAKERS : Rev. Jerome Bizimana & the people of Rwanda Rev. Butros Zaour & family & Majd Lahham, Damascus, Syria</p> <p>MISSION CO-WORKERS: Mark Adams & Miriam Maldonado Escobar, & their children: Cindy Yessenia, Anna Flor & Nathan—Frontera de Cristo; Douglas AZ</p>	<p>MEMBERS AND FRIENDS</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; border: none;"> Jason Janowiak John Bentley Greg McGavran George Marsh Roger Sattler Steve Chapman Bob Nelson Brent Walsworth Tim Bergstrom Peggy Hawley Barb Alldredge Richard Pharr Mike Perry Susan Eldred </td> <td style="width: 50%; border: none;"> Britta Baarstad Linda Koch Evelyn Sengelaub Laura and Bryan Sheffield Martha Campbell Margaret Evans Jim Boehm Jay Marsh Bill Alldredge (<i>Barb's Son</i>) Gwen Baarstad Kristian Webster Dale Williams Margaret Beery Family of Mary Baker </td> </tr> </table>	Jason Janowiak John Bentley Greg McGavran George Marsh Roger Sattler Steve Chapman Bob Nelson Brent Walsworth Tim Bergstrom Peggy Hawley Barb Alldredge Richard Pharr Mike Perry Susan Eldred	Britta Baarstad Linda Koch Evelyn Sengelaub Laura and Bryan Sheffield Martha Campbell Margaret Evans Jim Boehm Jay Marsh Bill Alldredge (<i>Barb's Son</i>) Gwen Baarstad Kristian Webster Dale Williams Margaret Beery Family of Mary Baker
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DISCIPLE BIBLE STUDY

Beginning in January, we will engage in such imagining as we explore the New Testament through the format of DISCIPLE Bible Study. At least 45 people at St. Andrews have taken part in this study and have benefited from it. If you would like to take part, please sign up in the Gathering Space or via the link in the January Newsletter.

Our class will meet weekly via Zoom on Tuesdays, 3-5pm.



The second class is for anyone who has completed Disciple I. **Disciple II will cover Genesis and Exodus.** (Next winter/spring, we'll cover Luke and Acts.) It will take place **online on Thursdays from 2:00 to 4:00.** Disciple II goes into more detail about these two fundamental books of the Pentateuch. There is less reading than Disciple I, which you may be glad to hear! It will be in a similar format and will require the purchase of a manual. **The class begins Thursday, January 30th,** and goes through May 22nd (except for Holy Week.)

The cost of the study manual is \$25 with the Adult Ed Ministry Team paying the remaining cost. In addition to signing up, please let Deb know if you need a Study Manual. Some may have completed part of the study already and will not need a manual-(For Disciple I Class). You will need a Disciple II Study guide if taking that class).