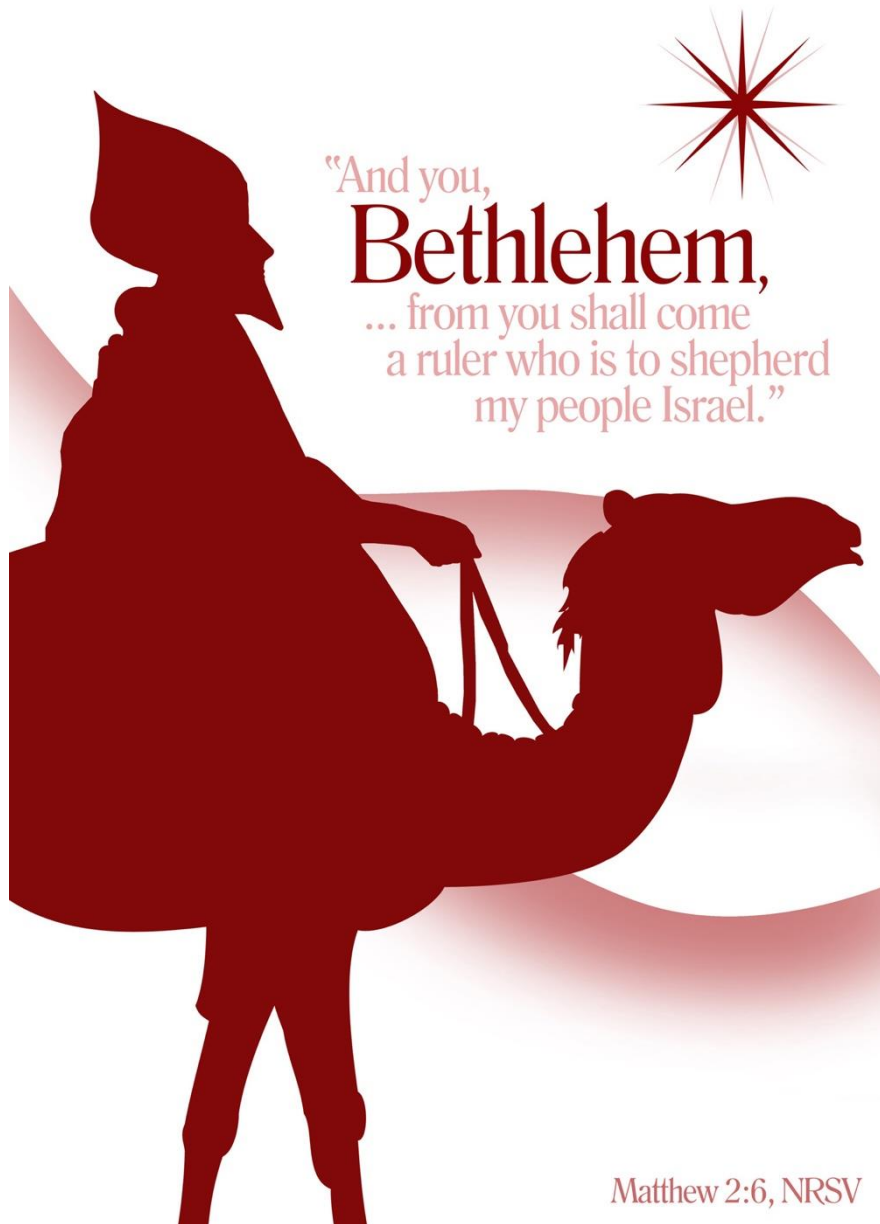


# St. Andrews Presbyterian Church



“And you,  
**Bethlehem,**  
... from you shall come  
a ruler who is to shepherd  
my people Israel.”

Matthew 2:6, NRSV

January 7, 2024

# Epiphany

January 7, 2024

10:30 A.M.

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

### **THE GATHERING**

PRELUDE

"We Three Kings"  
"Be still and know that I am God."  
(Please use this time to prepare for worship in silence.)

arr. RANEY  
*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

Arise, shine; for your light has come,  
**and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.**  
Nations shall come to your light  
**and rulers to the brightness of your rising.**

Liturgist

OPENING PRAYER

\*HYMN 151

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

THREE KINGS OF ORIENT

\*CONFESSION AND PARDON

Isaiah proclaimed: Darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and God's glory will appear over you. Let us acknowledge the sin in our lives, repent of it and receive the light of God's mercy. Let us pray:

**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.**

Beloved of God, thrill and rejoice in God's goodness. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Amen.**

## ***THE WORD***

### CHILDREN'S TIME

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Traditional) (Page 35, *Glory to God Hymnal*)  
SINGING WITH THE CHILDREN: "Jesus Loves Me" (Hymn 188)

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: Isaiah 60:1-6  
The Word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

### ANTHEM

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: Matthew 2:1-12  
The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON "To Be Light-Bearers"

## ***THE RESPONSE***

\*HYMN 135 "There's a Star in the East" FOLLOW

### OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY "Go Tell it On the Mountain" arr. CARTER

\*DOXOLOGY/Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow (Hymn 607)

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise Christ, all people here below;  
praise Holy Spirit evermore;  
praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.**

\*PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

## ***THE EUCHARIST***

### THE INVITATION TO THE TABLE

### THE PRAYER OF GREAT THANKSGIVING

(Responsive, Congregation please read **bold** print.)

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 truly right and our greatest joy,...who forever sing to the glory of your name:

**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.**

You are holy, O God of majesty,...Great is the mystery of faith:

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

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us...Amen.

### THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

## THE SHARING OF THE MEAL

*(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.)*

## THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**God of new beginnings, you draw near to us in Word and sacrament to strengthen and renew us. Kindle in us the fire of your Spirit that your light may so shine through us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, Emmanuel, the Light of the World. Amen.**

## ***THE SENDING***

\*HYMN 152

"What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright"

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

\*COVENANT OF THE CONGREGATION (Responsive)

Go forth in the light of God's star. Go forth committed to a journey of faith and courage. Go forth to give the precious gift of your life to Christ.

**We will go forth and let the star guide us.**

**We will share with others the journey of being Light-bearers.**

**We will praise God, for the gift we have received – Jesus the Christ, the Light of the world.**

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

"Tidings of Joy"

arr. SORENSON

\*Those who are able, please stand.

(You are welcome to be seated for the postlude or to leave the sanctuary directly after the benediction. Because our worship is primarily toward God and in response to God's grace in Jesus Christ, we refrain from applause. In our culture, applause is how we show appreciation for a performance. However, in worship, we are the "performers" for God. Thus, our singing, the music played, a solo or any other musical offering is an offering to God.)