



Covenant
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Loving God, loving people, making disciples



Epiphany Sunday
January 9, 2022

Loving God, Loving People, Making Disciples

Worship

**-Please stand in body or in spirit
(For the safety of all, please wear your mask while singing.)*

***-Chiming of the Hour and Presentation of the Word**

Prelude “Prelude sur l'Introit de l'Epiphanie”..... Maurice Durufle

Welcome and Covenant Life

Introit “Joy to the World!” arr. Dan Forrest

***-Call to Worship**

One: This is the day that the Lord has made.
All: **Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**
One: This is the day we celebrate Christ’s Epiphany.
All: **Come, let us worship the Lord!**

***-Hymn of Praise, #66 (verses 1-3)** “We Three Kings of Orient Are”
(You are invited to come forward with your monthly Hunger Offering during the singing of this hymn.)

***-Call to Confession**

-Reflecting God’s Love and Seeking God’s Forgiveness* *(in unison)*

O Holy God, open unto us:
light for our darkness, courage for our fear, hope for our despair.
O Loving God, open unto us:
wisdom for our confusion, forgiveness for our sins, love for our hate.
O God of Compassion, open unto us:
peace for our turmoil, joy for our sorrow, strength for our weakness.
O Generous God, open our hearts;
to receive your mercy, to celebrate all your gifts, and to rejoice. Amen.

-Words of Assurance**

One: There is something deeper than trouble. It is mercy.
All: **God’s amazing grace. Carrying, lifting, holding us in all seasons.**
One: There is something more powerful than despair. It is mercy.
All: **God’s amazing love. Seeing us through dark nights, waves of sadness, mountains of grief.**
One: There is something longer lasting than pain. It is mercy.
All: **God’s healing touch. Bringing us hope, leading us to joy, teaching us to sing.**
One: Trust the gospel. Find solace and joy in it.
All: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen.**

***-Response, Hymn #66 (verse 5)** “We Three Kings of Orient Are”
(All children are invited forward for the children’s sermon during the singing of this hymn.)

***Glorious now behold Him arise, King and God and Sacrifice;
Alleluia, Alleluia Sounds through the earth and skies.***

*(Refrain) O star of wonder, star of night, Star with royal beauty bright;
Westward leading, still proceeding, Guide us to thy perfect light!*

Teach

Time with Our Children

Prayer for Illumination Carol Merritt

Gospel Reading Mathew 2:1-12

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Homily in Two Voices “Unexpected” Dr. Jennifer Powell and Dr. Kyle Allen

Anthem “Beautiful Star of Bethlehem” arr. Tom Fetteke

Nurture

Invitation to Offering

Giving of Our Tithes and Gifts

Offertory Partita on “How Brightly Shines the Morning Star” James Woodman

*-Doxology, *Glory to God* #609 “Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God, all creatures high and low.

Alleluia, alleluia! Praise God, in Jesus fully known:

Creator, Word, and Spirit one.

Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Candle Lighting and Litany of Remembrance

Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer (*see insert*)

Reach

*-Hymn of Devotion, #63 (verses 1, 3-4) “As with Gladness Men of Old”

*-Closing Prayer, Charge, and Benediction

*-Congregational Response, *Glory to God* #838 (verses 1, 4) “Standing on the Promises of God”

*Standing on the promises of Christ my king, through eternal ages let his praises ring;
glory in the highest, I will shout and sing, standing on the promises of God.*

*(Refrain) Standing, standing, standing on the promises of God my Savior;
standing, standing, I’m standing on the promises of God.*

*Standing on the promises I cannot fall, listening every moment to the Spirit’s call,
resting in my Savior as my all in all, standing on the promises of God. (Refrain)*

Postlude “Glory to God in the Highest” Giovanni Pergolesi



Welcome! We are so glad you have joined us in worship today, and we hope you will join us again. More information about Covenant is available on our website at covenantroanoke.org. Look for us on Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, and Twitter. Please speak with one of our pastors if you would like to learn more about becoming a member of our congregation.

Greetings, Parents! We want all of God's children to feel comfortable in our sanctuary, and children are always welcome in our worship services. If you so choose, a professionally staffed nursery is available for children under 3 years old in our Eden Nursery (Room 4) downstairs. Please ask an usher for assistance if needed.

Special children's bulletins and activity bags are available on the table in Heritage Hall.

We extend our sympathy and prayers to Ronn Lowe and family on the passing of his beloved aunt, Alice Bess, on Wednesday, January 5, 2022, in Winston-Salem, NC. A service was held yesterday at Fairview Moravian Church in Winston-Salem.

Leaders in Worship:

Dr. Kyle Allen, Pastor	Covenant Sanctuary Choir
Dr. Jennifer Powell, Associate Pastor	Carol Merritt, Liturgist
Richard Rudolph, Director of Music	Roger Dickenson, Audio
Ronn Lowe, Organist/Accompanist	Gene Collier, Pranav Singh; Video/Livestream

Ushers: Jerry Barnes, John Munton, Carl Nave, Charlie Simmons, Paul Weary

Faith Formation

“Hold fast to dreams,
For if dreams die
Life is a broken-winged bird,
That cannot fly.”
~ Langston Hughes

** Adapted from a prayer by Howard Thurman

*** Larry Peacock, *Prayers for Hope: Words of Faith for Difficult Times*; Upper Room Books, 2005

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