



Memorial Presbyterian Church

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Day of Epiphany

January 6, 2013

*Let all who enter enjoy the fellowship of friends until the bells call us to worship.
Let us then, in oneness of spirit, turn our reverent attention to the worship of God.*

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

God, you placed a star in the sky to draw wise folk to the place of Christ's nativity. There you revealed the mystery of your eternal purpose for all humanity: God made flesh, born of Mary, opening to all the world the promise you made to Abraham and Sarah. Empower your church to be as the light of the star, that we may draw the world to the glory of Christ, our Lord, through whom we pray. Amen.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright* Dietrich Buxtehude

BRINGING THE LIGHT

CHORAL INTROIT *Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light*

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Arise, shine, for our light has come,
and the glory of our God has risen upon us.

All nations shall come to this light,
and rulers to the brightness of its dawning.

Look and see, for everyone is coming home!
**Your sons are coming from distant lands;
your daughters will be carried home.**

Our eyes shine with gladness,
and our hearts thrill with joy.

Now the glory of the Lord has risen.
Arise, shine! Our light has come!

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*ADMITTING OUR BROKENNESS

We crouch and hide, afraid to lift up our eyes
and see the radiance around us.

**We stumble in the shadows of fears;
we hold tight to the curtains blocking our vision.**

We refuse to discern the light within ourselves,
within each other.

**We are dull and tarnished,
our small flames sputtering and untended.**

*DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

The promise you made,
the work you have done,
is fulfilled,
and we have seen it...

**Your rescue, your salvation,
your coming into our world,
and switching on the lights,
so we can see where to go, and how best to live;**

The way you have chosen us,
filled us with your Spirit,
with your presence,
with your wisdom,
the way you allow your goodness and compassion
and grace to peek through our brokenness;

These are gifts beyond measure,
these are what make life truly alive;

**And so we praise you, and celebrate you,
Christ, Child of God,
Light to the nations,
and the Glory of your people. Amen.**

*SONG OF RESPONSE *O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright*

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*THE PEACE

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.
The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.
And also with you.

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 60:1-6

Page No. 639

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Matthew 2:1-12

Page No. 835

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

The Morning Star Doth Shine

MESSAGE

Seeing His Star

Tracy L. Evans

SONG OF FAITH

We Three Kings of Orient Are

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SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

The Lord's Prayer

Hymnal, p. 16

THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY *Brightest and Best of the Stars of the Morning* John Leavitt

*DOXOLOGY *To God the Father, God the Son*

68, v. 4

DEDICATION PRAYER

SEALING THE WORD - CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

GREAT THANKSGIVING

People of Advent: the Lord be with you!

And also with you!

People of Christmas, lift up your hearts.

**We lift our hearts overwhelmed with grace
to the One who was born for us.**

People of the Star, offer your songs of joy and thanksgiving to God.

**We will sing our praises to the One
who has revealed glory and hope in the Babe of Bethlehem.**

...who forever sing of your grace:

**Holy, holy, holy, God of bright dawns!
All creation renders tributes of praise to you.
Hosanna in the highest!**

**Blessed is the One who saves the lives of the needy.
Hosanna in the highest!**

. . . we speak of that mystery called faith, which is revealed to us
through Christ:

**Christ came, the morning star of love;
Christ died, the night star of salvation;
Christ arose, the radiant star of resurrection;
Christ will come again, the constellation of hope.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

COMMUNION MUSIC

Puer nobis nascitur

Wilbur Held

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*SENDING SONG *Brightest and Best of the Stars of the Morning*

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*TAKING LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

It's always been about the light with you,
hasn't it, Jesus?

**Magi, braving distance and desert to find you,
and bewildered shepherds, compelled by an angel's
invitation,
allowed light to be their guide,**

And it is still the light that calls us to you;
the light of beauty that whispers its truth
in surprising ways and places;
the light of compassion that kneels,
and washes road-soiled, life-battered feet;
the light of joy that glows
even in the darkness of grief and suffering;
the light that seeks to shine within us,
and through us into the dark corners of our world.

**It's always been about the light with you, Jesus;
and it's always about the light for us.**

**Please lead us, now and always, out of darkness
and into your marvelous light. Amen.**

CHORAL BENEDICTION

Holy Jesus, Every Day

*POSTLUDE

Praeludium in G major

Nicholaus Bruhns

*Those who are able may stand.

We invite anyone who wishes to consider membership in this church to contact the pastor or a member of the session. You may also indicate interest in membership by checking the appropriate column in the ritual of friendship booklet. Membership in this church is a step made by profession of faith, reaffirmation of faith or transfer of church letter.

Lectionary Readings for January 13: Isaiah 43:1-7; Psalm 29; Acts 8:14-17; Luke 3:15-17, 21-22.

The Urban Mission item of the month for January is **canned meat:** tuna, chili, ham, etc. Please place your donations in the box by the church information table.

As **Kids Club** begins again this Wednesday, we are looking for volunteers. We especially need drivers to pick up kids from school, as well as food preparers.

The Norman Chapter of **Parents Helping Parents** will continue its speaker series this Thursday at 7 PM at the Education Center at Norman Regional Hospital. For more information, call 278-1221 or go to the website: ParentsHelpingParents.info

SUNDAY**January 6**

- 9:30 A.M. – Sunday School
- 10:30 A.M. – Fellowship and Refreshments
- 10:55 A.M. – Worship Service – Communion
- 3:30 P.M. – Worship & Music Committee

TUESDAY**January 8**

- 6:00 P.M. – Mission & Evangelism meeting
- 7:00 P.M. – Chancel Choir

WEDNESDAY**January 9**

- 3:30 P.M. – Kids Club
- 5:00 P.M. – Children's Hand-Chimes
- 5:30 P.M. – Children's Choir

THURSDAY**January 10**

- 7:00 P.M. – Christian Education meeting
- 7:00 P.M. – Building & Grounds meeting

SUNDAY**January 13**

- 9:30 A.M. – Sunday School
- 10:30 A.M. – Fellowship and Refreshments
- 10:55 A.M. – Worship Service—Baptism of the Lord
Ordination & Installation of Elders & Deacons