

Prelude "God of Our Praise" *Mindy Smith, Instrumentalist*

Welcome

Please sign and pass the black pew pad.

Gathering "Surely the Presence of the Lord" *Senior Choir*

*Call to Worship

Leader: Arise, shine; for your light has come.

People: The glory of the Lord has risen upon us.

Leader: Come, worship the Lord of glory.

People: Let us proclaim God's praise among the nations.

*Hymn of Praise "The First Noel"
Hymn #147

Call to Confession *Diane Crosthwaite*

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, you have given light to the world in Jesus Christ, but we have preferred to live in darkness. Your justice protects the weak and the distressed, yet we seek the shelter of privilege and power. Your righteousness redeems the poor and the needy, yet we seek the status of wealth and possessions. Your peace upholds the oppressed and the defenseless, yet we seek the security of weapons and retribution. Forgive us our sins, and lead us to true repentance, that we may trust you in all things; through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen .

Time of Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

*Response of Praise "Go, Tell It on the Mountain"
Hymn #136

*Passing of the Peace

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also, with you.

Anthem "Let Heaven and Nature Sing" *Senior Choir*

Scripture *Matthew 2:1-12*

Sermon Epiphany Series: Gifts that Keep on Giving *Rev. Diane Flynn*
"The Gift of Unexpected Gifts"

*Affirmation of Faith *On Screen*

Communion Hymn *Come to the Table of Grace (vs. 1 & 2)*
Hymn #507

Communion

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.

Pastoral Prayer (with 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.

Announcements

*Doxology "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

Hymn #608

*Offertory Prayer

O God, we offer our gifts as the Magi did who opened costly treasures before Jesus. May all who are in need experience the unsearchable riches of Christ and the gift of the Holy Spirit even as their physical needs are met. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

*Closing Hymn "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

Hymn #121

*Benediction "Surely the Presence of the Lord" Senior Choir

Postlude "The Banner of the Cross" Mindy Smith, Instrumentalist



IN OUR PRAYERS: Pam Archer, Sarah Bolden, Noah Cassion, Lori Disbennett, Rev. Donald Leckrone, Karl Leckrone, Gary and Elesa Thompson.

HOME BOUND: Larry & Helen Fox, Wilma Miller, and Beverly Shearer, Paul & Carolyn Wiehe.

IN A CARE FACILITY: Evelyn Rutherford at Heritage; Vivian Lowe at Bluebird; and Bob Huffman at Prestige Gardens.