

# ***Epiphany of the Lord***

January 6, 2008

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

**PRELUDE**

How Firm A Foundation

Hughes

## **The Gathering**

### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

*(based on Isaiah 60)*

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

**Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.**

Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you;

**Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice,**

The nations shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen.**

\* HYMN

“Arise, Your Light Is Come!”

411

### **CALL TO CONFESSION**

#### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

*O Holy One, your gift to us is precious. All praise and honor are yours! We glorify your name. The Kings of long ago acknowledged what the prophet Isaiah foretold. They gave to Jesus fine and priceless gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. They adored him and proclaimed him a King.*

*During this season we too adore the baby in the manger, but we often forget to proclaim him our only King. We are caught up in the excitement a holiday season. Now as the holiday recedes, we wonder anew. What can we bring Jesus to honor and exalt him? We confess our motives and our actions have not always reflected what you taught us. We confess that our hearts are burdened.*

*Awesome one, unburden our hearts and our souls. Caress our hearts with your grace. Jesus, we bring our most precious gift to you today. The gift of our endless love and our life. Through the power of the Holy Spirit help us to proclaim to others the birth of a new kind of King. A King of Love! In Jesus name, Amen.*

#### **SILENT CONFESSION**

#### **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

\*GLORIA PATRI

## The Word

### EPISTLE READING

Ephesians 3:1-12

*Paul shares god's plan and Christ's mystery, which is to make the Gentiles fellow heirs with the Jews.*

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### ANTHEM

**My Soul Doth Magnify the Lord**

**Ritter**

### READING OF THE GOSPEL

Matthew 2:1-12

*Threatened by the birth of baby Jesus, the king of the Jews, King Herod sends wise men to Bethlehem, who pay homage to the child.*

This is the Gospel of the Light of the World.

**Praise be to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

### SERMON

"Stop, Gawk, and Be Amazed"

Reverend Georgia N. King

### HYMN

**"What Star Is This Beaming So Bright?"**

**68**

### AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Nicene Creed

15

### TITHES AND OFFERINGS

### OFFERTORY

**Adagio**

**Franks**

### \*DOXOLOGY

### \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

## The Eucharist

### INVITATION TO THE LORDS TABLE

### COMMUNION AND LITANY

The peace of the Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to our God.

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

### GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

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... to be a living and holy sacrifice, dedicated to your service. Praise to you Lord Jesus.

***Dying you destroyed our death,  
rising, you restored our life.  
Lord Jesus, come in glory.***

Gracious God... all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever.

***Amen***

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

## **THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

## **SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP**

*Please hold the elements until all have been served that we might partake as one.*

During the passing of the elements, let us join together as we sing "Let Us Break Bread Together". Please sing each verse through twice.

***Let us break bread together on our knees;  
Let us break bread together on our knees.  
When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,  
O Lord, have mercy on me.***

***Let us drink wine together on our knees.***

***Let us praise God together on our knees.***

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

### **The Sending**

**\*HYMN** "Go Tell It On the Mountain" 29

**\*BLESSING AND BENEDICTION** Joy To The World  
Joy to the World! Joy to the World! Joy to the World the Lord is Come!

**\*POSTLUDE** Postlude for Christmas Marsh

- Those who are comfortable doing so are invited to stand.

Welcome to all who worship with us this morning. Visitors and members are asked to please sign the Ritual of Friendship pad. Thank you for worshipping with us!

The next Session meeting will be held on January 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm.

The new flower list for 2008 up and ready for you to sign up.

Helping Hands contribution for January is crackers or hand soap.

The Reverend Georgia N. King, Pastor, Organist-Choir Director- Mrs. Pat Petty

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**Sun. January 13**      9:15 a.m. Adult Sunday School Class – Fellowship Hall  
10:30 a.m. Morning Worship

**OFFICE HOURS**

Dara Garlington, Secretary      Monday to Friday. 9:00-12:00

Church Office 274-5331

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