

*Epiphany Transferred/
2nd Sunday of Christmas
January 2, 2022*

8:30 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary

10:30 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary



In response to rising case numbers and in an effort to continue being able to worship in person, we strongly request that everyone mask when inside the building regardless of vaccination status.

Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who sends the word with angels, who is made flesh among all peoples, and who breathes peace on all the earth. **C Amen.**

P In Christ, we are bold to name our sin and cry out for peace.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Holy God,

C **we confess our sin before you. We replace compassion with competition. We seek what is mighty while ignoring the meek. We are quick to anger but slow to forgive. We have not put on love in harmony with you. Wrap us in the grace of your powerful Word. Swaddle our hearts with your peace, that all we do, in word or deed, may reflect your love born among us. Amen.**

P I bring you good news of great joy for all people: God has come among us + In Christ your sins are forgiven and you are clothed in peace. **C Amen.**

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P *Let us pray ...* O God, on this day you revealed your Son to the nations by the leading of a star. Lead us now by faith to know your presence in our lives, and bring us at last to the full vision of your glory, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C Amen**

First Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6

¹Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

²For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. ³Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

⁴Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. ⁵Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. ⁶A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

☐ The word of the Lord. ☑ **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 72:1-7, 10-14 (*To be read responsively.*)

¹Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the king's son;

²**that he may rule your people righteously and the poor with justice;**

³that the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, and the hills, in righteousness.

⁴**Let him defend the needy among the people, rescue the poor, and crush the oppressor.**

⁵May he live as long as the sun and moon endure, from one generation to another.

⁶**Let him come down like rain upon the mown field, like showers that water the earth.**

⁷In his time may the righteous flourish; and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.

¹⁰**May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles pay tribute, and the kings of Sheba and Seba offer gifts.**

¹¹May all kings bow down before him, and all the nations do him service.

¹²**For the king delivers the poor who cry out in distress, the oppressed, and those who have no helper.**

¹³He has compassion on the lowly and poor, and preserves the lives of the needy.

¹⁴**From oppression and violence he redeems their lives, and precious is their blood in his sight.**

Second Reading: Ephesians 3:1-12

¹This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles—²for surely you have already heard of the commission of God’s grace that was given me for you, ³and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, ⁴a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. ⁵In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: ⁶that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

⁷Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God’s grace that was given me by the working of his power. ⁸Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, ⁹and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; ¹⁰so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹²in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

☐ The word of the Lord. ☑ **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

The holy gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ²asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.” ³When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: ⁶‘And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.’”

⁷Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.” ⁹When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was.

¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

☐ The Gospel of the Lord. ☑ Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Traci

*HYMN OF THE DAY

As with Gladness Men of Old

ELW # 302



1 As with glad - ness men of old did the guid - ing star be - hold;
2 As with joy - ful steps they sped, Sav - ior, to thy low - ly bed,
3 As they of - fered gifts most rare at thy cra - dle, rude and bare,
4 Ho - ly Je - sus, ev - 'ry day keep us in the nar - row way;
5 In the heav'n - ly coun - try bright need they no cre - a - ted light;



as with joy they hailed its light, lead - ing on - ward, beam - ing bright;
there to bend the knee be - fore thee, whom heav'n and earth a - dore;
so may we with ho - ly joy, pure and free from sin's al - loy,
and when earth - ly things are past, bring our ran - somed souls at last
thou its light, its joy, its crown, thou its sun which goes not down;



so, most gra - cious Lord, may we ev - er - more be led by thee.
so may we with will - ing feet ev - er seek thy mer - cy seat.
all our cost - liest trea - sures bring, Christ, to thee, our heav'n - ly king.
where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glo - ry hide.
there for - ev - er may we sing al - le - lu - ias to our king.

Text: William C. Dix, 1837-1898, alt.
Music: DIX, Conrad Kocher, 1786-1872

*CREED

- P** We believe in one God,
C the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*Prayers of the Church

- P** Joining our voices with the heavenly host and Christians throughout time and space, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.
- P** God of wanderers, you sent the magi from afar to witness the mystery and majesty of your birth. Send us into the world with your will in our hearts and on our lips. Merciful God, **C** receive our prayer.
- P** You created heaven and earth. Through your Spirit send your all-encompassing love over the cosmos. Bless the stars that guide our way and the night sky that invites the earth into slumber. Merciful God, **C** receive our prayer.
- P** You sent the magi to follow the star into an uncertain future. May all leaders and peoples seek your face, especially when paths are not clear, conflicts rage, tyrants oppress, and fear abounds. Merciful God, **C** receive our prayer.
- P** You sent your Spirit to dwell with Paul in prison. Send your Spirit to those who are imprisoned and enslaved. Give courage and wisdom for building roads that lead to justice and freedom. Merciful God, **C** receive our prayer.

P You sent the holy family to seek safety in a new land. Protect all who make similar journeys. Send your guiding Spirit to asylum seekers, refugees, and all who journey toward safety. Merciful God, **C** **receive our prayer.**

P Your glory is shown to the saints. We give thanks for those whose earthly journey has ended and now dwell with you forever. Give us signs of your continual presence until that day when we arise in you. Merciful God, **C** **receive our prayer.**

P Rejoicing in your Word made flesh among us, we commend these prayers to you, confident of your grace and love made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior. **C** **Amen.**

***GREAT THANKSGIVING**

P The Lord be with you. **C** **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts. **C** **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ.

By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son; and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory.

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

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

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever. **☩ Amen.**

***LORD'S PRAYER**

ℙ Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

☩ 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen

ℙ In Christ's manger, at Christ's table, come, see what God makes known for you.

Communion Hymn

Brightest and Best of the Stars

ELW # 303



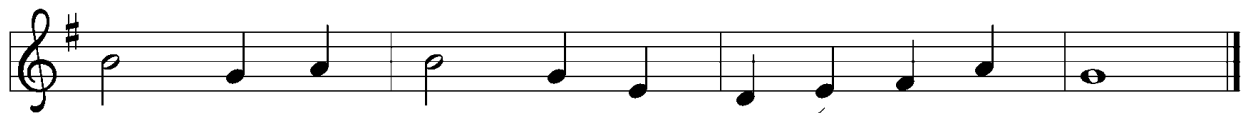
1 Bright-est and best of the stars of the morn - ing,
2 Cold on his cra - dle the dew - drops are shin - ing;
3 What shall we give him, in cost - ly de - vo - tion?
4 Vain - ly we of - fer each am - ple ob - la - tion,
5 Bright-est and best of the stars of the morn - ing,



dawn on our dark - ness and lend us your aid.
low lies his head with the beasts of the stall;
Shall we bring in - cense and of - f'rings di - vine,
vain - ly with gifts would his fa - vor se - cure;
dawn on our dark - ness and lend us your aid.



Star of the east, the ho - ri - zon a - dorn - ing,
an - gels a - dore him in slum - ber re - clin - ing,
gems of the moun - tain and pearls of the o - cean,
rich - er by far is the heart's ad - o - ra - tion,
Star of the east, the ho - ri - zon a - dorn - ing,



guide where our in - fant re - deem - er is laid.
mak - er and mon - arch and sav - ior of all.
myrrh from the for - est or gold from the mine?
dear - er to God are the prayers of the poor.
guide where our in - fant re - deem - er is laid.

Text: Reginald Heber, 1783–1826, alt.

Music: MORNING STAR, James P. Harding, 1850–1911, adapt.

Post Communion Prayer

☞ We thank you, wondrous God, for Jesus, God with us, in these gifts of bread and wine. As we have shared this feast of love, strengthen us to share your love with all the world. In Jesus' name we pray. ☛ Amen.

Blessing

☞ The God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing, so that we may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit, through Christ Jesus, the Word made flesh. ☛ Amen.

Everyone Is Invited to Sing The Sending Hymn While Remaining Masked

***SENDING SONG**

We Three Kings of Orient Are

WOV # 646



1 We three kings of O - ri - ent are; bear - ing
2 Born a king on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I
3 Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I; in - cense
4 Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a
5 Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise, King and



gifts we tra - verse a - far, field and foun - tain,
bring to crown him a - gain; king for - ev - er,
owns a de - i - ty nigh; prayer and prais - ing,
life of gath - er - ing gloom; sor - rowing, sigh - ing,
God and Sac - ri - fice; heav'n sings al - le -



moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.
ceas - ing nev - er, o - ver us all to reign.
glad - ly rais - ing, wor - ship - ing God Most High.
bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the stone - cold tomb.
lu - ia: al - le - lu - ia the earth re - plies.



Oh, star of won - der, star of night, star with roy - al beau - ty bright;



west - ward lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - fect light!

Text: John Henry Hopkins Jr., 1820–1891, alt.

Music: THREE KINGS OF ORIENT, John Henry Hopkins Jr., 1820–1891

Dismissal

P Go in peace. Rejoice in Christ our Savior. **C** Thanks be to God.

Postlude

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**Please be advised that worship services are recorded and/or
live-streamed on social media.**

Today's Altar Flowers are placed to the Glory of God and in memory of Andrew and Lois Zeek; Marion and Verna Smith by Dennis and Margie Smith.

Office Hours This Week:

Pastor Traci – Wednesday 1-4 p.m.

Office Hours –Tues. - Fri., - 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. (Lori)

This Week Events

Today – Worship in Sanctuary/Installation of 2022 Council 8:30 a.m.

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

Worship in Sanctuary/Installation of 2022 Council 10:30 a.m.

Monday – **Office Closed in Observance of New Years**

Worship & Music Meeting 6:00 p.m. via Zoom

Boy Scouts 6:00 p.m. FH

Wednesday Yoga 5:00 p.m. FH

Sunday – Worship in Sanctuary 8:30 a.m.

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

Worship in Sanctuary 10:30 a.m.

Worship Schedule for December

In November, we will offer two Sunday services each week.

8:30 AM Worship in the Sanctuary—Full Spoken Liturgy of Word & Sacrament
(Communion)

10:30AM Worship in the Sanctuary—Full Spoken Liturgy of Word & Sacrament
(Communion)

This will be the recorded and live-streamed service.

Serving God and Us

Our Ministers - the People of St. Matthew

Our Pastor – Rev. Traci Marriott

Our Pianist Today – Adam Day

Our Missionary Family – On Eagle’s Wings, Elizabeth Hendrickson

Our Administrative Assistant – Lori Tremmel

Our Assistant Administrative Assistant – Laura Orczeck

Our Sexton – Phil Claar

Our Acolytes – Gabby Decker, Lily & Lucy Lightner,

Our Lector – Janet Stewart

Our Audio/Video Tech – Camden Kuster

Our Offering Counters – Jim Barley, Beth Garner

First Quarter Ventures in Faith to “Local Needs”

Prayers are needed for our homebound: Shirley Acker, Carl & Dawn Alexy, John Aljets, Vivian Beach, Verna Blough, Fred Brandenburg, Clyde Claycomb, Betty Helsel, Jere Hess, Audrey Hite, Ruth Johnson, Audrey & Dan Kensinger, Janet Kreider, Joan Partner, Ginny Sell, Dan Sinal, Don Smith, Bill Stahl, Joy Williams.

Prayer Concerns: Amy & Family, Pastor Denise Arpino, Diane Baer, Cindy Barnes, Randy Barrett, Diane Cappel, Greg Comer, Greg Dick, Brian Fleck, Jim Fritz, Shelby Gerrity, George Gilbert Sr., Dan Hershberger, Joe Hinton, Barrett Hoover, Marilyn Horton, Darren Kreutzer, Karrie McCall & Family, Betty McDowell, Rick McIntyre, Nathan, Aunt Mica, Murtle Miller, Deb Peters, Dan Ross, Dorothy Ross, Paul Ruth, Barbara Smith, Don Smith, Luther Steele, Cindy Thomas, Norm Tremmel, Carol Weyandt, Jean White, Pete Williams, Jim & Ginny Zeek, Jody Zelanko, and for our **Missionaries: Rev. Lesley Hand, On Eagle’s Wings, Elizabeth Hendrickson.**

Our college students: Christopher Bush, Olivia Day, Jacob Orczeck.

Those Serving in the Army Overseas: Nathan Smith (Germany)

Mitten Tree Thank You!

Many Thanks to all who contributed so generously to the "Mitten Tree" by bringing colorful home-made, bought items, and financial donations for needy elementary school children! Because of your kindness, these children will have a warmer winter!

These items were distributed to Martinsburg and Spring Cove Elementary Schools. The total items received were (44 pairs of mittens and gloves; 5 hats; 13 sets of hats, 1 scarf; 24 pairs of socks; 1 pair of slippers).



SNOW CAMP 2022

Friday, February 25th to Saturday, February 26th
Camp Sequanota, Jennerstown, PA



Snow Camp is for 6th – 12 Graders
Games, Crafts, Food, Sledding, Worship, Learning
Accommodations in Sequanota's Winterized Cabins

Join with youth from around the Allegheny Synod
As we regroup and rediscover what it means to take part in

HOLY COMMUNITY

Space is limited! Registration will be open from
January 15th to February 13th

Register Online at www.sequanota.com

See brochure on Narthex bulletin board for more information.



Altar Guild Volunteers

Looking for volunteers who would like to serve on Altar Guild. Responsibilities include preparing Communion elements (wafers and wine), taking care of the candles, and preparing the sanctuary for worship.

Preparations for Easter and Christmas require a little more time. Usually Altar Guild members need only serve two months during a calendar year Please direct any questions and inquiries to Jane Fagans at jfagans@atlanticbb.net, landline at 793-4401, or text at 327-0786.

Christ gives us love and support in the fellowship of the church. He gives us the bread of life and the cup Of blessing in the Holy Communion. Christ's Spirit fills us with songs of thanksgiving for all that God has done for us.

In response to all this and all of God's other might acts, we are called to offer ourselves to Christ's service. The basic motivation for service is gratitude.

Readings for the Week:

Monday Psalm 72; Job 42:10-17; Luke 8:16-21. **Tuesday** Isaiah 6:1-5; Acts 7:44-53. **Wednesday** Jeremiah 31:7-14; John 1:(1-9) 10-18. **Thursday (Epiphany of Our Lord)**. **Friday** Psalm 29; Ecclesiastes 2:1-11; 1 Corinthians 2:1-10. **Saturday** Ecclesiastes 3:1-15; 1 Corinthians 2:11-16. **Sunday (Baptism of Our Lord)** Isaiah 43:1-7; Psalm 29; Acts 8:14-17; Luke 3:15-17, 21-22.