

**JOYS AND CONCERNS**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Leader: . . . As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:

**All: 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.**

**GIVING GOD'S TITHES & OUR OFFERINGS and OUR 10¢-A-MEAL OFFERING**

- Offertory
- \*Doxology (*Instrumental only*)
- \*Prayer of Dedication

**THE SENDING**

**\*BLESSING AND CHARGE**

**\*POSTLUDE**

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\*An asterisk indicates that all who are able may stand.

**TO OUR VISITORS**

We welcome you to our worship. We hope that you will return to worship with us again! We have a nursery lovingly and carefully attended by church members.

**MEMBERSHIP**

We welcome into membership all who love Jesus Christ, accept him as Lord of all life, and seek to serve him as part of his body in the church. We invite you to speak to one of our elders, greeting you at the door as you leave the worship service.

**THIS WEEK AT BPC**

**LOOKING AHEAD**

The Cabarrus County LunchPlus Club for Seniors provides a Drive Thru Pickup at BPC Fellowship Hall, Monday – Friday, 11:30 AM – 12:45 PM.

**Sunday, January 3**

- 10¢-A-Meal Offering to be received
- 9:00 AM – Sunday School in the BPC Fellowship Hall
- 9:55 AM – Worship Service
- 11:30 AM – 1:30 PM – Latin Mission Christ Savior Worship in BPC Fellowship Hall

**Wednesday, January 6**

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

**Sunday, January 10**

- BAPTISM OF THE LORD
- 9:00 AM – Sunday School in the BPC Fellowship Hall
- 9:55 AM – Worship Service
- 11:30 AM – 1:30 PM – Latin Mission Christ Savior Worship in BPC Fellowship Hall

**Monday, January 11**

- Annual Meeting Reports due to the church office
- 7:15 PM – Mission/Evangelism Committee
- 7:15 PM – Worship Committee

THE SESSION OF OUR CHURCH	CLASS OF 2021
Sherry Shifflett, <i>Clerk</i> Dennis Graybeal, <i>Treasurer</i> Jenny Linebarrier, <i>Asst. Treasurer</i>	Chris Ferguson, <i>Mission/Evangelism</i> Brandi Lackey, <i>Christian Education</i> Linda VanPelt, <i>Fellowship</i>
CLASS OF 2020	CLASS OF 2022
Jean Brown, <i>Communications</i> Ed Kusper, <i>Stewardship</i> Madison Scarborough, <i>Personnel</i>	Connie Goodman, <i>Worship</i> Christel Josey, <i>Property</i> Doug Kirkman, <i>Property</i>



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**Welcome to Bethpage Presbyterian Church!**  
January 3, 2021

***"A family of faith in Jesus Christ, yesterday, today, and tomorrow."***

*We are excited that you have joined us in worshipping God today. Whether you are just visiting, looking to stay or have worshipped here your whole life, it is great to worship the Lord together this day!*

**DAILY LECTIONARY**

Sunday, January 3	Monday, January 4	Tuesday, January 5	Wednesday, January 6	Thursday, January 7	Friday, January 8	Saturday, January 9
Morning: Ps. 111; 150 1 <sup>st</sup> Read: Deut. 33:1-5 2 <sup>nd</sup> Read: 1 Jn. 2:12-17 Gospel: John 6:41-47 Evening: Ps. 107; 15	Morning: Ps. 20; 145 1 <sup>st</sup> Read: Ex. 3:1-5 2 <sup>nd</sup> Read: Heb. 11:23-31 Gospel: Jn. 14:6-14 Evening: Ps. 93; 97	Morning: Ps. 99; 146 1 <sup>st</sup> Read: Joshua 1:1-9 2 <sup>nd</sup> Read: Hebrews 11:32-12:2 Gospel: John 15:1-16 Evening: Psalms 96; 110	Morning: Psalms 72; 147:1-11 1 <sup>st</sup> Read: Isaiah 52:7-10 2 <sup>nd</sup> Read: Rev. 21:22-27 Gospel: Matthew 12:14-21 Evening: Psalms 100; 67	Morning: Psalms 46 or 97; 147:12-20 1 <sup>st</sup> Read: Isaiah 52:3-6 2 <sup>nd</sup> Read: Revelation 2:1-7 Gospel: John 2:1-11 Evening: Ps. 27; 93 or 114	Morning: Psalms 46 or 47; 148 1 <sup>st</sup> Read: Isa. 59:15b-21 2 <sup>nd</sup> Read: Rev. 2:8-17 Gospel: John 4:46-54 Evening: Psalms 27; 93 or 114	Morning: Psalms 46 or 47; 149 1 <sup>st</sup> Read: Isaiah 63:1-5 2 <sup>nd</sup> Read: Rev. 2:18-29 Gospel: John 5:1-15 Evening: Psalms 27; 93 or 114

# The Service for the Lord's Day The Epiphany of the Lord

January 3, 2021

9:55 A.M.

## THE GATHERING

### PRELUDE

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### TRINITY CHIMES

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Arise, shine; for your light has come! The glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

**People: Jesus Christ is the light of the world.**

Leader: Nations will come to his light and rulers will seek his radiance.

**People: Jesus Christ is the light of the world.**

Leader: He will judge the people with righteousness and defend the cause of the poor.

**People: Jesus Christ is the light of the world.**

Leader: The mystery of the ages is revealed; the eternal plan of God is known to all.

**People: Jesus Christ is the light of the world.**

Leader: Let us give him honor, glory, and praise.

**People: Jesus Christ is the light of the world.**

Leader: Let us offer him all the treasures of our hearts and lives.

**People: Jesus Christ is the light of the world.**

**Prayer:** God of endless light, you sent a star — rising from darkness, guiding seekers and sages, overwhelming us with joy. Let the splendor of your dawning light grow in us and in all the world until the whole creation shines with your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

### \*CALL TO CONFESSION

### \*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of glory, you sent Jesus among us as the light of the world to reveal your love for all people. We confess that our sin and pride hide the brightness of your light. We turn away from the poor; we ignore cries for justice; we do not strive for peace. In your mercy, cleanse us of our sin and pour out the gifts of your Spirit, that, forgiven and renewed, we may show forth your glory shining in the face of Jesus Christ. *(Please take a moment for silent confession.)*

### \*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: . . . Friends, believe the good news, in the name of Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

### \*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

*(spoken by all)*

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

## THE WORD

### TIME WITH YOUNGER CHRISTIANS

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Jean Brown

### SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 60:1-6

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

<sup>2</sup>For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you.

<sup>3</sup>Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

<sup>4</sup>Lift 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.

<sup>5</sup>Then 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.

<sup>6</sup>A 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.

Lector: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

### GOSPEL READING

Matthew 2:1-12

<sup>1</sup>In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup>asking, "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." <sup>3</sup>When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; <sup>4</sup>and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. <sup>5</sup>They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

<sup>6</sup>'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.'"

<sup>7</sup>Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup>Then 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." <sup>9</sup>When 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. <sup>10</sup>When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. <sup>11</sup>On 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. <sup>12</sup>And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Reader: The mystery of the ages, revealed to all.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

### SERMON

*"It's All About That Light"*

William Watkins, CLP

### \*INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

### \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**