PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Invitation to the Offering

OFFERTORY The Star Carol Jack Brooks

\*Doxology #607

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise Christ, all people here below; Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**HOLY COMMUNION** 

(SEE BULLETIN INSERT)

-Sending-

\*HYMN # 744 Arise Your Light Is Come

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Joy to the World Jack Brooks

You may be seated after the light passes you in the aisle.

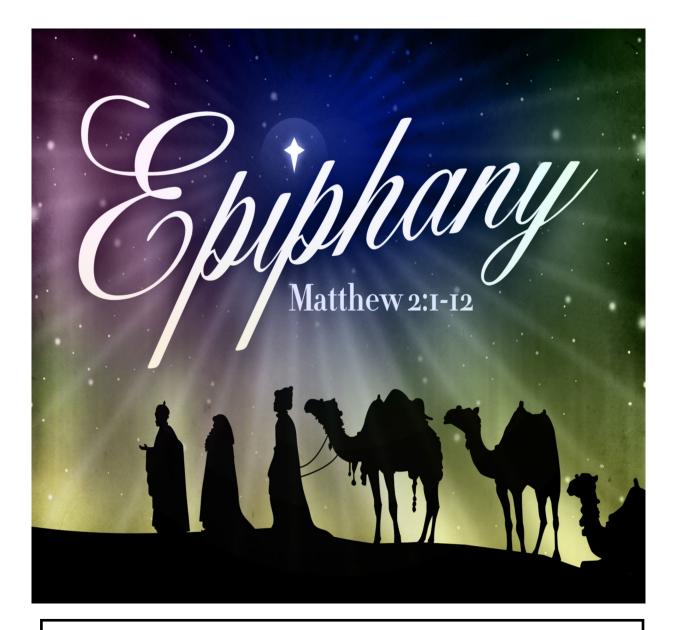


Serving God, Honoring Creation, Embracing Differences



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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, HENDERSON, TX

Epiphany of the Lord

and Holy Communion

January 5, 2025

## (\*) Please rise in body or in spirit **Bold Italic Letters** indicate congregational response

— Gathering —

PRELUDE Some Children See Him

Jack Brooks

Liturgist: John Tieken

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

WELCOME

Arise, shine; for your light has come,

And the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

Nations shall come to your light

And rulers to the brightness of your rising.

\*HYMN #143

Angels from the Realms of Glory

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

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 baptize us once again with your Spirit, that, forgiven and renewed, we may show forth your glory shining in the face of Jesus Christ.

## **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

The Gospel of John reminds us that "from Christ's fullness, we have all received grace upon grace." Hear this good news with joy: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and, in Him, all things are being made new. **Amen.** 

## \*GLORIA PATRI #581

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, amen.

—Word—

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING Isaiah 60:1-6 Bible p. 649, LG p. 844

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

**GOSPEL** Matthew 2:1-12 Bible p. 1-2, LG p. 2

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON Authenticity in Our Journey Crosby Fleming

—Response—

\*HYMN #151 We Three Kings of Orient Are

"In Jesus of Nazareth, true humanity was realized once for all. Jesus, a Palestinian Jew, lived among his own people and shared their needs, temptations, joys, and sorrows.

He expressed the love of God in word and deed and became a brother to all kinds of sinful men and women. But his complete obedience led him into conflict with his people. His life and teaching judged their goodness, religious aspirations, and national hopes.

Many rejected him and demanded his death. In giving himself freely for them, he took upon himself the judgment under which everyone stands convicted. God raised him from the dead, vindicating him as Messiah and Lord. The victim of sin became victor, and won the victory over sin and death for all."

<sup>\*</sup>Affirmation of Faith (Inclusive Language Text of the Confession of 1967)