

Southminster Presbyterian Church



*A Service for the Worship of God
A Celebration of the Epiphany of our Lord
January 10, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.*

PREPARATION

We invite you to light your Christ Candle at home as we light it during worship.

Have a pen and a small piece of paper available for an activity during worship.

*Look through the “Star Words” listed on the last page of the bulletin
and pick out a word that can be a focus for you in 2021.*

Gathering Around God’s Word

Prelude

Jim Pera

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Dr. Nancy Birdsong

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Sharon Boyko

Call to Worship

One: Although the beckoning star heeded by wise travelers long ago
no longer leads the way,

All: the manger-born Christ is still to be found and followed.

One: We are not brought to our knees in surprise as were those journeyers of old,

All: yet our desire to worship can be just as deep.

One: And though we do not bear gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh,

All: we offer ourselves and what we have.

One: The story continues. The good news abounds.

There is a living Christ to discover and worship and serve.

All: Let us rejoice and be glad!

Hymn # 150

“As with Gladness Men of Old”

omit verse 3

Prayer of Praise and Adoration *(in unison)*

Sharon Boyko

Holy God, grateful for your love revealed to us in Jesus Christ, we have come to this time and place to worship you with wonder in our hearts. Thank you for coming to us in a vulnerable baby and for holding us in your grace. You came to us in a stable, so we would have no trouble finding you. You came to us in poverty, to enrich our lives. You take away the old, stained clothes of our spirits and dress us in kindness, humility, patience, and compassion. We are grateful that when we open ourselves to the presence of Christ within, our lives are made new. Amazing God, we sing your praises with joy and thanksgiving. Amen.

Response

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

Hymn 113, verse 1

**Angels we have heard on high,
Sweetly singing o’er the plains,
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strains.
Glo...ria in excelsis Deo.
Glo...ria in excelsis Deo.**

Passing of the Peace

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

Hearing God’s Word

Prayer for Illumination

Sharon Boyko

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 60:1-6

Anthem

“In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst

Cari Sullivan, soloist

Children’s Time

Rev. Dr. Nancy Birdsong

Scripture Reading

Matthew 2:1-12

Rev. Laura Nile Tuell

Sermon

“Arise, Shine; for Your Light Has Come!

Rev. Dr. Nancy Birdsong

STAR WORDS

kindness
caring
sharing
giving
compassion
love
openness
pardon
understanding
discipleship
servanthood
hopefulness
prayerfulness
praise
gentleness
knowledge
happiness
laughter
acceptance
mercy
truth
peace
faith
consideration
celebration
perseverance
courage
honor
contentment
imagination
commitment
friendship
devotion
gratitude

joy
charity
comfort
discernment
thoughtfulness
patience
forgiveness
humbleness
faithfulness
hope
tenderness
enthusiasm
healing
rejoicing
selflessness
honesty
awareness
tolerance
wholeness
guidance
hospitality
trust
encouragement
trustworthiness
inspiration
wonder
flexibility
grace
graciousness
integrity
helping
generosity
prayer

service
nurturing
renewal
purpose
peacefulness
harmony
reliability
goodness
reverence
serenity
humor
boldness
genuineness
dependability
listening
sincerity
cheerfulness
focus
balance
helpfulness
empathy
sensitivity
time
delight
spirituality
thankfulness
quietness
playfulness
dedication
empathy
solitude
appreciation
affirmation