

*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