

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN



CHURCH IN GERMANTOWN

JANUARY 03, 2021

ALIVE,
CELEBRATING
& SERVING
THE LIVING LORD!

*The mission of The First Presbyterian Church in Germantown
is to reflect the loving presence of Christ
as we serve others faithfully, worship God joyfully and share life together
in a diverse and generous community.*

January 03, 2021

The Lord's Supper/Epiphany Sunday

"It is during our darkest moments that we must focus to see the light." - Aristotle

ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP AT 10:00 AM
GATHERING AS GOD'S FAMILY

Prelude: *Das Alte Jahr vergangen ist*

J.S. Bach

Welcome and Announcements

†*Call to Worship

Rev. Kevin Porter

One: Arise, shine! Your light has come.

Many: The glory of the Lord shines like the sun.

One: Behold, the nations have come to witness God's light.

Many: Kings have come to behold Christ's brightness.

One: Lift up your eyes and look around.

Many: The glory of the Lord is all around.

One: Arise, shine! Your light has come.

*Hymn 411: *Arise, Your Light Is Come!*

TRURO

<http://www.traditionalmusic.co.uk/presbyterian-hymnal/arise-your-light-is-come-the-spirits.htm>

CONFESSING OUR SINS TO GOD

Prayer of Confession

God of perfect light, lead us as we proceed through life. Forgive us when, like Herod, selfish ambition makes us willing to hurt others. Forgive us when, unlike the magi, we refuse to follow the light you give us. Shine in our lives through the light of your Christ, in whose name we pray.

Silent Meditation

Assurance of Pardon

†*Congregational Response 579: *Gloria Patri*

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.

†*Sharing the Peace of Christ

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Contina Lundy

The First Lesson: Isaiah 60:1-6

Page 649 OT

Leader: God's Word is a lamp to our feet, and a light to our path.

People: Thanks be to God!

A Time for Children

Anthem: *Behold that Star*

Spiritual arr. Harry Burleigh

Behold that star! Behold that star up yonder! Behold that star! It is the star of Bethlehem.

There is no room found in the inn, This is the star of Bethlehem,
For Him who was born free from sin, This is the star of Bethlehem.

Behold that star! Behold that star up yonder! Behold that star! It is the star of Bethlehem.

The wise men came on from the east, This is the star of Bethlehem,
To worship Him, the Prince of Peace, This is the star of Bethlehem.

Behold that star! Behold that star up yonder! Behold that star! It is the star of Bethlehem.

A song broke forth upon the night, This is the star of Bethlehem,
From angel hosts all robed in white, This is the star of Bethlehem.

Behold that star! Behold that star up yonder! Behold that star! It is the star of Bethlehem.

Laurice Kennel, soprano

The Second Lesson: Matthew 2:1-12

Rev. Rebecca Segers
Pages 1-2 NT

Leader: God, we thank you for your Word.

People: **The story of your grace.**

Sermon: **A FRIGHT LIGHT**

Rev. Rebecca Segers

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

A Time for Meditation on the Word

*Hymn 63: *As With Gladness Men of Old*

DIX

As with gladness men of old did the guiding star behold, as with joy they hailed its light,
leading onward, beaming bright; so, most gracious God, may we evermore be led to thee.

As with joyful steps they sped, To that lowly manger bed, there to bend the knee before
him whom heaven and earth adore; so may we with willing feet ever seek thy mercy seat.

As they offered gifts most rare at that manger rude and bare, so may we with holy joy, pure
and free from sin's alloy, all our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to thee, our heavenly king.

Holy Jesus, every day keep us in the narrow way, and, when earthly things are past, bring
our ransomed souls at last where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glory hide.

*Affirmation of Faith—The Nicene's Creed

We believe in one God, 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: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. 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]. With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified. He 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 resurrec-

tion of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Offering Our Gifts

The Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord's Prayer

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.

The Words of Institution

Prayer After Communion

GOING FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

*Hymn 66: *We Three Kings of Orient Are*

THREE KINGS OF ORIENT

We three kings of Orient are; bearing gifts we traverse afar, field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star. O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright, westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.

Born a King on Bethlehem's plain, gold I bring to crown him again, King forever, ceasing never, over us all to reign. O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright, westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.

Frankincense to offer have I; incense owns a Deity nigh; prayer and praising, we are raising, worshipping God on high. O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright, westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.

Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume breathes a life of gathering gloom; sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying, sealed in the stone-cold tomb. O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright, westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.

Glorious now behold him arise; King and God and sacrifice: Alleluia, Alleluia, sounds through the earth and skies. O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright, westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.

*Charge and Benediction

Rev. Rebecca Segers

Postlude: *Declamation on Dix*

Craig Phillip

GUEST MUSICIAN: Laurice Simmons Kennel, Soprano, was born and raised in Southwestern Michigan. She now resides in Philadelphia, PA with her Husband. She received her Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance from Michigan State University and her Master of Music in Vocal Performance from the University of Colorado at Boulder. Currently, Ms. Kennel studies privately with Sharon Sweet. Laurice has performed a wide range of operatic roles. She has sung the role of Mimi (*La Boheme*), Micaela (*Carmen*), Donna Anna (*Don Giovanni*), Violetta (*La Traviata*) and Suor Angelica (*Suor Angelica*). Ms. Kennel has sung with the Opera Company of Philadelphia, New York City Opera at Lincoln Center, Lyric Opera Company Los Angeles and Opera Delaware.

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