

The First Presbyterian Church *in the City of New York*

EPIPHANY

Service for the Lord's Day

January 9th, 2022 | 11:00 a.m.

The Session and members of First Church extend a sincere welcome to all persons regardless of race, nationality, gender, or sexual orientation. This includes an open invitation to membership, the sacraments of baptism and the Lord's Supper, marriage, funerals, memorial services, and service as an officer of the church.

GATHERING

PRELUDE "Two Preludes on 'O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright'" Paul Manz
David Bednall

PEALING OF THE CARILLON

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP from Isaiah 60

Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord rises upon you.

**See, darkness covers the earth
and thick darkness is over the peoples,**

Nations will come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

**Then you will look and be radiant,
your heart will throb and swell with joy.**

HYMN 151 "We Three Kings of Orient Are" WE THREE KINGS

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Heavenly God, we see the light!

**We see your light in the everyday,
in those around us, in our own selves,**

**and yet we know that we do not shine out to the world
the light we have been given.**

**Forgive us, Lord, as we have not encouraged hope,
embodied your peace, celebrated with joy,
or covered our communities with your love.**

God, help us to be your people,
your light-shiners in a world that is often overcome with judgment and harm.
Teach us to be constantly overcome by the light
that only you and your Son Jesus can bring.
We pray this as we confess all that is on our heart this day...

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

RESPONSE

DIX



Ho - ly — Je - sus, ev - ery day keep us in the nar - row way;
and when earth - ly things are past, bring our ran - somed souls at last
where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glo - ry hide.

SHARING SIGNS OF PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

CHILDREN'S PRAYER AND 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.**

SOLO

Samuel Barber

Sure on this shining night of starmade shadows round, kindness must watch for me this side
the ground. The late year lies down the north. All is healed, all is health. High summer holds
the earth. Hearts all whole. Sure on this shining night I weep for wonder wandering far alone
of shadows on the stars.

-James Agee

HEARING THE WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 2:1-12

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

'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.'

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

SERMON

"Walking with the Wise"

Audrey Webber, M.Div.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from Philipians 2:5-11

**Christ Jesus,
though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be exploited,
but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.
And being found in human form
he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.
Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name that is above every name,
so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue should confess to the glory of God:
Jesus Christ is Lord! Amen.**

OFFERTORY

arr. John W. Work

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine! Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine! Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine! Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine! All through the night. Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!
-African-American spiritual

RESPONSE

OLD HUNDERETH



Traditional Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise Him, all crea - tures
Inclusive Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise Christ, all peo - ple



here be - low; praise Him a - bove, ye heaven - ly host;
here be - low; praise Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more;



praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.
praise Tri - une God, whom we a - dore.

SENDING

HYMN 156

“Sing of God Made Manifest”

SALZBURG

BLESSING

POSTLUDE

“In Thee Is Gladness, BWV 615”

J.S. Bach

LEADING THIS MORNING

Rev. Dr. Barbara Davis, *Executive Minister*
Audrey Webber, M.Div., *Associate for Hospitality and Visual Arts*

Sean Fallen, *soloist*
Michael Shake, *Organist and Director of Music*

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