



ORDER FOR THE  
PUBLIC WORSHIP *of* GOD

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January 5, 2014  
8:15 a.m.

  
**Second**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

# The Liturgy of the Word

*As you enter the Sanctuary, please assume a quiet and respectful attitude of worship.  
Please silence your mobile devices.*

## REFLECTION ON EPIPHANY

It was the very ordinary people, busy about very ordinary tasks,  
whose eyes first saw the glory of the coming of the Lord.  
What is the significance? It means, first, that the place of duty,  
however humble, is the place of vision. And it means, second,  
that it is those who have kept a child-like heart  
to whom the gates of the Kingdom most readily open. *James Stewart*

ORGAN MEDITATION: "I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art" . . . . . W.H. Bates  
*Lenora Morrow, organ*

ORCHESTRAL PRELUDE: "Concerto No. 5 in F Minor" . . . . . J.S. Bach  
*Ginger Statom, piano*

CALL TO WORSHIP . . . . . Dan G. Burns

♠ PROCESSIONAL HYMN: No. 226 "As with Gladness Men of Old" . . . . . DIX  
*stanzas 1-4*

♠ GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 2:1-12 . . . . . Alyssa Champion

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea  
in the days of Herod the king, behold,  
wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, saying,

**"Where is he who has been born king of the Jews?  
For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him."**

When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled,  
and all Jerusalem with him;  
and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people,  
he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born.  
They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:

**'And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;  
for from you shall come a ruler  
who will shepherd my people Israel.'"**

Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly  
and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared.  
And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying,  
"Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him,  
bring me word, that I too may come and worship him."

**After listening to the king, they went on their way.  
And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them  
until it came to rest over the place where the child was.**

When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy.  
And going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother,  
and they fell down and worshiped him.

**Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts,  
gold and frankincense and myrrh.  
And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod,  
they departed to their own country by another way.**

✦ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE . . . . . DIX

**In the heav'nly country bright need they no created light;  
Thou its light, its joy, its crown, thou its sun which goes not down;  
There forever may we sing alleluias to our King.**

✦ PRAYER OF ADORATION

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: "Star in the East" . . . . . arr. Vicky Courtney

Hail the blest morn. See the great Mediator  
Down from the region of glory descend.  
Shepherds, go worship the Babe in the manger.  
Lo, for His guard the bright angels attend.

Cold on His cradle, the dewdrops are shining.  
Low lied His bed with the beasts of the stall.  
Angels adore Him, in slumber reclining.  
Wisemen and shepherds before Him do fall.

Brightest and best of the sons of the morning,  
Dawn on our darkness and lend us Thine aid.  
Star in the East, the horizon adoring,  
Guide where our Infant Redeemer was laid.

Say, shall we yield Him, in costly devotion,  
Fragrance of Eden and off'ring Divine,  
Gems from the mountains and pearls from the ocean,  
Myrrh from the forest and gold from the mine?

*The Westminster Singers  
Gabriel C. Statom, Director of Music*

✦ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE . . . . . GREENSLEEVES

**So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, peasant, king, to own Him;  
The King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone Him.  
Raise, raise the song on high, the virgin sings her lullaby:  
Joy, joy for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary.**

✦ PRAYER OF DEDICATION . . . . . T. Barton Kimbro

✦ GREETINGS

A WORD TO THE CHILDREN

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

EPISTLE LESSON . . . . . Ephesians 5:21  
(page 978 in the pew Bible)

All flesh is grass, and all its beauty is like the flower of the field;

**The grass withers, the flower fades,  
but the Word of our God will stand forever. Amen.** (Isaiah 40:6b, 8)

HOMILY

*The Glory of Submission*

Sanders L. Willson

# The Liturgy of the Table

## ✠ INVITATION TO THE TABLE

*All those who have publicly professed their faith and joined a Christian church as a communing member are warmly welcomed to receive communion today. Non-communing worshipers are encouraged to contemplate the love of Jesus Christ during this time. At Second Presbyterian, we encourage our children not to take communion until they have joined the church as communicant members.*

*We do, however, encourage non-communing children to come forward with their parents to receive a blessing. Those wishing to be served communion together as a group or family, please stand together in front of the two serving elders before taking the elements.*

*Gluten free communion bread is available upon request from the elder at the east side of the transverse aisle (opposite from the door leading to the Connector).*

## ✠ PROFESSION OF FAITH . . . . . The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God the Father Almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth;  
and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord;  
Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead and buried;  
He descended into hell;  
The third day He rose again from the dead;  
He ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;  
from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead;**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost;  
the holy catholic church;  
the communion of saints;  
the forgiveness of sins;  
the resurrection of the body;  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## ✠ GLORIA PATRI . . . . . GREATorex

**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!**

## CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Holy Father,  
as our selfishness clouds our vision and afflicts us all,  
we ask Your forgiveness for the times  
that we have questioned and rebelled against authority,  
asserted ourselves, and insisted upon our own rights.  
May Your Spirit fill us anew  
so that we are graced with submissive hearts  
that delight to glorify You and serve the interests and needs of others.  
For we pray in the name of the One who laid aside His rights  
and became a submissive servant for our salvation,  
even Jesus Christ our Lord and King. Amen.**

## INDIVIDUAL PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

### ASSURANCE OF DIVINE PARDON

If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand?  
But with you there is forgiveness, that you may be feared.

*Psalm 130:3-4*

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION 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.**

SHARING THE BREAD AND THE CUP

*For those unable to come forward for communion, please raise your hand and an elder will serve you in your seat. Throughout this time of communion, we invite you to join in singing the hymns printed in bold below.*

*"How Deep the Father's Love for Us" . . . . . Stuart Townend*

**How deep the Father's love for us,  
How vast beyond all measure,  
That He should give His only Son  
To make a wretch His treasure.  
How great the pain of searing loss;  
The Father turns His face away,  
As wounds which mar the Chosen One  
Bring many sons to glory.**

**Behold the Man upon a cross,  
My sin upon His shoulders;  
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice  
Call out among the scoffers.  
It was my sin that held Him there  
Until it was accomplished;  
His dying breath has brought me life,  
I know that it is finished.**

**I will not boast in anything  
No gifts, no power, no wisdom;  
But I will boast in Jesus Christ,  
His death and resurrection.  
Why should I gain from His reward?  
I cannot give an answer.  
But this I know with all my heart:  
His wounds have paid my ransom.**

*"Joy Has Dawned" . . . . . Keith Getty, Stuart Townend*

**Joy has dawned upon the world, promised from creation;  
God's salvation now unfurled, hope for every nation.  
Not with fanfares from above, not with scenes of glory  
But a humble gift of love — Jesus, born of Mary.**

**Sounds of wonder fill the sky with the songs of angels  
As the mighty Prince of Life shelters in a stable.  
Hands that set each star in place, shaped the earth in darkness  
Cling now to a mother's breast, vulnerable and helpless.**

**Shepherds bow before the Lamb, gazing at the glory;  
Gifts of men from distant lands prophesy the story.  
Gold, a King is born today; incense, God is with us;  
Myrrh, His death will make a way; and by His blood, He'll win us.**

**Son of Adam, Son of heaven, given as a ransom  
Reconciling God and man — Christ our mighty Champion!  
What a Savior, what a Friend; what a glorious mystery.  
Once a babe in Bethlehem, now the Lord of history.**

“Fairest Lord Jesus” . . . . . CRUSADER’S HYMN  
Reference page 170 in the hymnal for music.

**Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of all nature,  
Son of God and Son of Man!  
Thee will I cherish, Thee will I honor,  
Thou, my soul’s glory, joy, and crown.**

**Fair are the meadows, fair are the woodlands,  
Robed in the blooming garb of spring:  
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer,  
Who makes the woeful heart to sing.**

**Fair is the sunshine, fair is the moonlight,  
And all the twinkling, starry host:  
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer  
Than all the angels heav’n can boast.**

**Beautiful Savior! Lord of the nations!  
Son of God and Son of Man!  
Glory and honor, praise, adoration,  
Now and forevermore be Thine.**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

✦ CLOSING HYMN . . . . . CWM RHONDDA

**See our Lord in all His glory, now arrayed in dazzling white!  
See Him shine in holy splendor, bathed in everlasting light!  
See the saints and angels gather, lifting high the Living Christ!  
Lifting high the Living Christ!**

✦ BENEDICTION

✦ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE . . . . . ADESTE FIDELES

**O come, let us adore Him, O come let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.**

ORGAN POSTLUDE: “Praeludium in C Major” . . . . . J. S. Bach

✦ *Indicates congregation standing* CCLI License #252778

*We consider it a privilege to have our children in worship with us. If your small children become restless and vocal, we invite you to the children’s room especially designed for them at the rear of the Sanctuary. They are also welcome in the nursery. Older children should also be encouraged to come to church prepared to stay in their pew throughout the service.*

*One of our pastors will be available after the service to pray for you or to offer helpful direction regarding your spiritual life. He will be in the Gathering Room, which is the first room on your left as you exit the southwest door of the Sanctuary (closest to the pulpit). You may also send your confidential email to [pastor@2pc.org](mailto:pastor@2pc.org) with questions about your spiritual life.*