

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS DAY – EPIPHANY OBSERVED
Northside Presbyterian Church – January 3, 2021

GATHERING MUSIC – Harp – Ann Marie Conner

WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

INTROIT – *“What Star is This, With Beams so Bright”* – Simple Gifts

CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, hear the Christmas news: **Jesus Christ is born!**

Come, sing the Christmas story: **Jesus Christ is born!**

Come, worship the Christmas child. **Jesus Christ is born!**

Let us worship God.

HYMN – *“As with Gladness Men of Old”* (150, v.1 -4)

**1 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 Lord, may we evermore be led to thee.**

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

**3 As they offered gifts most rare at thy 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.**

**4 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.**

PRAYER OF PRAISE

CONFESSION

Merciful God, Light of the world, we confess that we have not resisted the darkness of sin. You deliver the poor and the helpless, but we have ignored their cry. You take pity on the weak and the destitute, but our hearts are hard in the face of their need. You heal the wounded and save the oppressed, but we have placed our trust in the callous violence of war. Forgive us, we pray. Awaken in us sincere repentance that we may shine with the light of your saving grace.

**Lord have mercy. Christ have mercy.
Lord have mercy. Kyrie Eleison. Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT – Isaiah 60:1-6 – Ann Marie Conner

OFFERING OF MUSIC – “*Star in the East*” – Simple Gifts

GOSPEL – Matthew 2:1-12

SERMON – “*Off By Nine Miles*”

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER/LORD’S PRAYER

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

... with all creation we sing your praise, saying,

Holy, holy, holy, God of power and might, Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

... We declare the mystery of faith,

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Lord’s Prayer

Sharing of Bread and Cup

Prayer: Gracious God, you have gathered us at this table with all your people in heaven and on earth. We have been nourished by the living bread, Jesus Christ, and we have been refreshed by the power of your Holy Spirit. May we now go out as glad disciples of our Lord, following in his way, proclaiming his truth, and living his love for the world. Amen.

HYMN – “*We Three Kings of Orient Are*” (151, v. 1, 5)

**1 We three kings of Orient are; bearing gifts we traverse afar,
field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.**

**Refrain: O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!**

**5 Glorious now behold him arise, King and God and Sacrifice:
Alleluia! Alleluia! sounds through the earth and skies. (Refrain)**

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CLOSING SONG

**O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!**

Please be in prayer for:

Revathi Balakrishnan
Susan Dickerson
Bonnie Church
Drew Taylor and family
Edd Stoops

Andy Robeson
Ron Pearson
Doug Rathjen
Kelly Wimmer
The Springer Family

Deborah Long
The McMahan/Hale family
Ann Stinson

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to Katherine Helsing and family on the death of her son-in-law in North Carolina.

Doug Rathjen's current mailing address is:

Room 715
Carilion Community Hospital
101 Elm Avenue
Roanoke, VA 24013

Today's musicians: Marya Katz, Charles Bostian, Ann Marie Conner, Jack Webster, Pat Fullen
Video Technician – Marshall Chaney