



**Pleasant Hill Presbyterian Church
Online Worship Service
Sunday, January 3, 2021
Epiphany of the Lord**

Gathering Around the Word

Welcome and Announcements

The Rev. Katie Day

Introit

"Celtic Celebration" by Joseph Martin

Hyoun Joo Song

Call to Worship

from Psalm 107

The Rev. Jennie Sankey

One: The Magi had a dream.

All: They dreamed of a Messiah.

They dreamed of just rulers.

They dreamed of a new day for all people.

One: The Magi had a dream, and this dream led them to action.

All: They journeyed to unknown places.

They followed a star.

They walked for days to get to Jesus.

One: So may we be like the Magi,

All: May our dreams inspire action.

May we worship the one true God.

Hymn 152

"What Star is This, With Beams So Bright"

What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright 152

Capo 2: (C) (Am) (G) (C) (F) (C) (G) (C) (F)
 D Bm A D G D A D G

1 What star is this, with beams so bright, more
 2 'Tis now full-filled what God de-creed, "From
 3 While out-ward signs the star dis-plays, an
 4 O Je-sus, while the star of grace im-

(C) (G) (C) (F) (C) (G)
 D A D G D A

love-ly than the noon-day light? 'Tis
 Ja-cob shall a star pro-ceed;" and
 in-ward light the Lord con-veys and
 pels us on to seek your face, let

(Am) (D7) (G) (C) (F) (C) (Dm)
 Bm E7 A D G D Em

sent to an-nounce a new-born king, glad
 lo! the east-ern sa-ges stand to
 urg-es them, with ten-der might, to
 not our sloth-ful hearts re-fuse the

(G) (C) (G) (C) (F) (G) (C)
 A D A D G A D

ti-dings of our God to bring.
 read in heaven the Lord's com-mand.
 seek the giv-er of the light.
 guid-ance of your light to use.

This 18th-century Latin text calls attention to three kinds of light: the light of the star leading the Magi to the Christ-child, the inward light inspiring their journey, and Christ who is the Light of the world. The simple unison melody unites everything in a gentle arc.

Call to Confession

Jennie

Prayer of Confession

God, we love to worship you when the sky is clear, and the breeze just right. We love to worship you when the journey to Bethlehem is an easy one. Unfortunately, as you know, this journey of life, love, and faith is rarely easy. Now and again, the stars disappear. Our feet get blisters, and the journey is far too long and lonely. On these days, forgive us for giving up quickly. Forgive us for allowing the dream to die and for taking the shortcut home. We want to be as brave as the Magi. We want to persevere. Guide our feet. Show us the stars. Amen.

Assurance of Grace**Passing of the Peace**

Jennie

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

The Word Read and Proclaimed**Children's Sermon**

The Rev. Jody Andrade

Prayer for Illumination

Jennie

Old Testament Scripture Reading

Isaiah 60: 1-6

Jennie

Arise, shine; for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.
For darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples;
but the Lord will arise upon you,
and his glory will appear over you.
Nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.
Lift up your eyes and look around;
they all gather together, they come to you;
your sons shall come from far away,
and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms.
Then you shall see and be radiant;
your heart shall thrill and rejoice,
because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you,
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.
A multitude of camels shall cover you,
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;
all those from Sheba shall come.
They shall bring gold and frankincense,
and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.

New Testament Scripture Reading

Matthew 2: 1-12

Katie

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men[a] 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 Judea; 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

“Those Who Dream...Persevere”

Katie

Sealing the Word in Our Lives

The Sacrament of Communion

Invitation to the Table

Jody

Pastoral Prayer

Jennie

Words of Institution

Anthem

“Carol of the Birds”

Chancel Choir

arr. Craig Courtney

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. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Responding to the Word

Invitation to Offering

Jody

To give: ● return to www.pleasanthillpc.org and click on the Giving tab or

● text givePHPC to 73256 or

● mail your offering to the church – 3700 Pleasant Hill Road Duluth, GA 30096

Prayer of Dedication

Jody

Hymn 151

“We Three Kings of Orient Are”

151 We Three Kings of Orient Are

1 We three kings of O - ri - ent are; bear - ing gifts we tra - verse a - far,
 2 Born a King on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I bring to crown him a - gain,
 3 Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I; in - cense owns a de - i - ty nigh;
 4 Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a life of gath - er - ing gloom;
 5 Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise, King and God and Sac - ri - fice:

field and foun - tain, moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.
 King for - ev - er, ceas - ing nev - er o - ver us all to reign.
 prayer and prais - ing glad - ly rais - ing, wor - ship - ing God Most High.
 sor - rowing, sigh - ing, bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the stone - cold tomb.
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! sounds through the earth and skies.

Refrain

O star of won - der, star of night, star with roy - al beau - ty bright,

west - ward lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - fect light!

Although Christians had begun by the 2nd century to speak of these visitors from eastern countries (Matthew 2:1-12) as "kings," perhaps because of passages like Psalm 72:10 and Isaiah 60:3, it is more accurate to think of them as magi or astrologers, the scholars of their day.

Following the Word into the World

Charge and Benediction

Katie

Postlude

“Recessional on ‘HYMN TO JOY”
arr. Matthew Corl

Hyoun Joo

This morning's liturgy is adapted from Sarah Are | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org
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