



# First Presbyterian Church

OF LAKE FOREST

January 2, 2022  
Epiphany Sunday

*Sending well-equipped disciples of Jesus into the world—compassionate, generous, resilient and wise*

## Prayer for Worship

*God, you placed a star in the sky to draw wise folk to the place of Christ's nativity. There you revealed the mystery of your eternal purpose for all humanity: God made flesh, born of Mary, opening to all the world the promise you made to Abraham and Sarah. Empower your church to be as the light of the star, that we may draw the world to the glory of Christ, our Lord, through whom we pray. Amen.*

## Prelude

We Three Kings

arr. Paul Manz, 1992

## The Welcome

### \*Call to Worship

Leader: We come to this place

**People: each of us on our own path.**

Leader: The path is winding,

**People: and the path is not always clear,**

Leader: and the path changes,

**People: but we are here.**

Leader: God is walking with us.

**People: What a gift it is to not walk alone.**

Leader: Let us worship Holy God.

### \*Hymn of Praise NO. 151

We Three Kings of Orient Are

TUNE: KINGS OF ORIENT

## \*Prayer of Confession

God of changed plans,

The Magi and the Holy family heard in a dream that they were to take a new way home: a different path, an untraveled road. And to our amazement, they did just that. The Magi packed their bags and went home by another way. Mary, Joseph, and Jesus packed up the little they had and went to a new land.

We wish that change could be easy for us, but more often than not, when whispers of change come, we tend to clench our fists and hold on tighter.

Forgive us for resisting change that might be holy.

Forgive us for ignoring that there is more than one road home.

Forgive us for failing to hear your invitation.

Guide our steps to unfamiliar places.

Gratefully we pray. Amen.

## \*Affirmation of Faith

Leader: No matter which roads we take in this one wild and precious life, God walks with us. God never leaves our side. When the road changes and we find ourselves on a new path, God is always there.  
So hear and believe this good news:

People: **No matter where we go, no matter what we do, we are claimed, loved, and held by God. Thanks be to God for a love like that.**

## \*Sung Response NO. 134 (stanza 4)

Joy to the World

TUNE: ANTIOCH

***He rules the world with truth and grace,  
and makes the nations prove  
the glories of his righteousness  
and wonders of his love,  
and wonders of his love,  
and wonders, wonders of his love.***

## \*Passing the Peace of Christ

Leader: The Peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

## Prayer for Illumination

Holy God, You speak to us in Scripture and in prayers, in sunrises and sunsets, in friends and in strangers, in dreams and in songs. You are speaking all the time, and how often do we miss it? Still our minds so that we can listen with a depth that we have not heard before. Still our hearts so that we can receive with open arms what it is you are offering us today. We know you are speaking, so we are listening. Gratefully we pray. Amen.

## Scripture Lesson

Matthew 2:1-15

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 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.

Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son."

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

# Meditation and Star Word Stories

"Our Paths"

Rev. Kristie W. Finley

## \*Hymn NO. 154

Jesus Entered Egypt

TUNE: KING'S WESTON

## Offering

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

arr. Charles Callahan, 1994

## Sharing our Joys and Concerns

### — THE LORD'S SUPPER —

#### Gathering Song

Come to the ta - ble of grace. \_\_\_\_\_ Come to the  
ta - ble of grace. \_\_\_\_\_ This is God's ta - ble; it's  
not yours or mine. Come to the ta - ble of grace. \_\_\_\_\_

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## The Invitation to the Table

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## Prayers of Thanksgiving, Petition, and Supplication

### 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.

## Words of Institution

### Sharing the Bread and Cup

*All who trust in Jesus are invited to share in the Lord's Supper.*

*Please come forward, as you are able, to receive (without contact) the Bread and Cup.*

*After receiving the Elements, we will partake of them together.*

*We are also happy to bring the elements to you.*

### \*Closing Prayer *(unison)*

Lord Jesus Christ, you have called us to share in God's story of hope. And so we offer ourselves to its telling. Breathe your life through ours that the story may continue on in us, and through us, until the world is remade. Let the star always be a reminder of your presence then, and now as we go forth on the paths to which you call us. Amen

**\*Hymn of Sending** NO. 147

The First Nowell

TUNE: THE FIRST NOWELL

**\*Benediction**

**\*Postlude**

Medley of Angel Carols

arr. Kerr/Bish

*Liturgy adapted from "A Sanctified Art."*

# WORSHIP NOTES



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As you attend worship, use this sheet to help you pay attention and learn. We want you to worship with us by singing to God and listening to the message.

write or draw something you heard in the sermon

Favorite song today was:

what are we learning about God from this passage?

words you heard but don't know...

Coming up...



### **Epiphany Star Sunday Today**

As we begin a new year, pick up your personal "Star Word" for 2022 at worship. During the months ahead, see how God uses your Star Word to speak into your life situation and share your Star Story next year!



### **Renewal of Baptismal Vows January 9, 10:00 AM, Sanctuary**

On Sunday, January 9, we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord. We remember that, through Jesus, we join in the baptismal covenant too. This Sunday, we renew the baptismal vows made by our parents and the ones we have made ourselves. This is a treasured service in the church where we come forward and are blessed by the pastors, and just as the waters of baptism are a visual sign of the covenant, we receive a glass bead representing those waters.

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**View our Weekly Schedule of ministries, and find details and Zoom links  
on our church website: [www.firstchurchlf.org/ministries](http://www.firstchurchlf.org/ministries)**

**Church Website: [www.firstchurchlf.org](http://www.firstchurchlf.org)  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/firstchurchlf](https://www.facebook.com/firstchurchlf)  
Instagram, Twitter, YouTube: [@firstchurchlf](https://www.instagram.com/firstchurchlf)**

## This Week's Calendar

### TODAY

10:00 AM Worship, Sanctuary

10:00 Children's Faith Building, Chapel

**MON** Church Closed - Holiday Observed

### TUE

1:00 PM Adult Bible Study, Zoom  
Prayer Shawl Ministry, South Parlor

2:00 Stewardship Meeting, Zoom

4:00 Worship & Music Committee Mtg, Zoom

6:00 Lakeminster Ringers, Sanctuary

7:00 Women's Evening Bible Study, Zoom

7:00 Cub Scout Pack 46, Fellowship Hall

### WED

10:00 AM Wed. Women's Bible Study, South Parlor/Zoom

4:15 PM Carol Choir, Music Room

5:00 Cherub Choir, Music Room

5:00 Confirmation Class, Stuart Room

5:30 Children's Faith Building, Youth Lounge

5:30 Chancel Bells, Sanctuary

7:00 Explorations of Faith, Great Room/Zoom

7:00 Taizé, Chapel

### THURS

6:00 AM Daybreakers Men's Ministry, S. Parlor/Zoom

7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, Music Room

7:00 APNC, South Parlor

### FRI

7:00 AM Men of Corinth Bible Study, Great Room /Zoom



## Give

Give online or fulfill your pledge:  
scan the QR code  
or go to [FirstChurchLF.org/give](https://FirstChurchLF.org/give).

The Christ Wreath is given by the Grost and Barabas families to the glory of God and in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Ward McMasters and the Rev. Miss Lynn Holmes, a graduate of Lake Forest College and St. Andrews University, Edinburgh, who was the first American woman to be ordained in the Church of Scotland.

**Pastor on call** Pastor Clint, 630.220.7814  
Pastor Clint's day off is on Monday.  
Pastor Kristie's day off is on Friday.

## Worship Participants

Rev. Clinton G. Roberts

Rev. Kristie W. Finley

Jim Cochrane

Sarah Seccombe

Grant Levin

Dr. Barry Wenger

Rick Day

Alex McDowell

## Serve, Learn & Connect

**For our weekly ministries and Zoom links**  
[firstchurchlf.org/ministries](https://firstchurchlf.org/ministries)

### Share Joys & Concerns

Kristie Finley 224.544.1967

### Home Communion

Kristie Finley 224.544.1967

### Arrange a Baptism

Sarah Seccombe 224.544.1958

### Engagement

Lynnette Hinch [engagement@firstchurchlf.org](mailto:engagement@firstchurchlf.org)

### Mission

Stewart Kerr 224.544.1968

## Elders

Mike Adams  
Paul Bergmann  
Renee Borkowski  
Koen Brown  
Donna Coffin  
Scott Crawford  
Emma Darling  
Paul Darling  
John Gescheidle  
Lynnette Hinch

John Johnson  
Laura Johnson  
Bruce Keith  
Sally McDonald  
Brian O'Keane  
Diane Quinn  
Kendall Severson  
Nina Strnad  
Mary Watanabe *Clerk*  
Anne Winebrenner

## Deacons

Bill Allen  
Nancy Anderson  
Katy Borkowski  
Mallory Ciarrocchi  
Dorothy Chantler  
Susan Daly  
Wendy Darling  
Peg Gronau  
Sharon Haltom  
Nancy Hamming  
Jeff Hinch  
Hildo Hoogcarspel  
Cindy Johnson

Dick Johnson  
Susan McDowell  
John McNicholas  
Lisa Murray  
John Noble  
Tiffany Notz  
Darcy Traynor  
Sherry Trenchard  
Joan Vie  
Gale Strenger Wayne  
*Moderator*  
Brian Zeeman



**First Presbyterian Church**  
OF LAKE FOREST

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