



# First Presbyterian Church

## OF LAKE FOREST

**January 10, 2021**

**Season of Epiphany**

### **A BLESSING for EPIPHANY**

Let the Star of Hope blaze through discouragement, doubt, and disgruntledness.

Let the Star of Kindness radiate through what you think, feel, and do today.

Let the Star of Remembrance glitter your thoughts of good people and good deeds.

Let the Star of Laughter sparkle in your eyes and in your smile.

Let the Star of Joy dance in the corners of your heart that have forgotten to sing.

Let the Star of Patience permeate that which you find difficult and irritable.

Let the Star of Love encompass your heart, a ray of welcome for everyone you meet.

-Joyce Rupp

**PRELUDE**

**Greensleeves**

Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958

**WELCOME**

**CALL to WORSHIP**

-2 Corinthians 4:5-6

Leader: We proclaim Jesus as Lord.

**People: And ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake.**

Leader: For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness,"

**People: Who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.**

**HYMN of PRAISE, No. 108**

**Of the Father's Love Begotten**

TUNE: DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

*Of the Father's love begotten,  
ere the worlds began to be,  
He is Alpha and Omega:  
He the source, the ending he,  
of the things that are, that have been,  
and that future years shall see,  
evermore and evermore! Amen.*

*By his Word was all created;  
He commanded; it was:  
Heaven and earth and depths of ocean,  
universe of three in one,  
all that sees the moon's soft shining,  
all that breathes beneath the sun,  
evermore and evermore! Amen.*

*O ye heights of heaven, adore him.  
Angel hosts, his praises sing.  
Powers, dominions, bow before him,  
and extol our God and King.  
Let no tongue on earth be silent;  
every voice in concert ring,  
evermore and evermore! Amen.*

*Christ, to thee with God the Father,  
and, O holy Ghost, to thee,  
hymn and chat and high thanksgiving  
and unwearied praises be.  
Honor, glory, and dominion,  
and eternal victory,  
evermore and evermore! Amen.*

## **PRAYER of CONFESSION**

**Great God our Father: you have given us Jesus, light of the world, but we choose darkness and cling to sins that hide the brightness of your love. We are frightened disciples who are slow to speak your gospel. Immersed in ourselves, we have not risen to new life. Baptize us with Holy Spirit, so that, forgiven and renewed, we may preach your word to nations, and tell your glory shining in the face of Jesus Christ, our Lord and our Light forever. Amen.**

## **ASSURANCE of FORGIVENESS**

**Leader:** If someone is in Christ, they become a new person altogether—the past is finished and gone, everything has become fresh and new. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

**People:** **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

**Leader:** As God's own people, be merciful in action, kindly in heart, humble in mind. Be always ready to forgive as freely as the Lord has forgiven you. And, above everything else, be loving, and never forget to be thankful for what God has done for you.

**People:** **Let us now obey the Lord. This is his command: to give allegiance to his Son Jesus Christ and to love one another.**

## **SUNG RESPONSE**

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

TUNE: KINGS OF ORIENT

## **PASSING the PEACE of CHRIST**

## A READING FROM SCRIPTURE

John 1:1-18

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, 'This was he of whom I said, "He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me." ') From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**

**"The Light-Bearers"**

-Rev. Clinton G. Roberts

**A STEWARDSHIP UPDATE**

-Robert Karlbloom

**REV. KENT KINNEY**

**OFFERING**

**Walk in the Light**

André Thomas, 2005

**SHARING OUR JOYS and CONCERNS**

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

**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.**

**HYMN OF SENDING, No 673**

**Jesus, Light of Joy**

TUNE: LUADA ANIMA

*Jesus, light of joy, surround us:  
let your splendid glory shine:  
source of every earthly blessing,  
brighter than the morning sun.  
Alleluia, alleluia, we adore you, light divine.*

*Now the shadows fall around us;  
now the evening has begun:  
still your gracious light is with us,  
brighter than the morning sun.  
Alleluia, alleluia, God of glory, Three in One.*

*With the saints we lift our voices,  
God of power, God of might.  
All creation shines with glory,  
singing praises day and night:  
Alleluia, alleluia, holy, holy, holy light.*

## **BENEDICTION**

## **POSTLUDE**

## **Ceremonial March**

Herbert Sumsion, 1899–1995

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\*To give to our COVID-19 Fund: [FirstChurchLF.org/give/covid-fund-donations](https://FirstChurchLF.org/give/covid-fund-donations)

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

### **Worship Participants**

**Rev. Clinton Roberts**

**Rev. Kristie Finley**

**Jim Cochrane, Director of Youth Ministries**

**Sarah Seccombe, Director of Children's Ministries**

**Barry Wenger, Director of Bell Choirs and Organist**

**Tom Tropp, Director of Music and Arts**

**Susan Noble, Director of Children's Music**

**Choral Scholars**

**Will Elliot, AV Support**

**Peter Elliot, AV Support**