

# First Presbyterian Church

Middletown, Ohio

[www.fpcmiddletown.com](http://www.fpcmiddletown.com)

January 2, 2022



**Prelude**

*The Star Carol*

Arr. Larry Shackley

**Call to Worship (responsive)**

from Isaiah 60

Though darkness covers the earth

and gloom the nations,

the LORD will shine upon you;

God's glory will appear over you.

Nations will come to your light

and kings to your dawning radiance.

**Arise! Shine! For our light has come!**

**And the glory of the Lord shines on us!**

Lift up your eyes and look all around:

they are all gathered; they have come to you.

Your sons will come from far away,

and your daughters on caregivers' hips.

Then you will see and be radiant;

your heart will tremble and open wide.

**Arise! Shine! For our light has come!**

**And the glory of the Lord shines on us!**

Countless camels will cover your land,

young camels from Midian and Ephah.

They will all come from Sheba,

carrying gold and incense,

proclaiming the LORD's praises.

**Arise! Shine! For our light has come!**

**And the glory of the Lord shines on us!**

**Hymn #151**

*We Three Kings of Orient Are*

Kings of Orient

## Prayer of Confession (unison)

God of glory, you sent Jesus among us as the light of the world to reveal your love for all people. We confess that our sin and pride hide the brightness of your light. We turn away from the poor; we ignore cries for justice; we do not strive for peace. In your mercy, cleanse us of our sin, and baptize us once again with your Spirit, that, forgiven and renewed, we may show forth your glory shining in the face of Jesus Christ.

## Assurance of Pardon

### Gloria Patri

Hymnal #581

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!

### Circle Time

Star Words

## Prayer for Illumination

### Scripture

Psalms 72:1-7, 10-14  
Matthew 2:1-12

### Sermon

Michael Isaacs

### Solo

*Song of the Star*  
Brian Shepard, tenor

Larry Shackley

### \* Affirmation of Faith (unison)

from *The Nicene Creed*

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

## Welcome and Announcements

### Solo

*Born to Be the Bread*  
Brian Shepard, tenor

Ruth Elaine Schram

## **The Lord' Supper**

### **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

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.**

### **The Lord's Prayer (unison)**

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 #377**     *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light*     Houston

### **Charge and Benediction**

**Postlude**                             *We Three Kings*                             Arr. Joel Raney



# ***Our Life Together...***

**Leading worship today:** Michael Isaacs, Pastor; Brian Shepard, Pianist/Soloist; Davis Dorrough, Pianist/Organist; Sarah Thornbery, Worship Assistant; Dave Jenkins, Sound Technician; Debbie Cover, Barista.

Hearing aids and large print bulletins are available for use during the worship services. Please contact an usher for assistance.

**Sensory toys** are available outside of the nursery for children who may wish to use them during worship.

## **Announcements**

**Tuesday Morning Bible Study** will meet on Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. in the Youth Room. This week we are continuing our study of the Gospel According to Luke. We will be reading Luke 4.

**COVID-19 Reminders:** As a general reminder, our COVID provisions include:

- Masks are encouraged for the inclusion of the immunocompromised and children in worship.
- Social distancing is enforced in the sanctuary by the use of alternating pews.
- The length of the worship services will be forty-five minutes and not include the passing of any materials.

**Sanctuary Choir** will rehearse Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.

**Renaissance Ringers and Sanctuary Youth** rehearsals will be announced at a later date.

### **Children's Ministry**

**Nursery Care** is available for infants and children up to 5 years old every Sunday, located next to Room 110. **Sunday School** (children ages 6-12) is offered most Sundays in the Godly Play Room following the Gloria Patri, at which time leaders will escort children to Sunday School. (See PresbyNews for Sunday School schedule.) There is no Sunday School today because of Communion.

### **Prayer list**

Please submit any prayer requests for today's service to Michael before the worship service begins. The submitted requests will be included here next week.

**Use this QR code for the online giving portal.**

