

## Responding to the Word

\*Hymn 300                      *They'll Know We Are Christians*  
"They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love"

Call to Stewardship  
*All undesignated cash goes to the Compassion Fund.*

Offertory    arr. Franklin Ritter  
"What Star Is This?"

\*Congregational Response   Hymn 606    *Old Hundredth*  
Doxology  
**Praise God from Whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

\*Offertory Prayer (Unison)  
**God of light and promise, we bring our gifts to  
further your work in a dark world. May they bring  
your light to those overwhelmed by darkness, pain,  
and loneliness. Accept these gifts of money and time,  
indeed, the gift of our very selves. Let them shine for  
all to see, and be brought into the sphere of your love  
and righteousness. Amen.**

## THE LORD'S SUPPER

*Invitation to the Lord's Table*  
*Congregational Joys and Concerns*  
*Great Prayer Of Thanksgiving*  
*Sharing of Bread and Cup*  
*(Gluten-free bread is in small cups on each tray.)*

Prayer after communion (Unison)  
**Lord God, the bright splendor whom the  
nations seek: may we who with the wise men have been  
drawn by your light share with all the glory of your  
presence in your Son, the Word made flesh, Jesus  
Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Communion Voluntary    Marcel Dupré  
"In Dulci Jubilo"

Prayer for the People and Lord's Prayer                      Choral Amen  
**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.**

## Bearing and Following the Word into the World

\*Hymn 150    *Dix*  
"As with Gladness Men of Old"

\*Invitation to Discipleship

\*Charge and Benediction

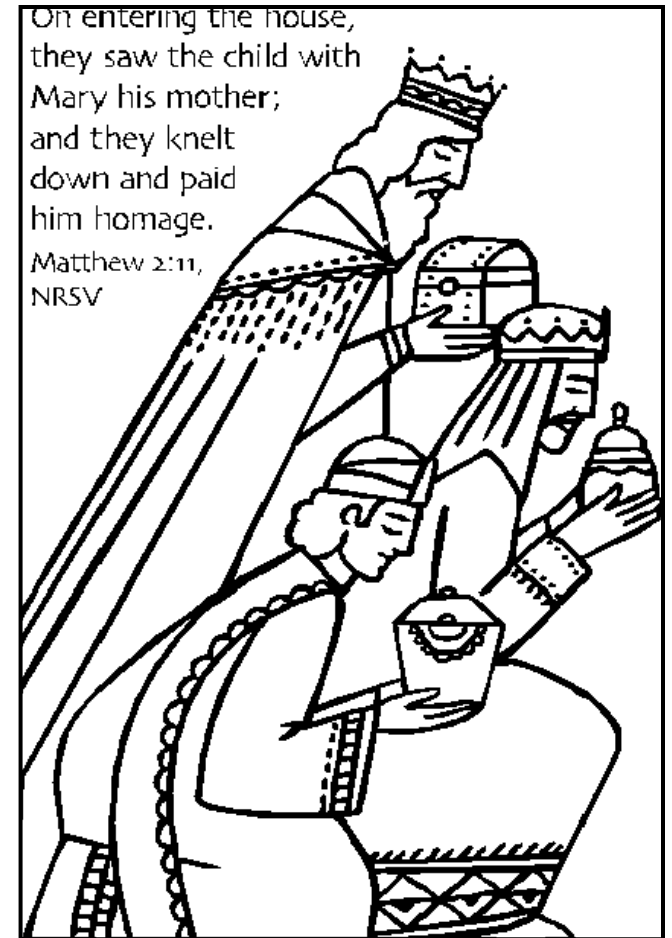
\*Closing Choral Response    *Puer Nobis Nascitur*  
"What Star Is This"  
Sanctuary Choir

What star is this, with beams so bright.  
more lovely than the noonday light?  
'Tis sent to announce a newborn king,  
glad tidings of our God to bring.

\*Closing Voluntary    J.S. Bach  
"In Dulci Jubilo"

*Free permission is granted by the publisher to reproduce the psalm refrains  
in church bulletins for congregational participation.*

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*Today's liturgy is adapted from*  
[lifeinliturgy.wordpress.com/2018/12/31/epiphany-3/](http://lifeinliturgy.wordpress.com/2018/12/31/epiphany-3/)



 **Grace First**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
*Together – Worshipping, Witnessing, Working*

606 Mockingbird Lane, Weatherford, Texas 76086  
817-594-2744      Metro 817-341-2258  
[www.gracefirstpc.org](http://www.gracefirstpc.org)

The Reverend Dr. Edith A. Gause, Interim Pastor  
The Reverend David A. Slyter, Associate Pastor  
Marialice Parish, M.M., Organist and Director of Music



## THE ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP

January 6, 2019

10:40 A.M.

Baptism of the Lord/Holy Communion

*\*The congregation is invited to stand as music begins.  
Additional worshipers may enter as the congregation sings.*

Welcome and Announcements

Welcome to worship at Grace First Presbyterian Church! As we light the Christ Candle, we are reminded that Jesus is the light of the world. As we pour the Baptismal Waters in the Font, we recall our baptism and newness of life. As we bring in the Bible, we remember the centrality of the Word. We worship our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer. *(Please sign the attendance register, pass it down the pew, and then back so everyone can greet those worshipping near you.)*

### Gathering Around the Word

Opening Voluntary arr. Gilbert M. Martin  
“In the Bleak Midwinter”

Chimes The Entrance of the Bible

Call to Worship (Responsive)

Arise; shine, for your light has come!

**We are called out of our darkness into light.**

Lift up your eyes and look around.

**We rejoice in the gift of light.**

Come let us worship the God of light and joy and peace.

**We come to kneel before the Christ Child, the light incarnate.**

Listen for the coming of the Wisemen  
as found in Matthew 2:1-12

A Reading of the story of the Arrival of the Magi  
**May the reading of this story instruct our worship today.**

\*Hymn 151

*Kings Of Orient*

“We Three Kings of Orient Are”

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

**Great God, who welcomed the Magi to the stable and spoke to them about their returning home, listen to us as we confession our sins. Help us start a new year in your ways as we release the year just past to your safe keeping. Forgive us for the things we have done, the things we have forgotten to do, and the things we will leave undone. Teach us to be a light to all as we live as forgiven persons. May we respond to your whispers in our dreams and in our ears with the bravery of the Magi. In the name of Christ we pray. Amen.**

Silent Confession...

Assurance of Forgiveness

\*Congregational Response Hymn 649 v.1 *Amazing Grace*

**Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,  
that saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found,  
Was blind, but now I see.**

### Proclaiming the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Music Ministry

Paul Sjolund

“Brightest and Best”

Sanctuary Choir

*Brightest and best of the sons of the morning,  
Dawn on our darkness and lend us thine aid;  
Star of the east, the horizon adorning,  
Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.*

Cold on His cradle the dew-drops are shining,  
Low lies His head with the beasts of the stall;  
Angels adore Him in slumber reclining,  
Maker, and Monarch, and Savior of all.

Shall we now give Him, in costly devotion,  
Gifts of incense and offerings divine;  
Gems of the mountain and pearls of the ocean,  
Myrrh from the forest, or gold from the mine?

Vainly we offer the rarest oblation,  
Vainly with gifts would His favor secure;  
Richer by far is the heart's adoration,  
Dearer to God are the prayer of the poor.

Children's Time

Pastor David

Children's Worship

*Kids up through 5<sup>th</sup> grade may go to Children's Worship.  
All others stay in the sanctuary.*

Psalms 72:1-7, 10-14

Pew Bible Page 533

Cantor: John Fields

REFRAIN

Conrad Kocher  
Arr. Hal H. Hopson

So, most gra - cious Lord, may we  
Ev - er - more be led to Thee.

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New Testament Reading  
Ephesians 3:1-12

Pew Bible  
Page 193

A reading from the letter to the Church at Ephesus  
**Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

The Rev. Dr. Edith Gause

### CHALLENGES IN EPHESUS