

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

The Lord's Day

January 6, 2019

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Lord God of the nations, we have seen the star of your glory rising in splendor. The radiance of your incarnate Word pierces the night that covers the earth and signals the dawn of justice and peace. May the brightness illumine our lives and beacon all nations to walk as one in your light. We ask this through Jesus Christ your Word made flesh. Amen.

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Lighting the Christ Candles

Call to Worship:

Leader: Arise, shine; for your light has come;

People: **And the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.**

Leader: Nations shall come to your light,

People: **And rulers to the brightness of your rising.** Isaiah 60:1,3

Leader: The grace of God has dawned upon the world with healing for all humankind. Titus 2:11

People: **Let us worship God!**

*Hymn: **As with Gladness Men of Old** #150

*Prayer of Adoration

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession:

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.

Time for Personal Confession

Response: **O Lord, Have Mercy** #578

**O Lord, have mercy; O Lord, have mercy;
O Lord, have mercy, have mercy on us.
O Christ, have mercy; O Christ, have mercy;
O Christ, have mercy, have mercy on us.**

Assurance of Pardon:

Leader: As the Gospel reminds us, "The very stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing and it is amazing in our eyes." Psalm 118:22-23; Mark 12:10

People: **Christ is our foundation; God's will in him cannot be shaken. Our redemption is sure; we are forgiven! Thanks be to God. Amen.**

*Gloria Patri: **Glory Be to the Father** #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.**

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings:

Offertory

*Doxology: **Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; #606
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*Prayer of Dedication

Prayer for Illumination:

Lord God, open our hearts to understand the meaning of your word and to receive it with joy that it will produce fruit in our lives and in our ministry. Keep us by your power that the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth will not choke it, nor will troubles make us fall away, for we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Psalter: **Psalm 19** para. Michael Morgan
Tune: Carol #123; **It Came Upon the Midnight Clear**

**The heav'ns unfold Your glory, Lord, in ev'ry realm of space,
The outmost bounds of all that is resound Your wondrous grace.
Succeeding days to day confess, and nights to night record
In words, beyond our sense to hear, the greatness of the Lord.**

**The earth's imagined cornerstones acclaim with joy their source,
Who sets the gleaming stars ablaze, and gives the sun its course.
In ev'ry place within the sphere your craft is ever found;
Majestic mountains, seas, and skies with ordered might resound.**

**You know the secrets of our hearts, but deign to love us here;
Preserved from pride and self-conceit, we meet you without fear.
May all the words our tongues shall speak, and all our thoughts in store
Find grace with you, Redeemer, Rock, now and for evermore.**

Scripture Reading: **Mark 9:33-37**

Anthem: **See the Glowing Star** arr. Helen Kemp

Time for Young Disciples

Preschool children may return to their pew or gather at the piano door where today's shepherd will lead them in a time of special activities.

*Hymn: **We Three Kings of Orient Are** #151

Scripture Reading: **Matthew 2:1-11**

Sermon: **The Magi's Gift**

*Affirmation of Faith: Nicene Creed hymnbook page 34

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation

Response: **The First Song of Isaiah** Isaiah 12:2-6

**Surely it is God who saves me; I will trust in him and not be afraid.
For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense,
And he will be my Savior.**

Great Thanksgiving:

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.**

Response: **Holy, Holy, Holy** #595

Response: **Christ Has Died; Christ Is Risen** #553

The Lord's Prayer

Receiving the Elements

Closing Prayer:

Leader: Jesus, Lamb of God,

People: **have mercy upon us.**

Leader: Jesus, bearer of our sins,

People: **have mercy upon us.**

Leader: Jesus, redeemer of the world,

People: **grant us peace.**

All: **Help us rise in your resurrection power from this table where you, the Ruler of the Universe, have served us by your own hand, that we may extend your arms of peace to a world torn by war. This we ask through Christ, in Christ, with Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit. May all honor and glory and dominion be yours, now and forevermore. Amen.**

*Response: **Christ, We Do All Adore Thee**

**Christ, we do all adore Thee, and we do praise Thee forever;
Christ, we do all adore Thee, and we do praise Thee forever;
For on the holy cross hast Thou the world from sin redeemed.
Christ, we do all adore Thee, and we do praise Thee forever.**

Interlude

Christ, we do all adore Thee.

*Benediction

Postlude

*Please stand if you are able

Westminster Presbyterian Church

Nacogdoches, Texas



January 6, 2019
Epiphany of the Lord

¹After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem ²and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him."

³When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. ⁴When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵"In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied, "for this is what the prophet has written:

⁶"But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel."

⁷Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. ⁸He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him."

⁹After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. ¹¹On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.
~ Matthew 2:1-11

**Westminster Presbyterian Church
(PCUSA)**

Westminster Presbyterian Church exists to declare God's love for all through Jesus Christ, to nurture and encourage spiritual growth, to maintain the integrity of divine worship, and to share the love and joy found in Christ by giving ourselves to our community and to the world.

THE SESSION

Class of 2018	Class of 2019	Class of 2020
Bobbie Ann Anderson	Bruce McNellie	Ken Deppisch
Sue Atkins	Robin Moore	Bennie Kitchens
Deborah Dalton	Ray Taylor	Terry Kline
Kristi Hachtel	Patricia Thompson	Terri Moehring
Michele Peck	Betsy Tucker	Barbara Stump

THE INVITATION TO MEMBERSHIP at Westminster Church is always open to persons who wish to join us in witness and service to Jesus Christ. If you are interested in church membership or desire more information about this congregation, please indicate on the Friendship Pad or speak to the pastor or one of the elders following the service.

MINISTERS: All the Members of the Congregation

CHURCH STAFF:	Pastor	Steve Newton
	Director of Music	Deborah Dalton
	Organist	James Pitts
	Nursery Coordinator	Myra McNellie
	Presbyterian Women Moderator	Sue Atkins
	Treasurer	Sue Atkins
	Secretary	Sally Newton
	Children's Choir Director	Elise Gavin
	Handbell Choir Director	Myra McNellie
	Newsletter Editor	Sally Newton
	Youth Leader	Johnny Brown

Church Office Hours: 9:00 am - Noon, Monday – Friday
Church Office Phone: 936-564-0203 Fax: 936-564-0204
Website: www.westpreschurch.com
E-mail: wpc4u@suddenlinkmail.com
903 North Street; Nacogdoches, Texas 75961

ASSISTING IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Ushers: David Sanderson Charlotte Bock
Charlotte Sanderson Rick Bock

Shepherd: Terri Moehring

Liturgist: Norm Markworth

Reader: Debbie Dalton

Preparing Communion: Sue Johnson and Terri Moehring

Serving Communion: Sue Atkins Stephanie Petti
Gary Atkins Betsy Tucker

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, January 6

12:00 noon Communion Reception
5:00 pm Youth

Monday, January 7

9:00 am Prayer Group
5:15 pm Soul Sisters

Tuesday, January 8

5:30 pm Christian Education Committee Meeting
5:30 pm Handbell practice
7:00 pm Theology on Tap

Thursday, January 10

8:00 am Men's Breakfast

Sunday, January 13

9:30 am Sunday School
10:30 am Children's Choir
11:00 am Worship Service
5:00 pm Youth
6:00 pm Session Meeting

Handbell practice will resume Tuesday, January 8 at 5:30 in the sanctuary. Please join us and learn to play handbells! We will have chili afterward.

Theology on Tap will meet Tuesday, January 8 from 7:00 to 9:00 pm at the home of Robert Shirley and Sharon Templeman, 4115 Oak Creek Drive. Please RSVP to 936-585-2847 if you would like to attend. Please bring a salad, side dish, or dessert and your favorite beverage. Appetizers and main course will be provided. We will watch and discuss the brief but powerful movie, *I Am*.