



First Presbyterian Church



Sunday Worship
Second Sunday of Christmas (Year B)
03 January 2021
9:30 a.m.

Everyone Is Welcome!



You are invited to join us on our journey of faith! We seek to serve God, to minister to our community, and to love one another. Help us in our quest to become an ever more inclusive church that welcomes all people from all backgrounds, abilities, and identities. Come along and experience the love of God, the grace of Christ, and the communion of the Holy Spirit.

Christian worship joyfully ascribes all praise and honor, glory and power to the triune God.

In worship the people of God acknowledge God present in the world and in their lives. As they respond to God's claim and redemptive action in Jesus Christ, believers are transformed and renewed. In worship the faithful offer themselves to God and are equipped for God's service in the world. (*Book of Order, Directory for Worship W 1.1001*)

First Presbyterian Church of Carbondale Order of Worship for Sunday 1/3/21:

Prayer in Preparation

God of every nation, by the light of a wondrous star
you led wandering magi to the humble infant Jesus,
revealing to them your salvation for the world.
In the miraculous and the mundane,
in union with all who have glimpsed the light of your grace,
lead us to Christ, that we may offer our worship
and serve him with sincerity of heart; for he lives with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, forever. Amen.



Ministry of the Church

One: We thank God for these opportunities for fellowship and service.

All: Thanks be to God!

Joys and Concerns

One: We give thanks to God for these blessings.

All: Thanks be to God!

One: For all these people and all who are in need

All: Please hold your people near, O God!

Prelude: Brightest and Best (arr. Mark Hayes)

Saem Lee, pianist

Gathering for Worship

Leader: Arise, shine; for your light has come.
Behold the glory of the Lord. Alleluia!

All: Let us worship God!

Hymn: #151 We Three Kings of Orient Are

vv. 1-2

**We three kings of orient are
Bearing gifts, we traverse afar
Field and fountain, moor and mountain
Following yonder star**

**O star of wonder, star of light
Star of royal beauty bright
Westward leading, still proceeding
Guide us to thy perfect light.**

**Born a king on Bethlehem's plain,
Gold I bring to crown him again
King forever, ceasing never
Over us all to reign.**

**O star of wonder, star of light
Star of royal beauty bright
Westward leading, still proceeding
Guide us to thy perfect light.**

Call to Confession

Leader: Isaiah proclaimed: Darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and God's glory will appear over you. Let us acknowledge the darkness in our lives, repent of our sin and receive the light of God's mercy.

Prayer of Confession

Leader: Let us pray...

**All: Merciful God, Light of the world,
we confess that we have not resisted the darkness of sin.**

**You deliver the poor and the helpless,
but we have ignored their cry.
You take pity on the weak and the destitute,
but our hearts are hard in the face of their need.
You heal the wounded and save the oppressed
but we have placed our trust in the callous violence of war.
Forgive us, we pray. Awaken in us sincere repentance
that we may shine with the light of your saving grace;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Assurance of Forgiveness

Leader: Beloved of God, thrill and rejoice in God's goodness.
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

All: Thanks be to God.

Giving of the Peace

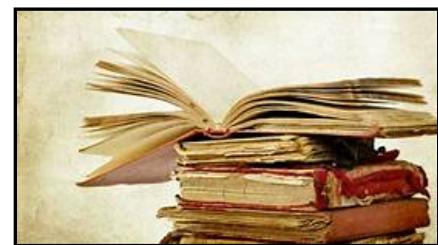
Leader: The peace of Christ be with you all!

All: And also with you!

Response: #282 Glory to God Whose Goodness Shines on Me

**Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
And to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
And to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen. (2x)**

Children's Sermon: Don't Judge a Book by Its Cover



Prayer for Illumination

Leader: O God, nations shall come to your light
and rulers to the brightness of your dawn.
By the compelling radiance of your Spirit,
draw us near, reveal your truth,
and teach us faithful obedience to your holy Word. **Amen.**

Ministry of Music

Carlyn Zimmermann et al.

New Testament Lesson:

Matthew 2:1-12

Minister: In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ² 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.” ³When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: ⁶And 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.” ⁷Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then 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.”

⁹When 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. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On 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. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Minister: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Proclamation of the Word: Following Yonder Star

Affirmation of Faith: The Confession of 1967

Section 9.01

Leader: Let us confess our faith together...

All: The church confesses its faith when it bears a present witness to God's grace in Jesus Christ. Amen.

Hymn: #151 We Three Kings of Orient Are

vv. 3-5

**Frankincense to offer have I
Incense owns a deity nigh
Prayer and praising gladly raising
Worshiping God most high.**

**O star of wonder, star of light
Star of royal beauty bright
Westward leading, still proceeding
Guide us to thy perfect light.**

**Myrrh is mine, its bitter perfume
Breathes a life of gathering gloom
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying
Sealed in the stone-cold tomb.**

**O star of wonder, star of light
Star of royal beauty bright
Westward leading, still proceeding
Guide us to thy perfect light.**

**Glorious now behold him arise
King and God and Sacrifice
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Sounds through the earth and skies.**

**O star of wonder, star of light
Star of royal beauty bright
Westward leading, still proceeding
Guide us to thy perfect light.**

Covenant Box: Covenant Time Begins!

Invitation to the Offering:

Leader: The magi brought gifts to Christ at his nativity and offered their lives in worship.
With thankful hearts, let us offer ourselves and our gifts to God.

Please, as you are financially able, continue to contribute to the life and ministry of the church through your gifts. Give online at <http://www.firstpresdale.org>, through direct deposit or by sending checks in the mail.



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

Prayer of Dedication

Leader: Loving God,
we give you thanks for the light of the world, Jesus Christ,

through whom we have become fellow heirs,
members of the same body, and sharers in your promise.
Receive the gifts we offer in union with Jesus our brother,
and help us to live to the honor and glory of your name. **Amen.**

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Minister: God inspires us to pray, hears our prayers, and answers our prayers.

All: Alleluia! Amen!

Minister: Let us pray...

Silent Prayer

Minister: Let us pray together the Lord's Prayer...

All: Our Father in heaven,

Hallowed be your name,

Your kingdom come, your will be done,

on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours

Now and forever. Amen.

Hymn: #157 I Danced in the Morning

vv. 1-5

**I danced in the morning when the world was begun
And I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun
And I came down from heaven and I danced on earth
At Bethlehem I had my birth**

**Chorus: Dance then, wherever you may be
I am the Lord of the Dance said he
And I'll lead you all wherever you may be
And I'll lead you all in the dance said he.**

**I danced for the scribe and the Pharisee
But they would not dance and they would not follow me
I danced for the fishermen for James and John
They came with me and the dance went on.**

Chorus

**I danced on the Sabbath and I cured the lame
The holy people said it was a shame
They whipped and they stripped and they hung me high
And left me there on a cross to die**

Chorus

**I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black.
It's hard to dance with the devil on your back.
They buried my body and they thought I'd gone
But I am the dance and I still go on**

Chorus

**They cut me down and leapt up high
I am the life will never, never die.
I'll live in you if you'll live in me
I am the Lord of the Dance said he.**

Charge and Blessing

Minister: Go forth into the world.
Proclaim the good news of Christ.
Receive the inheritance of God's promise.
Live in the light of the gospel.

God, ruler of heaven and earth, dismiss you in peace;
Jesus Christ, light of the world, uphold you in love;
the Holy Spirit, revealer of God's mystery, lead you in truth.

Postlude: Behold That Star (arr. Mark Hayes)

A Moment of Reflection:

Everyday epiphanies encourage us to cherish everything. Today a new sun has risen. Everything lives. Everything can speak to your soul passionately if you will be still enough to listen. "You have to count on living every single day in a way YOU believe will make YOU feel good about YOUR life," actress Jane Seymour suggests, "so that if it were over tomorrow, you'd be content."

Sarah Ban Breathnach

Household Prayer: Morning

Loving God, do not let my good intentions become a means to evil.
Do not let my trust become cooperation with sin.
Do not let my naivete become an opportunity for wickedness.
Make me prudent in acts of mercy, firm in resistance to evil,
and wise in my discernment of wrong,
for the sake of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Loving God, in the journey of life
guide me by the star that leads to Jesus,
that I may return to you transformed by his love. Amen.

Worship Assistant: Pat Manfredi

Next Week: Kathy Manfredi

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6, 2021

Wednesday Afternoon Bible Study at 3:30pm

SUNDAY, JANUARY 10, 2021

Worship via Zoom at 9:30am. Sign in early for fellowship.

Pastor Kerry's Office Hours

Monday 9:00am - 12:00 noon

Wednesday 9:00 – 12:00 noon

If you would like a call or a visit—or if you know someone who needs a visit—please let Kerry or one of the Deacons know.

Announcements

Faith Dialogues begins a new series of classes based on CS Lewis' *The Great Divorce*. The first class of the series begins after worship on January 10. Copies in print are available. You can also purchase a copy on Kindle.

Joys and Concerns

Pray for God's grace, mercy & help:

- Covid19 Pandemic patients, including national and local leaders
- Social unrest and political polarization
- Those in the destructive path of natural disasters
- Those who are homeless, hungry, and in harm's way

Ongoing Concerns:

Each week we pray for one of the faith communities that participate in the Carbondale Interfaith Council. This week the council asks us to please pray for: **University Baptist Church**

The Mission/Ministry we are praying for this month is: **Faith Development**

Remember to pray for:

- Our National Leaders
- Students, faculty, and staff at school
- Our nation in midst of violence
- Our world, in the midst of terrorism
- Refugees in Europe
- Resolution to the migrant dilemma
- Homeless, unemployed and those without adequate health care
- Missionaries in Africa and everywhere
- Service men and women

LEADERSHIP

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| Covenant Pastor Kerry Bean (618)-549-2148 ext 101 pastorkerry@firstprescdale.org | Music Director Carlyn Zimmermann (618) 549-2148 ext 106 carlyn@firstprescdale.org | Administrative Assistant Barbara Stewart (618) 549-2148 ext 100 office@firstprescdale.org |
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SESSION

asksession@firstprescdale.org

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|--|---|--|
| Faith Development faith@firstprescdale.org Jane Swanson (2021) Reona Daly (2022) | Fellowship fellowship@firstprescdale.org Jonathan Brooks (2020) David Peters (2022) | Membership membership@firstprescdale.org Sarah Merideth (2023) Lisa Hollabaugh (2022) |
| Mission mission@firstprescdale.org Rick Jefferson (2022) Lily Vucinic (2022) | Nominating nominating@firstprescdale.org | Personnel personnel@firstprescdale.org Rob Jensen (2020) Jay Brooks (2022) |
| Small Groups smallgroups@firstprescdale.org Bill Schwegman (2021) Neal Foland (2022) | Stewardship stewardship@firstprescdale.org Jim Calloway (2023) Rolanda Quick (2021) | Worship worship@firstprescdale.org Sharon Wittke (2023) Wendi Zea (2021) |
| Clerk clerk@firstprescdale.org David King | | Webmaster webmaster@firstprescdale.org Jane Swanson |

BOARD OF DEACONS

askdeacons@firstprescdale.org

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|--|---|---|
| Class of 2021 Phyllis Beck Carolyn Hooker Brenda Myers Mark O' Donoghue | Class of 2022 Jill Hertzing Dori Jefferson | Class of 2023 Diane Cash Marta Davis Pam Holt |
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You are encouraged to speak with individual elders or deacons, or email Session, Session ministries or the Board of Deacons with announcements, suggestions, questions, or concerns. If, after a reasonable length of time, you do not receive a reply, please re-send your email to asksession@firstprescdale.org.