

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**Epiphany Sunday/Holy Communion**  
**January 7, 2024**

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WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE "As with Gladness Men of Old" C. Cowell

PRAYER (TO BE PRAYED SILENTLY UPON ENTERING THE SANCTUARY)  
From Ephesians 4:2- 4: Father, please help us to walk in a manner worthy of You and Your call to us. Give us a spirit of humility, gentleness and patience that we may show tolerance for one another in love. Help us to be diligent to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. Amen.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASSING OF FRIENDSHIP PADS

INTROIT "Surely the Presence" Juanita Ratliff

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Good Christian friends, rejoice! Today the Lord comes in love and power, in grace and truth, offering hope and peace.

**People: Christ is born today. Alleluia!**

Leader: The promised one, mighty, thou small, is our hope, our strength, and our life.

**People: Christ is born to save! Alleluia!**

Leader: In hope, let us worship God.

**People: Christ is born to save ! Alleluia! Amen.**

\*HYMN "We Three Kings" No. 166  
(Red Hymnal)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Minister: Lord Jesus, you came to reveal God's light to the whole world: Lord, have mercy.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Minister: Lord Jesus, you come in Word and Sacrament to strengthen us in holiness: Christ, have mercy.

**People: Christ, have mercy.**

Minister: Lord Jesus, you will come in glory with salvation for your people: Lord, have mercy.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Minister: May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

**All: Amen.**

\*GLORIA PATRI No. 623(Red Hymnal)  
**"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."**

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD PROCLAIMED

SCRIPTURE LESSON Micah 5: 2-4

\*HYMN "O Little Town of Bethlehem" No. 141  
(Red Hymnal)

SCRIPTURE LESSON Luke 2:22-40

Minister: The Word of the Lord.  
**People: Thanks be to God.**

SERMON So Much From So Little Dr. Don McGarity

\*THE APOSTLES' CREED (see insert)

OFFERING

OFFERTORY "Panis Angelicus" C. Franck  
Juanita Ratliff

\*DOXOLOGY No. 624 (Red Hymnal)

OFFERTORY PRAYER (Unison)

**Everything in heaven and earth comes from you, Lord Jesus. We give you only what is yours. May you be praised forever and ever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Minister: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them up to the Lord.**

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

COMMUNION PRAYER

Minister: Father, it is our duty and our salvation..... And so we join the angels and the saints in proclaiming your glory as we say:

**All: Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he**



**\*Those who are able, please stand.**

We warmly greet all who have come to worship God. Your presence will enhance our worship experience and our fellowship together. Sincere thanks to each of you for your participation in the service. Glory be to God!

Presbyterians celebrate an “Open Communion.” All professing Christians who have been baptized “In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit” are encouraged to partake of this Holy Sacrament.

**Leading Worship:** Dr. Don McGarity, Minister; Chuck Eckel, Liturgist; Dr. Mark Coffey, Guest Organist

THE APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen**

## Notes & Announcements

- **Called Session Meeting** today, January 7<sup>th</sup> at 12:15 pm
- **Administration Committee** meeting Tuesday, January 9<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 pm
- **Finance Committee** meeting moved to Thursday, January 11<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 pm
- **Ordination and Installation** of Elders Sunday, January 14<sup>th</sup>
- **Ushers** for January 14<sup>th</sup>: David Culpepper, Jeanne Hilgendorf, Warren Hilgendorf, Marilyn Culpepper
- **Liturgist** for January 14<sup>th</sup>: Sandi Hilgendorf
- Contact the church office at 850-584-3826 for more information or visit our website [www.firstpresperry.org](http://www.firstpresperry.org)

### ***Prayers Of and For The People First Presbyterian Church***

*Glenn & JoAnne Knowles  
Bob & Marne Helberg, grief  
Sandra Ward, Marsha's Mom  
Earthquake victims  
Travelers  
John Zimmerlee's brother, neighbor  
Lori Small's brother, James  
Carusoes  
Bobby Harper, nuclear stress test, Monday  
Jeanne H, knee  
Amalia, healing  
Ervin Young  
All who live alone  
Cindy B, eyes  
Brenda Wilson her healing and her house repairs  
McNeills  
Whiddons  
All for whom holidays are sad  
Poppells  
Pastor Search Team  
Israel  
Unspoken spiritual prayers of heartache.  
Amen*

Pastor Nominating Committee members: Emaley Gentry, Jamie Poppell, Juanita Ratliff, Randy Speas, and Shona Whiddon

### **Session Committee leaders**

Administration-Joey Ratliff, Martha Davis, Chuck Eckel  
Christian Education-Martha Davis  
Clerk-Cindy Brown  
Congregation Care-Nancy Bell  
Fellowship-Sandi Hilgendorf  
Finance-Chuck Eckel  
Mission/Outreach-Marne Helberg, Rachel Poppell  
Worship/Music-Marilyn Culpepper