

## **Order of Worship for 1/3/21**

### **Welcome and announcements**

### **Prelude**

### **Call to Worship and Opening Prayer**

**Opening Hymn**      Joy to the World #40 Presbyterian Hymnal  
*Isaac Watts; George Frederic Handel*

Joy to the world! the Lord is come:  
Let earth receive her King;  
Let every heart prepare Him room,  
And heaven and nature sing,  
And heaven and nature sing,  
And heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the world! the Savior reigns;  
Let us our songs employ;  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sings and sorrows grow,  
Nor thorns infest the ground;  
He comes to make His blessings flow  
Far as the curse is found,  
Far as the curse is found,  
Far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace,  
And makes the nations prove  
The glories of His righteousness,  
And wonders of His love,  
And wonders of His love,  
And wonders of His love.

### **Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Forgiveness**

**Prayer Response**      He Came Down #2085 Sing the Faith  
*Traditional Cameroon; arr. John Bell*

He came down that we may have love;  
He came down that we may have love;  
He came down that we may have love;  
Hallelujah forevermore.

Verse 2: He came down that we may have peace...

Verse 3: He came down that we may have joy...

**First Scripture Reading**    Isaiah 60:1-6

**Anthem**

**Second Scripture Reading**    Matthew 2:1-12

**Reflections on a creche scenes and Epiphany**

**Sermon**

**Hymn #63**                    As with Gladness Men of Old #66 Presbyterian Hymnal  
*William Chatterton; Conrad Kocher*

As with gladness men of old did the guiding star behold;  
As with joy they hailed its light, leading onward, beaming bright;  
So, most gracious Lord, may we evermore be led to Thee.

As with joyful steps they sped to that lowly manger bed,  
There to bend the knee before Him whom heaven and earth adore;  
So may we with willing feet every seek Thy mercy seat.

As they offered gifts most rare at the manger rude and bare;  
So may we with holy joy, pure, and free from sin's alloy,  
All our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to Thee, our heavenly King.

Holy Jesus, every day keep us in the narrow way;  
And, when earthly things are past, bring our ransomed souls at last  
Where they need no star to guide, where no clouds Thy glory hide.

**Affirmation of Faith**    *From the Iona Community, Scotland*

**We believe in a bright and amazing God,  
who has been to the depths of despair on our behalf;  
who has risen in splendor and majesty;  
who decorates the universe with sparkling water,  
clear white light,  
twinkling stars and sharp colors, over and over again.**

**We believe that Jesus is the light of the world;  
that God believes in us, and trusts us,  
even though we make the same mistakes over and over again.  
We commit ourselves to Jesus,  
to one another as brothers and sisters,  
and to the Maker's business in the world.  
God said: Let there be light. Amen**

**Sacrament of Communion**

**The Invitation**

L:     The Lord be with you

P:     **And also with you**

L: Lift up your hearts  
P: **We lift them to the Lord.**  
L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
P: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**The Great Thanksgiving Prayer** *By Rev. R. Hamilton, of the Church of Scotland*

**Words of Institution**

**Communion music**

**Prayer following communion**

**Closing Hymn**                      We Three Kings #66 Presbyterian Hymnal, verses 1, 2, 5  
*John Henry Hopkins, Jr.*

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

*Refrain:*

O star of wonder, star of night,  
Star with 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.

*Refrain*

Glorious now behold Him arise,  
King and God and Sacrifice;  
Alleluia, Alleluia,  
Sounds through the earth and skies.

*Refrain*

**Benediction**

**Postlude**

**Charge**