



CALVIN
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

Order of Worship for 1/2/25

Online at www.calvinchurch.net | | via phone at (952) 208-6020 | | parking lot radio on 87.9FM

*** Please rise in body/spirit | Congregational responses are in bold**

RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Arise, shine; for your light has come.

All: The glory of the Lord has risen upon us.

One: Come, worship the Lord of glory.

All: Proclaim God's praise among the nations.

OPENING PRAYER

God, you placed a star in the sky to draw wise folk to the place of Christ's nativity. There you revealed the mystery of your eternal purpose for all humanity: God made flesh, born of Mary, opening to all the world the promise you made to Abraham and Sarah. Empower your church to be as the light of the star, that we may draw the world to the glory of Christ, our Lord, through whom we pray. Amen.

*OPENING HYMN #68

What Star is This, with Beams So Bright

1 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.

2 'Tis now fulfilled what God decreed,
"From Jacob shall a star proceed";
And lo! the Eastern sages stand
To read in heaven the Lord's command.

3 O Jesus, while the star of grace
Impels us on to seek Your face,
Let not our slothful hearts refuse
The guidance of Your light to use.

4 To God the Father, God the Son,
And Holy Spirit, Three in One,
May every tongue and nation raise
An endless song of thankful praise.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION (all)**

Merciful God, you have given light to the world in Jesus Christ, but we have preferred to live in darkness. Your justice protects the weak and the distressed, yet we seek the shelter of privilege and power. Your righteousness redeems the poor and the needy, yet we seek the status of wealth and possessions. Your peace upholds the oppressed and the defenseless, yet we seek the security of weapons and retribution. Forgive us our sins, and lead us to true repentance, that we may trust you in all things; through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

One: In the name of Jesus Christ,
All: We are forgiven.

***HYMN #567**

Gloria, Gloria

Glory to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit:
As it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever.
Amen. Amen. Amen.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14

Old Testament page 533

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 2:1-12

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

New Testament page 2

SERMON

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*HYMN #66

We Three Kings of Orient Are

1 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!

2 Born a King on Bethlehem's plain
Gold I bring to crown Him again,
King forever, ceasing never,
Over us all to reign. (Refrain)

3 Frankincense to offer have I:
Incense owns a Deity nigh;
Prayer and praising, we are raising,
Worshipping God Most High. (Refrain)

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

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

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY #592

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise...

And so we sing with all the saints on earth
and all the angels in heaven:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest...

Great is the mystery of faith: **Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again...**

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor
are yours, Almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Hymnal p. 16

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

COMMUNION

(Gluten-free elements provided on stand in front.)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

SENT IN GOD'S NAME

***CLOSING HYMN #63**

As With Gladness Men of Old

1 As with gladness men of old
Did the guiding star behold;
As with joy they hailed its light,
Leading onward, beaming bright;
So, most glorious Lord, may we
Evermore be led to Thee.

2 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
Ever seek Thy mercy seat.

3 As they offered gifts most rare
At that 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.

4 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.

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Liturgical resources from *Feasting on the Word: Worship Companion, Book of Common Worship* (2018), and laughingbird.net - Nathan Nettleton

