

January 7, 2024, 11 am
Epiphany Sunday
Olean First Presbyterian Church

Prelude ~ *Shall We Gather at the River* ~ Dale Wood

Good Morning Saints

Announcements

Choral Introit

God is Good

Everyday

And Everyday

God is Good

Call to Worship

God said, "Let there be light,"

and there was light.

God's speech

is God's action.

When God creates,

the creation is good.

God our maker has done it again.

God has brought us to a new dawn.

Let us worship God!

Opening Prayer

God of heaven and earth, we gather in the name of Jesus to hear your holy Word and to be immersed in your Spirit. Speak to us with grace and truth and pour out your love upon us so that this temple may resound with joyful shouts of glory; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Children's Time

*Hymn ~ *We Three Kings of Orient Are* ~ No. 151

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*)

Frankincense to offer have I;
incense owns a deity nigh;
prayer and praising gladly raising,
worshiping God Most High. (*Refrain*)

Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume
breathes a life of gathering gloom;
sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,
sealed in the stone-cold tomb. (*Refrain*)

Glorious now behold him arise,
King and God and Sacrifice:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
sounds through the earth and skies. (*Refrain*)

Prayers of the People

Presentation of Offering

Doxology ~ No. 606

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

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Anthem ~ *Alleluia* ~ Ed Harris

Passing of the Peace

Prayer for Illumination ~ No. 455

Listen to the word that God has spoken;
listen to the One who is close at hand;
listen to the voice that began creation;
listen even if you don't understand

Readings ~

Isaiah 60:1-9

¹Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. ²For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. ³Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. ⁴Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. ⁵Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall

be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. ⁶A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord. ⁷All the flocks of Kedar shall be gathered to you, the rams of Nebaioth shall minister to you; they shall be acceptable on my altar, and I will glorify my glorious house. ⁸Who are these that fly like a cloud, and like doves to their windows?

⁹For the coastlands shall wait for me, the ships of Tarshish first, to bring your children from far away, their silver and gold with them, for the name of the Lord your God, and for the Holy One of Israel, because he has glorified.

Matthew 2:1-12

¹In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ²asking, “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: ⁶‘And 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.

The Word of God
The Word of Life

Message

Music for meditation

The Lord's Table

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.

It is truly right and our greatest joy
to give you thanks and praise,
O God of mercy and might.
In your wisdom, you made all things
and sustain them by your power.
You have called forth people in every age
to be your servants and speak your word.
When we rebelled against your call
and turned from your ways,
in your love you called us back to you.
You delivered us from captivity,
and made covenant to be our sovereign God.
You sent prophets to call us to justice and compassion.
Therefore we praise you,
joining our voices with the choirs of heaven
and with all the faithful of every time and place,
who forever sing to the glory of your name:

**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.**

You are holy, O God of majesty,
and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord,
in whom you have revealed yourself,
our light and our salvation.
Baptized in Jordan's waters,
Jesus took his place with sinners
and your voice proclaimed him your beloved.
Your Spirit anointed him
to bring good news to the poor,
to proclaim release to the captives,
to restore sight to the blind,
to free the oppressed.
He lived among us in power and grace,
touching broken lives with your healing peace.
By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection
you gave birth to your church,
and made with us a new covenant
by water and the Spirit.
O God, as you once claimed us in the Spirit's waters
and number us among your own beloved,
give us power to do your work, to show your love,
and to live holy and joyful lives.
Keep us faithful in your service

until Christ comes in final victory
and we shall feast with all your saints
in the joy of your eternal realm.
Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ,
We pray the prayer he taught.

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

The Communion of the People

Closing Hymn 150

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,
Savior, to thy lowly bed,
there to bend the knee before
thee, whom heaven and earth adore;
so may we with willing feet
ever seek thy mercy seat.

As they offered gifts most rare
at thy 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.

Benediction

Choral Benediction

Postlude ~ *Fanfare and Statement on Llanfair* ~ Edward Broughton

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Prayer List

Margaret Quigley	Emily Kennedy	Matt Isenberg
Judy Sanchez	Martin Hatch	Craig Polson
Joe Gullo	Colt Matz	Chase Ewoldt
Dale Isenberg	Diane Trippany	Avrie Sinesiou
Joseph Kwiatkowski	Alyssa Daly and Family	Renee Ensell
Ken Stebbins	Punkie & Craig Sinesiou	Kim Whitney
Judi Blair	Judi Mitchell	

***Please let the office know who can be removed and who needs to be added.
Thank you for your help! ***

Happy Birthday to:

7 ~ Matthew Brenneman

9 ~ Sarah Larson, Doug Price

11 ~ Nicholas McConnaughey

CHURCH CALENDAR WEEK OF 1/7/24

Sunday – Jan. 7	9:30am Bible Study 11am Worship Noon De-Deck the Halls
Monday - Jan. 8	5pm Session Meeting
Tuesday - Jan. 9	6:30pm Scouts
Wednesday - Jan. 10	4pm MEF
Thursday - Jan. 11	1pm Deacons Meeting at Lanna's 5:30pm Bring Your Own Dinner 6:30pm Vespers 6:45pm Scouts 7pm Bible Study 7pm Choir
Friday - Jan. 12	10am Coffee and Conversation at N. Union Tim Hortons
Saturday - Jan. 13	11am Choraliers
Sunday – Jan. 14	9:30am Bible Study 11am Worship 4pm Martin Luther King, Jr. Service

