

January 5, 2020

Eleven O'clock

Epiphany Observed SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

We're delighted that you're here! Whoever you are, wherever you come from, whomever you love, whatever your faith or your doubts, we welcome all whom God welcomes, and that means you.

PRELUDE *Vesper Voluntaries op.14* Edward Elgar

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT 150 *As with Gladness Men of Old (1)* DIX

*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.*

CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 72:5-7)

The Son of Righteousness shall endure
as long as the moon, throughout all generations.
Like rain that falls on new-mown grass,
like showers that water the earth,
**in his reign, righteousness shall flourish
and peace abound, until the moon is no more!**
Let us worship God.

*HYMN 152 *What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright* PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of wonder,
you surround us with signs of your glory and surprise us
with your presence, yet we often miss the marvels you
place before us.
Forgive our dullness and make us alert
to the ways you make yourself known, that we might be
witnesses to your good news and proclaim your
extravagant love; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen

*KYRIE 578 *O Lord, Have Mercy*

*O Lord, have mercy; O Christ, have mercy;
O Lord, have mercy, have mercy on us!*

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*GLORIA 150 *As with Gladness Men of Old (2)*
*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!*

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.
And also with you.

(Please greet one another with: "The peace of Christ be with you." / "And also with you.")

PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

SUNG INVITATION

*Come in, come in and sit down, you are a part of the family.
We are lost and we are found, and we are a part of the family.*

FOCUS ON CHILDREN

Patti Winter

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING Isaiah 60:1-6

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING Ephesians 3:1-12

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Deep River arr. Llody Larson
Jeff Hairrell and David Bryson, soloists

THE GOSPEL READING Matthew 2:1-12

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us,
full of grace and truth.
Thanks be to God!

SERMON *A Wise Welcome* Rev. Terry Hamilton-Poore

DEDICATION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

*HYMN (See insert) *Star-Child* STAR-CHILD

WORSHIP OF GOD WITH TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Part of your offering today is the gift of your presence. Please acknowledge your presence by signing the welcome book at the end of your row. To be directed to our online giving site, please use your smartphone to scan here:



THE OFFERTORY *The King of Love My Shepherd Is* arr. V. Johnson

*THE DOXOLOGY 150 *As with Gladness Men of Old (3)*

*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.*

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

THE 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 God thanks and praise....

...Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with the faithful of every time and place, saying:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might—
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is the One 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....

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

*COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

*To receive, please come forward to the station nearest you, take a piece of bread,
dip it in the juice, and eat. The center station contains gluten-free, dairy free bread.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

SENDING GOD'S PEOPLE INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN 749 *Come! Live in the Light!* WE ARE CALLED

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*SUNG BENEDICTION 150 *As with Gladness Men of Old (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.*

*POSTLUDE *Come, Thou Almighty King* arr. V. Johnson

*Please stand as you are able.

WE WELCOME VISITORS Your presence enriches our community. We hope the service held meaning and beauty for you. To learn more about opportunities for spiritual growth and service, visit us on the web at www.fpcbham.org.

IF YOU ARE SEEKING A CHURCH HOME, our Session meets on the *first Sunday of the month* in the Chapel following the 11:00 worship service to welcome new members. If you are looking for a faith community, we hope you will make First your home.

FOR CHILDREN: Children's bags and bulletins are available in the Narthex (ushers can locate them for you). Please empty and return the bags after worship. We love having kids in worship, but the following alternatives are also available: *Nursery* is provided for infants (at least six weeks old) and toddlers. After the *Focus on Children*, children ages 3-7 go to the balcony, where they experience a little of what worship is like while doing learning activities related to the scripture with coloring, puzzles, books, children's bulletins and more. When the sacraments of the Lord's Supper or Baptism are celebrated, children return to the sanctuary. We invite those in second grade and above to remain in the sanctuary and participate in the entire worship service.

LET THE BELLS PLAY! Our 37-bell Rushton Memorial Carillon was the first such instrument in Birmingham and the third in the United States, when installed in 1924.

PRAYER REQUESTS Please use the Prayer Request and Information Change cards, found in the pew rack, to relay information to the church office. Print your name and any other information you may need to relay to the office and place it in the offering plate.

SERMONS are available from our website at www.fpcbham.org.

The LITURGIST for today is Mark Aldridge.

Have you remembered the church in your will?

MISSION CENTERS OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

FIRST LIGHT, INC. is a mission center of FPC, giving shelter and support services for homeless women and children. If you would like to help, speak to our pastors or call Ruth Crosby, Executive Director (323-4277). First Light's website: www.firstlightshelter.org

RUTH AND NAOMI SENIOR OUTREACH (RNSO) has as its mission to become spiritual companions to isolated older adults and to call, equip, and support others to do so as well. Contact chaplain@rutbandnaomi.org.

THE RUSHTON CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER provides quality childcare in a loving, nurturing environment – accredited by NAEYC and licensed by the Department of Human Resources. Call the CDC office at 322-8310. The Center's website is www.eprdc.com

FAITH IN ACTION ALABAMA, a faith-based community-organizing effort FPC shares with faith communities throughout the city, works to improve quality of life for all our citizens. Faith in Action is a PICO network affiliate and can be reached at daniel@faal.org.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH FOUNDATION provides support to First Presbyterian Church for the maintenance and upkeep of this historic sacred space built in 1889. 10% of the Foundation's annuity payment aids mission selected by session. Contact Mark Aldridge for more information.

THE REV. TERRY HAMILTON-POORE, Pastor and Head of Staff

THE REV. CATHERINE GOODRICH, Associate Pastor

MS. PATTI WINTER, Director of Christian Education

DR. HYE SOOK JUNG, Director of Music/Organist

JEFF HAIRRELL, Music Coordinator

MS. ROBIN VINES, Carillonist

MS. EMILY BURT, Youth Director

MR. OWEN BLOMELEY, Facility Manager

MS. LAURA H. ROBERTSON, Office Administrator

MS. DEBBIE BOONE, Bookkeeper

MS. KANDIE WILEY, Sexton

THE REV. DR. ROBERT S. CRUTCHFIELD, Pastor Emeritus