



Worship

January 2, 2022

- * If you are able, please stand.

PRELUDE

- * **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Rev. Frank Broyles

The Word became flesh and lived among us

And we have seen his glory.

The true light that enlightens everyone

Has come into the world.

Glory to God who has blessed us in Christ.

Glory to God forever.

- * **HYMN 150 - "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 gracious Lord, may we evermore be led to thee.

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.

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.

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.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Deacon Barry Kenstler

Trusting in God's love made known in the gift of Jesus,
let us confess our sins.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Deacon Barry Kenstler

Holy God,
 We confess that we are a distracted people
 and forgetful of your love.
 We make selfish choices,
 hurt each other, and perpetuate injustice in your world.
 We have sinned against you and are deeply sorry
 and repent of our disregard of you, each other, and your creation.
 By the power of your Spirit,
 forgive, restore, and strengthen us
 to live in your light and walk in your truth;
 through Christ our Lord. Amen.

INDIVIDUAL PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

Deacon Barry Kenstler

Please take this time for personal confession

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Deacon Barry Kenstler

As children of the Holy One,
 God forgives you and loves you eternally.
 By the power of God's Spirit, forgive yourself and forgive others
 As God in Christ has forgiven you.
Thanks be to God.

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Deacon Barry Kenstler

(if you are participating today through Facebook,
 please register your peace for each other now)
 Since God has forgiven us in Christ, we also should forgive one another.
 The peace of Christ be with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Deacon Barry Kenstler

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Deacon Barry Kenstler

Heavenly Father,
 Holy Wisdom came to dwell with us in Jesus,
 Filling our world with her light and life.
 May she also dwell within your word this day,
 That we may have intimate knowledge of your love for us,
 Through the One who is close to your heart,
 Jesus Christ your Son. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING

Deacon Barry Kenstler

Isaiah 60: 1-6

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.

Mathew 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 the Lord,
Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Rev. Frank Broyles

SERMON "Shining Bright: The Full Embrace of Epiphany"

Rev. Frank Broyles

*** AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

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 arose 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 living 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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**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.

OFFERING

Deacon Barry Kenstler

Virtual and in-person giving opportunities:

- 1) Online at our Easytithe site - <https://app.easytithe.com/app/giving/centralmontclair>
- 2) Text "Give" to 973-315-6494
- 3) Place offerings in the trays at the doors of the sanctuary as you depart.

Offering Prayer

* HYMN #151 - "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 gladly raising, worshiping 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]*

* CHARGE/BLESSING

POSTLUDE

Central's Mission Statement:

"As disciples of Jesus Christ and good stewards of God's Grace, we are a caring, inclusive congregation that strives to grow in Christian faith, proclaim the Good News, and provide service in ministry to each other, our diverse community, and the world."

Central Presbyterian Church is a Covenant Network congregation, a community within the Presbyterian Church, USA, that seeks to be inclusive, particularly with regard to welcoming LGBT persons as members and leaders.

January Birthdays

2	Gus Arndt
6	Erin Norton
10	C.C. Fitzgerald
12	Sidney Moulongo
13	Lisa Hoyt
	Roald Mitchell
	Trevor White
17	Meyling Cabezas
18	CeCe Mitchell
19	Jonathan Ali
22	Jane Speer
31	Charlotte Worth

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