



**Epiphany Sunday**  
**January 8, 2023**



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
Montrose, CO

*We are people called together by Christ to celebrate God in worship, grow together through discipleship and bring others to Christ.*

January 8, 2023

9:30 a.m.

## EPIPHANY SUNDAY

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### **Meditation**

Jesus is the Messiah or Savior long expected by the people of Israel. But the wise men coming from the East represent all the peoples on the face of the earth. So, Jesus is here revealed not only as 'infant king of the Jews', but as Lord of the whole earth. The wise men fall to their knees in adoration and offer him royal tribute. — *Sacred Space*

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### **Prelude Music**

### **Welcome and Invitation to Worship**

### **The Sound of a Bell, a Moment of Silence**

### **Opening Prayer**

### **Call to Worship\***

(Isaiah 60)

Leader: Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

All: **Lift up your eyes and look around; sons and daughters gather together; they come to you.**

Leader: Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice.

All: **They shall bring gold and frankincense and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord. Let us worship God.**

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\*Rise if you are able.

Nursery is available during the service for ages 0-5.

## **Songs of Worship\***

*We Three Kings*

*Be Thou My Vision*

(Please be seated)

## **Prayer of Confession**

(In Unison-MDPC, Houston, TX)

Gracious and merciful God, we confess we have sinned against you in our thoughts, words, and actions. Our minds are full of what the world considers to be wise. Our words have not reflected your grace, goodness, and mercy. Our deeds have often revealed our pride, self-centeredness, and apathy. Forgive us, O Lord. Free us from this bondage to sin and empower us to serve you to your name's glory. Through Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

(Moment of silence for personal prayer and confession)

## **Assurance of Pardon**

(James G. Kirk, *When We Gather*)

God is righteous and just and forgives the iniquity of all who repent. Like "rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth," God's goodwill overflows toward us in the Babe of Bethlehem. Through that child, who is our risen Lord, we are forgiven and claim God's mercy and assurance of pardon.

## **Passing of the Peace**

One ancient and significant gesture in worship is the passing of the peace. Passing the peace is a tradition rooted in Scripture that embodies our identity as peacemakers (Matt. 5:9; 2 Cor. 5:20) and trains our hearts, hands, and voices in the ways of peace. At these times, we leave the comfort of our seats, turn to our neighbors, grasp their hands, and speak the words, "The peace of the Lord be with you," and receive the words in turn, "And also with you." The gesture is simple, but the meaning is profound. When we extend our hand to another, we identify with Jesus, who extended his life to the point of death to make peace with humanity. (Col. 1:20-21).

## **Ordination and Installation of Church Officers**

### **Offering**

The first Sunday of the month is Deacon Sunday. Please consider giving a special donation using the provided envelope or by going to the "Give" tab on our website.

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## **Sermon Text**

Matthew 2: 1-12

## **Message**

*"Wise Seekers, Wonderful Savior"* – Rev. Dr. Jesse G. Mabanglo

## **Apostles' Creed**

**(In Unison)**

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 Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from there he shall come to judge the quick 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.

## **Communion**

## **Song of Sending\***

*In Christ Alone.*

## **Life in the Body (Announcements)**

## **Blessing and Benediction\***

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## **Congregational Meeting**

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## **Life in the Body (Announcements)**

- Welcome to First Presbyterian Church. We are glad to have you here with us today. If you would like more information about us, please feel free to fill out a welcome card on the table at the main door to the sanctuary. Completed cards can be placed in the basket.
- To see what other events or Bible Studies are taking place, you can find more information by going to: <https://fpcmontrose.churchcenter.com/calendar> or by picking up a copy of the calendar, in the foyer.

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