

# Quaker Memorial Presbyterian Church



## *Welcome to Worship at Quaker Memorial Presbyterian Church!*

*Our faith community extends a warm welcome to all worshipping with us today and hopes that you will return often.*

### *Welcoming All, Serving Christ, Transforming Lives*

The Service for the Lord's Day;  
Baptism of the Lord; January 10, 2021  
Our vocalist today is Gerald Doyle.

#### CHIMING OF THE BELLS

#### WELCOME

Nancy Dawson

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Nancy Dawson

#### PASSING OF THE PEACE

As you are seated, the right side of the sanctuary will turn to the left side of the sanctuary and share the ancient words of the church: *"the peace of Christ be with you "*

Then the left side of the sanctuary will turn while seated and respond: *"And also with you."*

#### PRELUDE

*To Follow the Star*

Ritter

#### DISCIPLES GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

Gail Midkiff, Liturgist

L: Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

P: Ascribe to the Lord the glory of his name; worship the Lord in holy splendor

L: The Lord sits enthroned as king forever.

P: May the Lord give strength to his people!

L: May the Lord bless his people with peace. Praise the Lord!

#### PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Gail Midkiff, Liturgist

God of every nation, by the light of a wondrous star you led wandering magi to the humble infant Jesus, revealing to them your salvation for the world. In the miraculous and the mundane, in union with all who have glimpsed the light of your grace, lead us to Christ, that we may offer our worship and serve him with sincerity of heart; for he lives with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever. **Amen.**

## HYMN #143

### *Angels from the Realms of Glory*

1 Angels, from the realms of glory,  
wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
you, who sang creation's story,  
now proclaim Messiah's birth:  
come and worship, come and worship,  
worship Christ, the newborn king!  
2 Shepherds, in the fields abiding,  
watching o'er your flocks by night,  
God with us is now residing;  
yonder shines the infant light:  
come and worship, come and worship,  
worship Christ, the newborn king!

3 Sages, leave your contemplations;  
brighter visions beam afar;  
seek the great desire of nations;  
you have seen his natal star:  
come and worship, come and worship,  
worship Christ, the newborn king!  
4 All creation, join in praising  
God the Father, Spirit, Son,  
evermore your voices raising  
to the eternal Three in One:  
come and worship, come and worship,  
worship Christ, the newborn king!

## CALL TO CONFESSION

Gail Midkiff, Liturgist

Our world teaches that you only have to try harder to reach perfection. We all know from personal experience that is not possible. We cannot by our own power erase our sins and change our sinful nature. Only God can make our guilty hearts clean and wash away our sins with pure water. God promises to do so as we humbly confess our sins.

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gail Midkiff, Liturgist

Sovereign God, in baptism you called us to turn from sin and turn to Jesus Christ; but we stray from your ways and we do not heed your call. In baptism you sent us to serve with compassion all those for whom Christ died, but we ignore the suffering of those in need and do not listen to cries for justice. In baptism you gave us the Holy Spirit to teach and guide us, but we rely on ourselves and refuse to trust your direction. Lord have mercy upon us. Forgive our sinful ways and heal our brokenness. Raise us once again to new life in Christ that we may be your faithful servants, to the glory of your name. AMEN

*(Please take a moment of silence for personal confession and reflection.)*

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Gail Midkiff, Liturgist

Hear the good news! In baptism you were buried with Christ and raised to new life with him through the power of God who raised Christ from the dead. Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun. I declare to you in the name of Jesus Christ we are all forgiven.

## CHORAL RESPONSE: Hymn #155 *Raise a Song of Gladness*

Raise a song of gladness, peoples of the earth.  
Christ has come, bringing peace, joy to ev'ry heart.  
Alleluia, alleluia, joy to ev'ry heart!  
Alleluia, alleluia, joy to ev'ry heart!

## DISCIPLES LISTEN TO THE WORD OF GOD

### SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 2:1-12

Gail Midkiff, Lector

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "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." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: '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.'" Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then 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." When 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. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On 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. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

### ANTHEM

*We Three Kings*

Hymn # 151

### SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 1:4-11

Nancy Dawson

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

### SERMON

New Year/New Life

Nancy Dawson

### REAFFIRMATION OF THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

Hear now the words from I Peter 2:9:

"You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of the One who called you out of Darkness into God's marvelous light."

Sisters and brothers in Christ, our baptism is the sign and seal of our cleansing from sin, and of our being grafted into Christ. Through the birth, life, death and resurrection of Christ, the power of sin was broken and God's kingdom entered our world. Through our baptism we were made citizens of God's kingdom, and freed from the bondage to sin. Let us celebrate that freedom and redemption through the renewal of the promises made at our baptism. I ask you, therefore, once again to reject sin, to profess your faith in Christ Jesus

## RENUNCIATION OF SIN AND EVIL

L: Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world?

P: I do

L: Who is your Lord and Savior?

P: Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior.

L: Will you be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying his Word and showing his love?

P: I will with God's help.

## PROFESSION OF FAITH

L: Do you believe in God the Father?

P: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

L: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

P: I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell. On the third day he rose again; and ascended into heaven; he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

L: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

P: I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. AMEN

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

### HYMN #163

### *Wild and Lone and Prophet's Voice*

1 Wild and lone the prophet's voice  
echoes through the desert still,  
calling us to make a choice,  
bidding us to do God's will:  
"Turn from sin and be baptized;  
cleanse your heart and mind and soul.  
Quitting all the sins you prized,  
yield your life to God's control.

2 "Bear the fruit repentance sows:  
lives of justice, truth, and love.  
Trust no other claim than those;  
set your heart on things above.

Soon the Lord will come in power,  
burning clean the threshing floor:  
then will flames the chaff devour;  
wheat alone shall fill God's store."  
3 With such preaching, stark and bold,  
John proclaimed salvation near,  
and his timeless warnings hold  
words of hope to all who hear.  
So we dare to journey on,  
led by faith through ways untrod,  
till we come at last like John  
to behold the Lamb of God.

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

Hymnal, page 35

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.

## PRAYER OF DEDICATION OF THE OFFERING (UNISON)

Loving God, we give you thanks for the light of the world, Jesus Christ, through whom we have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in your promise. Receive the gifts we offer in union with Jesus our brother, and help us to live to the honor and glory of your name. Amen.

## HYMN ##159

### *O Sing a Song of Bethlehem*

1 O sing a song of Bethlehem,  
of shepherds watching there,  
and of the news that came to them  
from angels in the air.  
The light that shone on Bethlehem  
fills all the world today.  
Of Jesus' birth and peace on earth  
the angels sing alway.  
2 O sing a song of Nazareth,  
of sunny days of joy;  
O sing of fragrant flowers' breath,  
and of the sinless boy.  
For now the flowers of Nazareth  
in every heart may grow.  
Now spreads the fame of his dear name  
on all the winds that blow.

3 O sing a song of Galilee,  
of lake and woods and hill,  
of him who walked upon the sea  
and bade its waves be still.  
For though, like waves on Galilee,  
dark seas of trouble roll,  
when faith has heard the Master's word,  
falls peace upon the soul.  
4 O sing a song of Calvary,  
its glory and dismay,  
of him who hung upon the tree,  
and took our sins away.  
For he who died on Calvary  
is risen from the grave,  
and Christ, our Lord, by heaven adored,  
is mighty now to save.

## BENEDICTION

Nancy Dawson

## POSTLUDE

*Hark, the Glad Sound!*

arr. Broughton