

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

JANUARY 6, 2019

8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD /
COMMUNION SUNDAY

WE ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

*Please sign the Welcome Pad and pass it along the pew.
Turn off all cell phones, and refrain from using cameras during worship.*

VOLUNTARY: Prelude and Fugue in E minor "Cathedral".....J.S. Bach (1685-1750)
John Alexander, organ

WELCOME, CONGREGATIONAL LIFE & EXTENDING HOSPITALITYDanny Massie

* CALL TO WORSHIPNewton Cowan (8:30 a.m.)
Danny Massie (10:30 a.m.)

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

Leader: Nations shall come to your light
People: **and rulers to the brightness of your rising.**

* HYMN OF PRAISE: No. 147 – The First NowellTHE FIRST NOWELL

* CALL TO CONFESSION *and* PRAYER OF CONFESSIONNewton Cowan (8:30 a.m.)
Donna Chase (10:30 a.m.)

God of glory, you sent Jesus among us as the light of the world, to reveal your love for all people. We confess that our sin and pride hide the brightness of your light. We turn away from the poor; we ignore cries for justice; we do not strive for peace. In your mercy, cleanse us of our sin, and baptize us once again with your Spirit, that, forgiven and renewed, we may show forth your glory shining in the face of Jesus Christ. Amen.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: As with Gladness, Men of Old DIX



Ho - ly Je - sus, ev - ery day Keep us in the nar - row way;
And, when earth - ly things are past, Bring our ran - somed souls at last
Where they need no star to guide, Where no clouds Thy glo - ry hide.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON (*10:30 a.m. only*): *Isaiah 60:1-6*..... (PEW BIBLE, PAGE 690)

Reader: Eva Engebretson

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

A TIME FOR CHILDREN (*10:30 a.m. only*) Donna Chase

*(Children ages 4 – first grade are invited to Worship Enrichment
and will return for the Hymn of Response.)*

SECOND LESSON: *Matthew 2:1-12*..... (PEW BIBLE, PAGE 2)

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

SERMON: What's Your Exit Strategy? Danny Massie



WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

* HYMN OF PREPARATION: No. 151 – We Three Kings of Orient AreKINGS OF ORIENT
(verses 1 – 3)

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE Danny Massie and Newton Cowan

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Leader: ... Therefore with all creation we sing your praise.

1. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,
2. Bless - ed is he who comes

God of pow - er and might, heav - en and earth are
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the

full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE (*by intinction*)

COMMUNION ANTHEM

Here Is the Little DoorHerbert Howells (1892 –1983)
Chancel Choir Ensemble

Here is the little door, lift up the latch, oh lift!
We need not wander more but enter with our gift;
Our gift of finest gold,
Gold that was never bought nor sold;
Myrrh to be strewn about His Bed;
Incense in clouds about His Head;
All for the child that stirs not in His sleep,
But holy slumber holds with ass and sheep.
Bend low about His Bed, for each He has a gift;
See how His eyes awake, lift up your hands, O lift!
For gold, He gives a keen-edged sword (Defend with it Thy little Lord!)
For incense, smoke of battle red
Myrrh for the honoured happy dead;
Gifts for His children, terrible and sweet,
Touched by such tiny hands and Oh such tiny feet.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION..... Newton Cowan

* HYMN OF THANKSGIVING: No. 151 – We Three Kings of Orient Are.....KINGS OF ORIENT
(*verses 4 & 5*)

LITANY FOR EPIPHANY

Leader: All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God,
Alleluia!

People: **Shout to the Lord, all the earth, Alleluia!**

Leader: With joy let us pray to our Savior, the Son of God who became
one of us, saying: The grace of God be with us all. O Christ, let
your gospel shine in every place where the Word of life is not yet
received. Draw the whole creation to yourself that your salvation
may be known through all the earth.

People: **The grace of God be with us all.**

Leader: O Christ, Savior and Lord, extend your church to every place.
Make it a place of welcome for people of every race and tongue.

People: **The grace of God be with us all.**

Leader: O Christ, Ruler of rulers, direct the work and thoughts of the leaders of nations that they may seek justice, and further peace and freedom for all.

People: The grace of God be with us all.

Leader: O Christ, Master of all, support of the weak and comfort of the afflicted, strengthen the tempted and raise the fallen. Watch over the lonely and those in danger. Give hope to the despairing and sustain the faith of the persecuted.

People: The grace of God be with us all. Amen.

After a brief silence, the leader concludes the litany

Leader: O Christ, light made manifest as the true light of God, gladden our hearts on the joyful morning of your glory; call us by our name on the great Day of your coming; and give us grace to offer, with all the hosts of heaven, unending praise to God in whom all things find their ending, now and ever. Amen.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY: The Three Kings..... Peter Cornelius (1824-1874)

Robert Wells, baritone

Chancel Choir

Solo:

Three Kings from Persian lands afar
to Jordan follow the pointing star:
and this the quest of the travellers three,
where the new-born King of the Jews may be.
Full royal gifts they bear for the King;
Gold, incense, myrrh are their offering.

The star shines out with a steadfast ray;
the kings to Bethlehem make their way,
and there in worship they bend the knee,
as Mary's child in her lap they see;
their royal gifts they show to the King;
gold, incense, myrrh are their offering.

Thou child of man, lo, to Bethlehem
the Kings are travelling, travel with them!

The star of mercy, the star of grace,
shall lead thy heart to its resting place.
Gold, incense, myrrh thou canst not bring;
offer thy heart to the infant King.

Chorale:

How brightly shines the morning star!
With grace and truth from heaven afar
our Jesse tree now bloweth.

Of Jacob's stem and David's line,
for thee, my Bridegroom, King divine,
my soul with love o'erfloweth.

Thy word, Jesu, inly feeds us,
rightly leads us, life bestowing.
Praise, O praise such love o'erflowing.

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: Angels from the Realms of Glory..... REGENT SQUARE



All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son,

Ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing To th'e - ter - nal Three in One:
Come and worship, come and wor-ship, Wor-ship Christ, the new - born King!

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

* INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP AND CHURCH MEMBERSHIP Danny Massie (8:30 a.m.)
Newton Cowan (10:30 a.m.)

* CHARGE AND BLESSING

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: Go with Us LordTALLIS' CANON

Go with us, Lord, and guide the way Through
this and ev - ery com - ing day, That in Your Spir - it
strong and true Our lives may be our gift to You.

VOLUNTARY: Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707)
John Alexander, organ

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Danny Massie, Interim Pastor | Newton Cowan, Pastoral Care | Donna Chase, Director of Christian Formation (10:30 a.m.) | Eva Engebretson, Lay Reader (10:30 a.m.) | John Alexander, Director of Music and Principal Organist Robert Wells, Director of Chancel Choir | Chancel Choir

* Please stand as you are able.

Music reprinted by permission under OneLicense.net A-707283.

THIS MORNING IN REJOICE!

Rejoice!, our non-traditional service, takes place Sundays at 10:30 a.m. in Mullin Life Center, receiving the sermon via video link. Also leading Rejoice! today are:

Nate Sell, Cynthia Price Pastoral Resident | *Neil Dunnivant*, Executive Pastor and Associate for Outreach Ministry | *Lisa Witherspoon*, Associate Director of Children's Ministry | *Hilda Courter*, Lay Reader | *James Keith*, Associate Director of Music Ministry for Rejoice! | *Rejoice! Band*

TODAY IS COMMUNION SUNDAY: All are welcome at our table. Our Communion breads are nut free, with gluten-free options available. After worship, elders will take communion to church members in care communities and private homes who are unable to attend services. For information, contact Debby Foster, 336.478.4702 or dfoster@fpcgreensboro.org.

ABOUT THIS MORNING'S FLOWERS: The chancel flowers are given today to the glory of God and in loving memory of JoAnne Wilson by David Wilson and family.

THE LITURGICAL COLOR *WHITE* seen through the parament on the lectern and the pastors' stoles signifies the special days of the redemptive work of Jesus Christ.

BECOMING A MEMBER: We welcome anyone who trusts in Jesus Christ to join our community of growing disciples. Those interested in membership who have an active membership at another Christian church can transfer their membership to FPC. New believers who are making a first time profession of faith or people who have been confirmed and would like to make a reaffirmation of faith are received after completing Explore FPC, a class about our church and its ministries. The class will be offered again Sunday, January 27, 8:30 -10:15 a.m. in Cannon's Solarium. To RSVP to the class (including child-care requests) or to inquire about a member transfer, contact our receptionist at receptionist@fpcgreensboro.org or 336.478.4799.

DON'T ASSUME ... that the pastors know that you or other members are in the hospital or home with a lengthy illness. Please call the church offices at 336.373.0445 and let us know so that we can extend a hand in prayer and care.

THE SAFETY OF FPC members and visitors is a priority for our ushers and greeters, who receive training in Session-adopted procedures. Please let them know if you observe anything that might require their attention.

KNOW SOMEONE WHO CAN SPOT A LEADER?

The Appointments Committee needs your help. Who would you like to see on your next Nominating Committee? You have the opportunity to elect eight members of Nominating (another seven are selected by Session). The committee should reflect our church's gender, age and experience. Look for nominating forms & envelopes in the Welcome notebooks. *Suggestions are due today.*

SIGN UP FOR EMAIL NEWS: You can sign up for our weekly E-News and our Thursday morning Sunday Preview at the link at fpcgreensboro.org/connect/our-media

OUR 10:30 AM SANCTUARY WORSHIP SERVICE IS LIVE-STREAMED on the web, and can be accessed at fpcgreensboro.org/streaming-live, or via our Facebook page. You can also sign up for reminders and alerts at livestream.com/fpcgreensboro, and you can stream the service on mobile devices by installing the Livestream app (free account sign-in required).

PASTOR ON CALL: When church offices are closed and you have an emergency, call 336.908.8615. Leave a message with your phone number and the pastor on call will be in touch with you.

IN MEMORIAM

Martha Sue Harden
December 29, 2018

Dorothy "Dotty" McGehee
December 29, 2018

WE WELCOME YOU to the worship of God and to our community of faith. We are a church of growing disciples believing that worship is at the center of all we are and do as Christians.

IF YOU ARE A VISITOR, we encourage you to wear a name tag, available in the blue Welcome notebooks on your pew.

VISITORS AND MEMBERS, please sign the attendance pad in the Welcome notebooks. We care about how folks are doing and try to pay attention when our members haven't worshiped with us in a while. And please note the names of others on your pew and say "Hello!"

FAMILIES can find comfortable seating, a nursing screen, and a live feed of the service in the Myers Loyalty Room behind the Sanctuary. Parents must supervise children.

IF YOU HAVE CHILDREN, we offer ways to make worship meaningful for them:

Nursery care is provided for infants through age 4 on the **first floor of Mullin Life Center**. Our Child Protection Policy helps ensure our care is safe, loving and appropriate.

Children in Worship bags: Young children are invited to choose from an assortment of crayons, coloring books, and other activities to create their own worship bag for the service. These items are located on a cart in the Tower Room. Please ask an usher for assistance, if needed. Bags should be returned to the cart after the service.

Worship Enrichment: After the children's message, ages 4 to 7 are invited to follow adult leaders to the Children's Space in the Welcome Center for Worship Enrichment. Children will return to the sanctuary after the sermon.

Restrooms, including a family room, are located off the hallway behind the pulpit and chancel. We encourage young children to be accompanied by parents any time they leave the Sanctuary.

NEXT WEEK IN CHURCH

SCHOOL 9:30 a.m.

- **"Reconsidering the Parables of Jesus"**
– discussion led by Sandie Gravett in the Agape Class. Meets in the Garden Room, down the hall from the Welcome Center.
- **Holly Sienkiewicz, director for the Center for New North Carolinians**, will talk about services they provide for refugees and volunteer opportunities in our area. Commitment Class meets in Memorial 100, the Blair Hagan Room.
- **100 Things to Know About Being a Christian** – led by Matt Logan and Nate Sell. Class meets in Biblemax Theater, third floor of the Corl building.
- **Old Testament Bible Characters** – Neil Dunnivant leads a series of discussions on Old Testament characters, continuing with Saul. Hosted by the Homebuilders/Faith Matters calls in Myers Loyalty Room, Smith 242.
- **Big God, Big Questions for Parents** – special class for confirmand parents, but open to all. Meets in Memorial Youth Room.
- **Exodus** – A deep study of the the second book of the Bible, led by Gerard Davidson. Seekers class meets in Vaughn Conference Room, Main 125.
- **A discussion on Constantine the Great** led by Gerald Donnelley in YMBC. Class meets in Redhead Hall.