



Lisle

Epiphany

January 5, 2025 10:30 a.m.

Welcome!

- *We invite children to use our activity area in the sanctuary. If your child needs a break away from the Sanctuary, feel free to use Room 3 of the Education Wing.*
 - *Assistive listening devices are available at the sound booth (rear of sanctuary).*
- *Greeting you today are David Bentzel, Carol Helsel, Sandy McBride, and Rick Woodard.*
- *Join us in Fellowship Hall after the service today for refreshments. Hosting fellowship time are Sue Rothman and Linda Zimmerman.*

The chancel flowers are provided this morning by the Worship & Fine Arts Ministry.

Worship begins with the first note of the prelude – may we silence our voices and open our hearts, allowing the music to draw us together into the presence of God.

Prelude

He Is Born
Kellen Mikesell, violin

arr. Ed Hogan

Welcome

*Call to Worship

Elder Dave Getz

L: How did you get here this morning?

Left side (facing pulpit):

I walked, eyes looking up, following the star.

Right side (facing lectern):

I ran, lunging for a love that is bigger than me.

Left: I tumbled and fell, tender step after tender step.

Right: I ambled like a river, caught up in God's flow.

Left: I crawled, kissing the earth below me.

L: Tell me again. How did you get here?

All: I am here by God's grace and love's pull.

L: Welcome home. This is God's house. There is room for you here.

All: Let us worship our gracious God.

*Hymn 113

Angels We Have Heard on High

**Those who are able are asked to please stand.*

*Call to Confession

Friends, one of the gifts of confession is it allows us to begin again. For in this moment of prayer, we name our shortcomings and mistakes. We receive God's grace, and we start again. The slate is wiped clean. The Prayer of Confession is an act of beginning again and again and again. So, join me in prayer. For even here, God is already doing something new. Let us begin again. Let us pray.

*Prayer of Confession

God of new beginnings, we admit that we often follow the well-worn path, simply because others have been there before. Sometimes this is holy and humble, but there are days when a new path needs to be tread. On those new-beginning days, O God, give us the courage to follow your star. Give us the courage to go home by another way. Give us the courage to kick up some dust and walk in a new direction for the sake of justice, love, and neighbor. For when you are doing a new thing, we want to have the courage to follow. With hope in our hearts we wander, we travel. Amen.

*Assurance of Forgiveness

- L: Dear travelers, no matter the roads you've taken, the steps you've made, or the paths you've traveled, there is nowhere you could go that would land you outside of God's love. Hear and believe the good news of the Gospel:**
- P: Regardless of the path we travel, of how lost we may get or the twists and turns along the way, we do not walk alone. We are loved. We are forgiven. We have every chance to begin again. Thanks be to God for a love like that!**

*Gloria (Hymn 583)

*Glo-ri-a, glo-ri-a, in ex-cel-sis De-o!
Glo-ri-a, glo-ri-a, al-le-lu-ia, a-le-lu-ia!*

*Passing of the Peace

- L: The peace of Christ be with you.**
- P: And also with you.**

Children's Message

First Scripture Reading (OT, p.672)

Isaiah 43:16-21

- L: This is the word of the Lord.**
- P: Thanks be to God.**

Anthem

What Star Is This With Beams So Bright
The Chancel Choir

Charles Coffin
arr. Howard Helton

Second Scripture Reading (NT, p.2)

Matthew 2:2-12

L: This is the word of the Lord.

P: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

“Words For the Beginning: The Road Isn’t Straight”

The Rev. Nancy Conklin

Affirmation of Faith

We believe in a with-us God, a God who is beside us in the mountains and valleys, holding our hand through every bump and turn. And in the chaos of our journey, we believe that God sees what we cannot always see: a path home by another way. Therefore, trusting in this ever-present and guiding God, we lace up our shoes. We look for God’s fingerprints in the world. We trust that there are paths still unexplored, paths that God has only begun to invite us down. And, like the Magi, we dare to follow. May it be so. Amen.

*Hymn 147 (v.1-3, 5)

The First Nowell

Minute for Stewardship: Over-the-Counter Medicine Drive

Vonny Getz

Presentation of God’s Tithes and Our Offerings

Offertory

Peace, Peace
Kellen and Seneca Mikesell, vocal duet

Rick & Sylvia Powell

*Epiphany Doxology (Tune: “Old Hundredth”)

*O God, may we who bear your name,
By gentle love your grace proclaim.
Christ’s gift of peace on earth declare,
And your anointing Spirit share. A-men.*

*Prayer of Dedication

God of open horizons and open roads, like the Magi so many years ago, we are here, seeking you. Step by step, we have wandered into this space with the hope of feeling you in our midst. Step by step, you have claimed us and loved us. Today we have drawn star words. For some, these words are full of meaning, challenge, and invitation already. For others, these words are a blank canvas — inviting you into our lives. So as a

new year dawns, we pray that just as you have spoken to the generations before us, you would speak to us again. Allow us to use these star words as a tool that might help us hear you more clearly. May they guide us, as the star guided the Magi. And in a year, may we find ourselves here, together again, with mouths full of praise for the ways in which you have been present with us. Amen.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation to the Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving/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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

Communion of the People

Special Music *Jesus, Oh What a Wonderful Child* arr. Mark Haynes
Kellen Mikesell, vocal

Prayer After Communion

L: Bless the Lord, O my soul!

P: **And bless God's holy name.**

L: Bless the Lord, O my soul!

P: **And forget not God's benefits.**

*Hymn 151

We Three Kings of Orient Are

*Benediction

I'm not what I do. I'm not what I have. I'm not what people say about me. I am a beloved child of God. It's who I am. No one can take it from me. I don't have to hurry. I don't have to worry. I can trust Jesus and share his love with everyone.

Postlude

The Birthday of a King
Kellen Mikesell, violin

arr. Ed Hogan

CHPC WEEKLY CALENDAR

Monday, January 6

10 a.m. — Staff Meeting, Pastor's Study

1 p.m. — Quilters & Crafters for Mission; Q&C Room

5 p.m. — Manse Assessment Group; Blue Room

Tuesday, January 7

6 p.m. — A.A. Big Book Study; Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, January 8

10 a.m. — Prayer Fellowship; Fellowship Hall (window side)

6 p.m. — Handbell Choir Rehearsal; Music Room

7 p.m. — Chancel Choir Rehearsal; Music Room

Thursday, January 9

10 a.m. — Dorcas Circle Meeting; Fellowship Hall (window side)

Saturday, January 11

9:30 a.m. — PW Second Saturday Breakfast; Silver Spring Diner

Sunday, January 12

8:30 a.m. — ARISE Service; Sanctuary

9 a.m. — Exegesis Adult Sunday School Class; Blue Room

9 a.m. — Men's Bible Study; Green Room

9:45 a.m. — Choir Practice; Music Room

10:30 a.m. — Worship Service; Sanctuary

11:45 a.m. — Adult Discipleship Team Meeting; Blue Room

11:45 a.m. — Brass Choir Rehearsal; Sanctuary

IT'S HAPPENING AT CHPC

- Help wanted **removing Advent/Christmas decorations following worship today.** Epiphany arrives tomorrow, and we are hoping that many hands will make light work. It really shouldn't take long if we have enough volunteers. See Abby Tierney after the service.
- **Through mid-February, we will be collecting over-the-counter medicines and most-needed items for the Christ Lutheran Church Free Medical Clinic** in Harrisburg's Allison Hill neighborhood. Please see the insert in today's bulletin for a list of needed items. Donations can be placed in the box in the Gathering Place. Please contact Sandy Bogden with any questions.
- Thank you, CHPC members and friends, for your generous and thoughtful staff Christmas gifts. **We wish you God's blessings in the New Year!** — Nancy, Don, Byron, Andrea, Dana, and Netia
- While our Noonday Organ Recitals and MAD Series are on hiatus, **we welcome your suggestions for musicians and artists who may be featured in our lovely sanctuary.** Please contact Abby Tierney with any suggestions you would like to share.
- **The Harrisburg Food Pantry is in need of personal care items, including toilet paper, bar soap, shampoo, toothpaste, and deodorant.** HFP is able to obtain food for the pantry with funding, but can't use those dollars for toiletries. Please leave these items in the Donation Station area of the Gathering Place.
- **Quilters and Crafters for Mission meet every Monday from 1 to 3 p.m. in the Quilters and Crafters Room** off Fellowship Hall. Work is done on a variety of projects such as quilting, knitting, crocheting, and crafting. New members to the group are always welcome.
- As a Community Aid partner, we receive checks reflecting the amount of donations made to our two bins (located in the parking lot). **Those funds are used to support CHPC Preschool scholarships for families in need.** Please drop clothing items you are donating in the bins; if you have household items, please take them to the Community Aid store/donation center and tell them our **Partner Number is 10220.**

STATEMENT OF WELCOME & INCLUSION

As followers of Jesus, we affirm the dignity and worth of every person as created in the image of God. We are committed to creating an inclusive space of belonging and safety. Therefore, this community of faith welcomes into full participation, membership, and leadership persons of diverse age, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical and mental ability, level of education, class, and income.

Rooted in the Reformed tradition, we affirm that “God alone is Lord of the conscience,” allowing for a breadth of diverse theological and biblical interpretations. We covenant to accept, respect, and love one another as we apply our faith in the circumstances of our lives and in the matters of our world.

CAMP HILL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Pastor/Head of Staff — The Rev. Nancy Conklin

Visitation Pastor — The Rev. Donald E. Potter

Organist/Choir Director — Byron Mikesell

Office Manager — Andrea Ebeling

Preschool Director — Dana Tarnoci

Custodian — Netia Vaughan

Organist/Choirmaster Emeritus — David H. Binkley II

Pastoral Contact Information:

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