

Worship at First Presbyterian Church

Sunday, December 28, 2025 at 10 am

*"You will do more than restore the people of Israel to me.
I will make you a light to the Gentiles,
and you will bring my salvation to the ends of the earth." (Isaiah 49:6)*

PRELUDE

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS and PASSING THE PEACE

PRAYERS FOR THE CONGREGATION AND THE WORLD

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CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

God, whom we gather to worship,
gave Jesus, born in Bethlehem,
as the fulfillment of the promise to Abraham,
and to his people, the children of Abraham.

The Messiah, Christ, was born.

God called persons of another tradition,
the Magi, to seek out Jesus and to worship him.

**As very God of very God
he was and is worthy of our worship.**

Yes, God, maker of heaven and earth,
so loved the world—and each person in it—
that he gave his only Son so that whoever believes in him
shall not perish but have everlasting life.

Come, let us worship our gracious and saving God!

CAROL SING (Part 1)

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| 2 | <i>Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus</i> |
| 8 | <i>Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates</i> |
| 9 | <i>O Come, O Come, Emmanuel</i> |
| 13 | <i>Prepare the Way, O Zion</i> |
| 14 | <i>Savior of the Nations, Come</i> |
| 22 | <i>Angels, From the Realms of Glory</i> |
| 23 | <i>Angels We Have Heard on High</i> |
| 25 | <i>Away in a Manger</i> |
| 28 | <i>Good Christian Friends, Rejoice</i> |
| 29 | <i>Go, Tell It on the Mountain</i> |

31 *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*
 36 *In the Bleak Midwinter*
 37 *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*
 38 *It Came Upon the Midnight Clear*
 40 *Joy to the World*
 41 *O Come, All Ye Faithful*
 44 *O Little Town of Bethlehem*
 48 *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*
 49 *Once in Royal David's City*
 53 *What Child Is This*
 56 *The First Nowell*
 59 *While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks*
 60 *Silent Night, Holy Night*

WHEN WAS JESUS BORN?

SOLO: *LIGHT OF THE WORLD (Judy Light)*

CAROL SING (Part 2)

MEDITATION:

"Wise Men from Eastern Lands"

Matthew 2:1-12

Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the reign of King Herod. About that time some wise men from eastern lands arrived in Jerusalem, asking, ² "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star as it rose, and we have come to worship him."

³ King Herod was deeply disturbed when he heard this, as was everyone in Jerusalem. ⁴ He called a meeting of the leading priests and teachers of religious law and asked, "Where is the Messiah supposed to be born?"

⁵ "In Bethlehem in Judea," they said, "for this is what the prophet wrote:

⁶ 'And you, O Bethlehem in the land of Judah,
 are not least among the ruling cities of Judah,
 for a ruler will come from you
 who will be the shepherd for my people Israel.'"

⁷ Then Herod called for a private meeting with the wise men, and he learned from them the time when the star first appeared. ⁸ Then he told them, "Go to Bethlehem and search carefully for the child. And when you find him, come back and tell me so that I can go and worship him, too!"

⁹ After this interview the wise men went their way. And the star they had seen in the east guided them to Bethlehem. It went ahead of them and stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they were filled with joy!

¹¹ They entered the house and saw the child with his mother, Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasure chests and gave him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

¹² When it was time to leave, they returned to their own country by another route, for God had warned them in a dream not to return to Herod.

RESPONDING TO GOD'S LOVE WITH OUR OFFERINGS

*The metal basket in the offering plate is for gifts to support
our deacons' provision of care, support, and financial assistance to those in need.*

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HYMN #56: *THE FIRST NOWELL*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

CALENDAR

TODAY	Sunday Worship (10:00 in the Sanctuary)
Tuesday, Dec. 31	Worship at Channel Point (10:30 am)
Sunday, Jan. 4	Sunday Worship with Communion (10:00 in the Sanctuary) Congregational Meeting after the Service
LOOKING AHEAD	January 10: Creation Station crafting group (11:00 – 1:00) January 11: Potluck after the service

The church office will be closed from December 26 – January 2. If you need access to the building, please call Chuck (847-800-7119) or William (360-660-5704).

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Office Hours: 10 am – 2 pm (Monday, Wednesday – Friday)

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