

WILLOW CREEK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

JANUARY 5TH, 2025 | EPIPHANY | 10:00AM



OUR APPROACH TO GOD

Come, celebrate the love of God in Jesus Christ with us! All are invited to sing, pray and participate in liturgy.

IF YOU ARE ABLE, WE INVITE YOU TO STAND.

PRELUDE

SWEET HOUR OF PRAYER

WILLIAM BRADBURY

Bill Zartman, Violin; Joyce Zartman, Bell Tree & Tom Andrew, Piano

WELCOME AND SHARING

REV. LAUREN PATRUS-BETZEL

IF CALL TO WORSHIP: LITANY FOR EPIPHANY OF THE LORD MARY BETH GRATZ

Arise, shine: for your light has come! The glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

Jesus Christ is the light of the world!

Nations will come to Christ's light, and rulers will seek Christ's radiance.

Jesus Christ is the light of the world!

God will judge the people with righteousness and defend the cause of the poor.

Jesus Christ is the light of the world!

The mystery of the ages is revealed; the eternal plan of God is known to all.

Jesus Christ is the light of the world!

Let us kneel down before Christ and give our honor, glory, and praise.

Jesus Christ is the light of the world!

Let us offer God all the treasures of our hearts and our lives. Come, let us worship God!

IF HYMN #147

THE FIRST NOWELL

ENGLISH CAROL

INVITATION TO CONFESSION & PRAYER OF CONFESSION

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 pour out the gifts of your Spirit, that, forgiven and renewed, we may show forth your glory shining in the face of Jesus Christ.

A PERIOD OF SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON FROM PSALM 72:6

The mercy of the Lord is like rain, like showers that water the earth.
In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God!

I GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

I PASSING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

May the Peace of Christ be with you; **And also with you.**

INVITATION TO THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

READING OF PROPHECY ISAIAH 60:1 - 6
This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PAGES 1155 - 1156

SPECIAL MUSIC GOD REST YE MERRY, GENTLEMEN
Joyce Zartman, Bell Tree & Tom Andrew, Piano

TRAD. ENGLISH CAROL ARR. LAMB

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

READING OF FULFILLMENT MATTHEW 2:1 - 12 PASTOR TANYA MUZZARELLI
The Gospel of our Risen Savior. **Praise to you, O Christ.** PAGES 1497 - 1498

“YOU'RE PRETTY WISE, MAN”
Lon Clark, Ron Muzzarelli and John Reid

HYMN #151

WE THREE KINGS

JOHN HENRY HOPKINS JR., 1857

OUR RESPONSE TO SERVE

I AFFIRMATION OF FAITH – PHILIPPIANS 2:5 - 11

Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death – even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord! Amen.

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

STAR OF THE EAST
Tom Andrew, Piano

AMANDA KENNEDY & GEORGE COOPER

I DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessing flow; Praise God all creatures here below; Praise God above ye heavenly hosts; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

I PRAYER OF DEDICATION

I HYMN #134 JOY TO THE WORLD (*first verse*) WATTS, HANDEL & MASON

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

PRAYER OF GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

COMMUNION

We hold the bread and partake together, celebrating that Christ joins us into one united body. We drink the cup as it comes to us, rejoicing that Christ comes to us as individuals and loves us just as we are.

PRAYERS AFTER COMMUNION AND 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, lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, the power and glory forever. Amen.

I HYMN #150 AS WITH GLADNESS MEN OF OLD DIX, KOCHER & MONK

I CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE BRIGHTEST AND BEST OF THE STARS OF THE MORNING HERBER & HARDING
Tom Andrew, Organ

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THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO SERVED TODAY! LITURGIST: MARY BETH GRATZ

USHERS: LUCAS GREENLEE, STEVE PICKEN AND ED & APRIL ROTTMAN

A HUGE THANK YOU TO OUR WISE GUYS: LON CLARK, RON MUZZARELLI & JOHN REID

CHALKING OF THE DOORS

Join the ancient practice of chalking your doors for the New Year with CMB + 2025. The letters CMB stand for the names of the magi (Caspar, Melchior and Balthazar) or the Latin phrase *Christus mansionem benedicat* (Christ bless this house).

God of doors and homes, bless this home this year and every year. Bless all who come and go through this door, both those who live here and those who visit. May all who enter through this door come in peace and bring joy. May all who come to this door find welcome and love. May the love and joy in this home overflow and spread into the community and the world. And may Jesus Christ watch over us all. Amen.

****Chalk is available in baskets at the back of the sanctuary****

GRATITUDE BAGS

Your generosity in this year's gratitude bags was truly incredible! We deeply feel your gratitude, and *we are so thankful* for the opportunity to serve here at Willow Creek! Thank you for your encouraging notes, thoughtfulness, well wishes and Christmas joy!

A huge thank you from Your WCPC Staff: Tom Andrew, Stephanie Konen, Dianne Londo, Pastor Tanya Muzzarelli, Elizabeth O'Leary, Pastor Lauren Patrus-Betzel, Riley Rankin, Shannon Reagan, Diane Van Vleet & Katie Wolf.

WEEKLY CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday 5th	10a	Epiphany & Communion, 11a Fellowship, 11:15a F/P/E, 11:30a Youth Group
Monday 6th		Welcome back Argyle Preschool!
Tuesday 7th	6:30p	Session
Wednesday 8th	1p	Living with Grief Group
Thursday 9th	6p	Bell Choir Rehearsal
Sunday 12th	10a	Worship, 10:30a Children's Sunday School, 11a Undecorate the Church & Chili Cook-off

MINISTERS: ALL MEMBERS OF THE BODY OF CHRIST

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