

## Announcements

- Children and youth are invited to Faith Formation class following the Passing of the Peace. We also have a hugging room at the back of the sanctuary for parents with young children to use as desired.
- Coffee and Conversation (Tuesdays at 10am) and the Wednesday Bible Study (Wednesdays at noon) will resume January 7<sup>th</sup>.
- Love of God: Leadership team meeting next Sunday at 12:30 p.m. L.O.G. retreat is March 14-16<sup>th</sup>. Youth, grades 8-12, are invited to the retreat. The L.O.G. Rummage sale is Saturday, February 8<sup>th</sup>. First rummage sale collection is Sunday, January 26<sup>th</sup> 10:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

## GOLETA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**JANUARY 5, 2025**

**EPIPHANY SUNDAY**

**PRELUDE**

“We Three Kings of Orient”

Becky Slagle Mayo

“As With Gladness, Men of Old”

Joel Raney

**WELCOME**

Rev. Jim Pazan

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** *From Isaiah 60:1-6*

Elder Janet Votaw

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

**People: For darkness shall cover the earth and thick darkness the peoples, but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you.**

Leader: Nations shall come to your light and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

**People: Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together; they come to you;**

Leader your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried in their nurses' arms.

**People: Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you; the wealth of the nations shall come to you.**

Leader: A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come.

**People: They shall bring gold and frankincense and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.**

\*please rise in body or spirit

**\*SONG OF PRAISE**

“The Star of Christmas”

Spirit Pulse Praise Band; Don Davis, Kris Warner, Janet Votaw,  
Ann Lawler, Alison and Ernie Tamminga

**Chorus**

What a light did shine, it's the star of Christmas.

A morning we'll all remember.

And how the sun came up on that Christmas morn;  
the day Jesus Christ was born

And if the angels ask, Do you believe?”

Just tell them, “Yes, I will receive.”

And how the sun came up on that Christmas morn;  
the day Jesus Christ was born.

**Verse 1**

See the joy on the children's faces.

Just let the light of Christmas light up the darkest places.

And if there's someone left to forgive.

This is the season to let love live, let love live!

**Chorus**

**Verse 2**

Oh, what a light! I can see it shining.

Oh, what a light! Shine to let Love known.

Oh, what a light!

It's the star of Christmas

and it's guiding me my way back home.

**Chorus**

**CALL TO CONFESSION** *Romans 6:1-2*

Elder Janet Votaw

Scripture proclaims: “What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer?” Let us renew ourselves by confessing our sins to God, first silently and then with the words printed in the bulletin.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**All: 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.**

**ASSURANCE OF GRACE**

Leader: The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. When we turn from our sin and trust in the mercy of God through Jesus Christ, we are assured of the good news of the gospel that together we proclaim:

**People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Alleluia! Amen!**

**CHOIR ANTHEM** “How Far Is It to Bethlehem?” Alice Parker, Robert Shaw

*How far is it to Bethlehem, not very far?*

*Shall we find the stable room lit by a star?*

*Can we see the little child, is he within?*

*If we lift the wooden latch, may we go in?*

*May we stroke the creatures there, ox, ass or sheep?*

*May we peep like them and see Jesus asleep?*

*If we touch his tiny hand, will he awake?*

\*please rise in body or spirit

*Will he know we've come so far just for his sake?*

*God in his mother's arms, babes in the byre*

*Sleep as they sleep who find their heart's desire.*

**PEACE OF CHRIST**

Leader: May the Peace of Christ be with you

People: **And also with you**

**HYMN OF PREPARATION #66** "We Three Kings of Orient Are" v. 1&2

**Verse 1**

We three kings of Orient are, Bearing gifts we traverse afar,  
Field and fountain, moor and mountain, Following yonder star.

**Refrain:**

O star of wonder, star of night, Star with royal beauty bright;  
Westward leading, still proceeding, Guide us to thy perfect light!

**Verse 2**

Born a King on Bethlehem's plain Gold I bring to crown Him again,  
King forever, ceasing never, Over us all to reign. (Refrain)

**STAR WORDS**

**SCRIPTURE READING: Matthew 2:1-12**

<sup>1</sup> In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup> 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." <sup>3</sup> When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; <sup>4</sup> and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. <sup>5</sup> They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: <sup>6</sup> '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.' " <sup>7</sup> Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup> 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." <sup>9</sup> 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. <sup>10</sup> When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. <sup>11</sup> 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. <sup>12</sup> And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

**MESSAGE**

"Far and Wide"

Rev. Jim Pazan

**HYMN OF RESPONSE #513** "Let us Break Bread Together"

**Verse 1**

Let us break bread together on our knees; (on our knees;)

Let us break bread together on our knees. (on our knees.)

When I fall on my knees,

With my face to the rising sun,

O Lord, have mercy on me. (on me.)

**Verse 2**

Let us drink wine together on our knees; (on our knees;)

Let us drink wine together on our knees. (on our knees.)

When I fall on my knees,

\*please rise in body or spirit

With my face to the rising sun,  
O Lord, have mercy on me. (on me.)

**Verse 3**

Let us praise God together on our knees; (on our knees;)  
Let us praise God together on our knees. (on our knees.)  
When I fall on my knees,  
With my face to the rising sun,  
O Lord, have mercy on me. (on me.)

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, THANKSGIVING 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.*

*And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.*

*For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.*

**GATHERING AT THE LORD'S TABLE** "Gesu Bambino" Lloyd Larson

**OFFERING OURSELVES TO GOD** "The First Noel" John Carter

**\*DOXOLOGY** *Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God, above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

**\*CLOSING HYMN #63** "As with Gladness Men of Old"

**Verse 1**

As with gladness men of old Did the guiding star behold;  
As with joy they hailed its light, Leading onward, beaming bright;  
So, most glorious Lord, may we Evermore be led to Thee.

**Verse 2**

As with joyful steps they sped To that lowly manger bed,  
There to bend the knee before Him whom heaven and earth adore;  
So may we with willing feet Ever seek Thy mercy seat.

**Verse 3**

As they offered gifts most rare At that manger rude and bare;  
So may we with holy joy, Pure and free from sin's alloy,  
All our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to Thee, our heavenly King.

**Verse 4**

Holy Jesus, every day Keep us in the narrow way;  
And, when earthly things are past, Bring our ransomed souls at last  
Where they need no star to guide, Where no clouds Thy glory hide.

**\*BENEDICTION** Rev. Jim Pazan

**POSTLUDE** "Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day" Joan DeVee Dixon

\*please rise in body or spirit