



Anaheim First Presbyterian Church

January 8, 2023 @ 10:30 am

PRELUDE

We Three Kings

arr. Chip Davis

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT

O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright

Nicolai/Bach

CALL TO WORSHIP

Calling all seekers, all dreamers, all believers; Calling all glass-half-full optimists and lighthouse keepers; Calling all star-chasers and bedtime prayer speakers...

Bring your questions, your hope, your faith and your fear into this space.

God is here.

***HYMN NO 56** (v. 1, 2, 6)

The First Nowell

The first Nowell the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields where they lay;
In fields where they lay a-keeping their sheep, on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Refrain: Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel.

They looked up and saw a star shining in the east beyond them far,

And to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night. [Refrain]

Then let us all with one accord sing praises to our heavenly Lord,

That hath made heaven and earth of nought, and with His blood our life hath bought. [Refrain]

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of starlight, we know that faith isn't a vending machine. Good news can't be bought or manufactured. It does not arrive with a push of a button. Instead, in this noisy world, we have to watch for you in our midst. Then we have to walk toward you, just as the Magi did. We have to believe that love really can change the world. We have to seek the stars beyond the city lights. Forgive us for forgetting that. Forgive us for seeking you with only part of our hearts. We long to be more like the Magi, walking your way every single day.

ANTHEM

Go Tell it on the Mountain

arr. Paul Sjölund

PASSING THE PEACE

RESPONSE NO. 66 (v. 1)

We Three Kings of Orient Are

We three kings of Orient are, bearing gifts we traverse afar,

Field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.

O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright;

Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 2:1-12

SERMON

The Way to Know God

ACT OF COMMITMENT: STAR WORDS

Those in the Sanctuary will be invited to come forward to select a star from the table. Those worshipping at home will receive their word from a slide with a chart.

PRAYER

God of ink black skies and starry nights, 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. And step by step, you have claimed us, loved us, and fed us.

Today we have all drawn star words. For some of us, 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 you would be in our dreams and in our waking. Allow us to use these star words as a tool to see you in our everyday life. May they guide us, as the star guided the Magi. May they illuminate your path, as light always does. And may they guide us on new paths into a new hope. Amen.

SERVICE OF ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION

Nikki Saylor & Al Veltre

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER

(Traditional, Hymnal p. 16)

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.

***HYMN NO 63** (v. 1, 2, 4)

As With Gladness Men of Old

Dix

As with gladness men of old did the guiding star behold; as with joy they hailed its light,
Leading onward, beaming bright; so most gracious Lord, may we, evermore be led by Thee
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.
Holy Jesus, everyday 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

CHORAL BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

In Dulci Jubilo

arr. J. B. LeDoux

Today's Worship Leaders:

Kim Skilling, Pastor

David Hughes, Director of Music, Carol Hughes, Accompanist

Abbott Hatch & Richard Ramich, Video and Sound, John Saylor, Soloist

Announcements

