

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD SUNDAY Gathering in God's Name

PRELUDE

Three Preludes by Paul Manz

(Good Christian Men, Rejoice, Now Sing We, Now Rejoice, and How Lovely Shines the Morning Star) As the prelude begins, you are invited to begin your personal preparation for worship.

SILENT MEDITATION

"Resolution One: I will live for God. Resolution Two: If no one else does, I still will."

Jonathan Edwards

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

Rise Up, Shepherd, and Follow

Traditional Spiritual

CALL TO WORSHIP

O come, let us worship the Lord and consider what wondrous things God has done:

The Magi who study the heavens follow a guiding star!

O come, let us worship the Lord and consider what wondrous things God has done:

The peoples who live in the shadows see a glorious light!

O come, let us worship the Lord and consider what wondrous things God has done:

The Christ who embodies the Word unveils the hidden plan, making us joint heirs of the promise of salvation through the gospel!

O come, let us worship the Lord, for God has done wondrous things!

Praise and Adoration

*HYMN #151

We Three Kings of Orient Are

KINGS OF ORIENT

(*Please stand, if you are able)

Confession and Pardon

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God, our guide who once used a star to lead people to Christ, we confess our poor sense of direction. We let ourselves become confused, easily distracted, and lose our way. We fail to follow the signs you provide. Forgive our waywardness, O God. Lead us to the Christ so that we may follow his way to you.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION AND PETITION



ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

"Gloria"

GLORIA

Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

WELCOME

During the welcome, children are invited to come forward.

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

*HYMN #152

What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fellowship of Prayer

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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.

ANTHEM Christ, Be Born in Us

Kyle Pederson

Proclamation of God's Word

SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 1: 10-18

page 862 of the pew Bible

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON

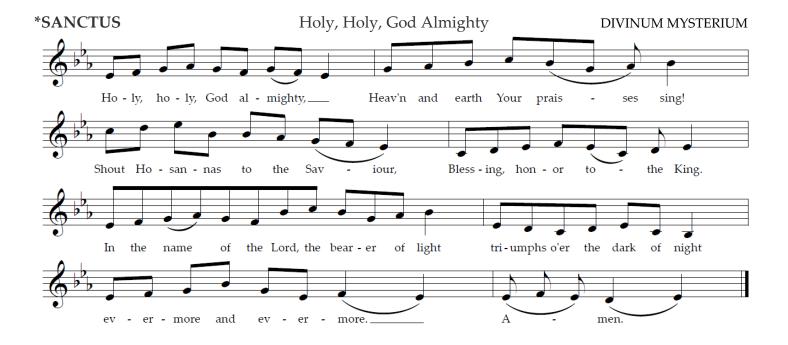
"The God Who Wants to Be Known"

Our Response to God's Word

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.



Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

OFFERTORY The Kings Peter Cornelius

*DOXOLOGY (#607) "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise Christ, all people here below; praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Almighty God, from whom come all the good things we enjoy, we offer our gifts as the Magi did who opened costly treasures before Jesus. We give in response to your generosity, identifying with your pity and compassion for victims of violence, poverty, and oppression. May all who are in need experience the unsearchable riches of Christ and the gift of the Holy Spirit even as their physical needs are met. May we be coworkers with Christ, whose sacrifice bought our redemption. Amen.

*HYMN OF DEDICATION #150

As With Gladness Men of Old

DIX

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE (please be seated)

Rise, Shine!

Marques Garret & Tom Trenney

SERVING IN MINISTRY TODAY

Liturgist Anne Wattles, elder on the Mission Committee

Music Alleluia & Chamber Singers; Marietta Morhardt, mezzo-soprano; Mark Kanitz, organ

Childcare Ministry Kari Bernet, Chelsea Spielman, Tami Lancaster

Ushers Jim Chapin, Captain; Doug Reid, Kim Reid, Inga Wagner, Kim Banat

Greeters North Door: Kimberly and Scott McCormick

Welcome Center Door: Bob and Penny Dehner

Information Center Kathy Nickel

STAFF

Rev. Marshall Zieman, D. Min. Pastor, Head of Staff marshall@pcoc.us Joshua Garry, M.Div. **Associate Pastor** josh@pcoc.us Kristi Treu, M.A. Music Director of Music, Executive Director Vesper Concerts kristi@pcoc.us Heather Berry Christian Education Director heather@pcoc.us Rock Sumner **Business Administrator** rock@pcoc.us Christian Fritz **Communications Coordinator** communications@pcoc.us Iulie Hansen Office Administrator churchofthecross@pcoc.us Mark Kanitz Organist mark@pcoc.us

Rev. Kirk Ryckman, D. Min. Pastor Emeritus

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The Week at a Glance

Sunday, January 5, 2025 - No Coffee Fellowship

11:10 Worship

4:45 JHF Fun and Games

Monday, January 6

9 & 11 Music and Movement

10:00 Tai Chi

5:30 Nominating Committee

6:00 Worship & Music Committee

6:30 Building and Grounds Committee

Tuesday, January 7

9:30 Staff Meeting

11:30 49ers

1:30 Active Minds

4:00 Congregational Life Committee

Wednesday, January 8

5:30 Chamber Singers

6:30 Alleluia Singers

Thursday, January 9

9 & 11 Music and Movement

10:00 Tai Chi

12:00 Serve Lunch at OSS

6:00 Carillion Choir

Sunday, January 12

9:00 Worship/Communion

10:00 Coffee, Kids & Youth SS Classes

10:00 Theologians, Philosophers, Composers,

and the Pursuit of Beauty Class

11:10 Worship/Communion

12:00 New Member Discussion

4:15 Serve Dinner at Siena Francis House

4:30 SHF Sky Zone

4:45 JHF Games

Worship Services at 9:00 & 11:10 a.m. Sunday School & Coffee Fellowship at 10 a.m. Office Hours: 9:00 to 4:30 Monday-Friday

Joys and Concerns.

The flowers in the chancel this morning are given by Lloyd and Charlene Meyer in honor of Rev. Marshall and Becky Zieman. Flowers are also given by John and Karen Morey in honor of their 55th wedding anniversary.

Stan Hale is rehabbing at Brookstone Meadows.

Mike and Linda Howland are mourning the passing of Mike's sister, Carol, whose Memorial Service will be held in California next week.

Epiphany Stars

As you leave worship today, we invite you to take an Epiphany star from the baskets in the Narthex. Each star holds a single word. Take your star home and keep it in a place where it will catch your eye and make you pause for a moment of reflection throughout the year. How will the star word speak to you and how will you be led by a star in 2025?



Giving Envelopes for 2025. New year giving envelopes are now available in the Welcome Center on a table close to the Information Desk. If you don't find your envelopes or would like to use envelopes, please contact Rock in the church office.



New Member Discussion is next Sunday, January 12.

If you are interested in

joining the church, please attend our next New Member Discussion, at noon following worship on Sunday, January 12 in the Welcome Center. The discussion will last about an hour and a light lunch will be served. Sign up online or call the church

office.

The Tuesday Bible Studies Resume January 14. Our Tuesday gatherings resume on January 14, continuing in our study of Romans. Newcomers are always welcome; just bring your favorite Bible and join us in the classroom in the Welcome Center at 7:00 a.m. (men's only) or 1:00 p.m. (everyone).

Presbyterian Men – On Saturday, January 25th at 9:00 am, PCOC men are invited to attend a continental breakfast and program in the Welcome Center. Our speaker will feature Josh Planos, VP of Marketing, Communications & PR, at Better Business Bureau of the Midwest Plains. He will speak about "Scam Prevention" covering key strategies to protect yourself from scams and what to be on the lookout for in today's increasingly digital world. Don't miss this opportunity to learn how to safeguard your finances and personal information. Please sign-up to attend at the Information Desk by Sunday, January 19th, and feel free to invite a friend to join you! Contact Jon Boomgaarden with questions.

PER CAPITA – What it is and Why?

All members should be aware of the Per Capita Assessment that our church pays each year. This money goes to offset the administrative cost for the Presbytery, Synod, and General Assembly. As a connectional church, we need to maintain effective channels of communication, and coordination so that our ministry as Presbyterians works well. The per capita assessment supports this process so that all Presbyterian programs, missions, and ministries may function better.

This year our per capita remains at \$40.80 per member. What that means is our church will pay \$28,927.20 by February 15, 2025, for our membership at Church of the Cross. If you decide to give a special gift to cover the per capita cost for your family, it will help the church offset our assessment. That would be:

\$40.80 for a single family member \$81.60 for a two-member family \$122.40 for a three- member family \$163.20 for a four-member family

You are welcome to use the blue pew envelopes. Please drop it in the offering plate or mail your gift to Rock Sumner, Business Administrator at the church office.

Adult Education in 2025 - Register Online Now

Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

- "Theologians, Philosophers, Composers and the Pursuit of Beauty," by led Cindy Sloan, Jan 12–Feb 23.
- "More Than Words, 10 Values for the Modern Family," led by Emily and Josh Murray, Jan 12–March 2.
- "Embracing Community Connections," led by Patty Ritchie and Kathy Moore, April 27 and May 4.

Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.

"Blessed Are You, The Beatitudes of Jesus in Scripture and in Life," led by Kirk Ryckman, Jan 15 – Mar 19

Cornerstone - Register Online Now

The Spring Semester of Cornerstone begins January 15.

Mighty Kids End the Year with BIG RESULTS. You may remember when Rock wore his Beekeeping hat during a Young Disciples Moment and challenged our young members to donate enough money to give up to \$240 to provide a Beekeeping opportunity for a farmer. They did more than meet that goal, they gave enough to provide THREE Beekeeping opportunities for farmers and more. Marshall, Heather



and Rock sat down and decided to include a piglet and a family of chickens. Thank you to our Mighty Kids for making a difference in the world and for helping improve the livelihoods of farmers and families.

2025 Bible Reading Adventure. In the January Cross Currents, Rock published a daily guide to begin reading the Bible in a year. It is not too late to begin. Together, we begin in Genesis and Matthew, the Old and New Testaments and from there the adventure begins. We may gather periodically throughout the year for support. Join the adventure of a lifetime.