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## Welcome, we're glad you joined us!

We welcome you to join us on a transformative journey.

**Seeking God**, we strive to know God and love God.

**Serving others**, we follow our Servant Savior to help bring fullness of life to others.

**Sharing Christ's love with all**, we proclaim the unconditional love of Christ filled with joy and hope.

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**Mary Alice Mawer, guest organist**  
**Janet Holmes, liturgist**

### WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

#### WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

##### PRELUDE

*"Bring a torch, Jeanette, Isabella"*  
setting by Christopher Uehlein

##### CALL to WORSHIP

One: The Magi had a dream.

**All: They dreamed of a Messiah.**  
**They dreamed of just rulers.**  
**They dreamed of a new day for all people.**

The Magi had a dream, and this dream led them to action.

**They journeyed to unknown places.**  
**They followed a star.**  
**They walked for days to get to Jesus.**

So may we be like the Magi,

**May our dreams inspire action.**  
**May we worship God in spirit and in truth.**

**HYMN** – *"We Three Kings of Orient Are"* (vs. 1, 2, & 5) #151

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!*

Born a King on Bethlehem's plain,  
gold I bring to crown him again,  
King forever, ceasing never  
over us all to reign.

*refrain*

Glorious now behold him arise,  
King and God and Sacrifice:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
sounds through the earth and skies.  
*refrain*

#### PRAYER of CONFESSION

**God, I love to worship you**  
**when the stars are bright above me.**  
**I love to worship you when the sky is clear,**  
**and the breeze just right.**  
**I love to worship you when the journey**  
**to Bethlehem is an easy one.**  
**Unfortunately, as you know, this journey of life,**  
**love, and faith is rarely easy.**  
**Now and again, the stars disappear.**  
**My feet get blisters,**  
**and the journey is far too long and lonely.**  
**On these days, forgive me for giving up quickly.**  
**Forgive me for allowing the dream to die**  
**and for taking the shortcut home.**  
**I want to be as brave as the Magi.**  
**I want to persevere.**  
**Guide my feet. Show me the stars. Amen.**

#### ASSURANCE of FORGIVENESS

To each of us who knows that  
we have lost sight of the promise,  
or lost the way of our God,  
or lost hope,  
The Light of the World has a promise:  
"I am with you."  
God gives a holy presence, forgiveness,  
and new hope, in Jesus the Christ.  
**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**  
**Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Amen.**

#### A TIME with YOUNG DISCIPLES

### WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

#### UNISON PRAYER for ILLUMINATION

**God of the Milky Way,**  
**We, like the Magi, are walking toward you.**  
**It is our very prayer to move your way.**  
**So if you can, leave the light on**  
**and the door unlocked.**  
**Leave a fire in the hearth and food on the stove.**  
**And when we start to get lost or doubt our dreams,**  
**give us the will to persevere.**  
**We are walking toward you, O Christ.**  
**So like the parent that throws open the door,**  
**open the door to us through this text.**  
**Amen.**

#### SCRIPTURE

A reading from Isaiah 60:1-6

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON** – *"Whatever Is Foreseen in JOY,*  
*Must Be Lived Out Day to Day"* Pastor Lawrence

### WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD

**HYMN** – *"What Child is This"*

#145

What child is this,  
who, laid to rest,  
on Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet  
while shepherds watch are keeping?  
This, this is Christ the King,  
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
Haste, haste to bring him laud,  
the babe, the son of Mary!

Why lies he in such mean estate  
Where ox and ass are feeding?  
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here  
the silent Word is pleading.  
Nails, spear, shall pierce him through;  
the cross be borne for me, for you.  
Hail, hail, the Word made flesh,  
the babe, the son of Mary!

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh;  
come, one and all, to own him.  
The King of kings salvation brings;  
let loving hearts enthroned him.  
Raise, raise the song on high.  
The virgin snigs her lullaby.  
Joy, Joy, for Christ is born,  
the babe, the son of Mary!

#### THE SACRAMENT of HOLY COMMUNION

##### Invitation

Come, all who journey in faith: bring your lives,  
fragile and holy. There is a place for you here.

**We come to this table,**  
**seeking the Light found in Bethlehem's cradle.**

(Singing) The Lord be with you.  
**(Singing) 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.**

##### Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

God of starlight,  
There has always been something holy about stars for us...

...We know that.  
You know that.  
The Magi must have known that.

*(Singing)*

**Holy, Holy, holy Lord; God of power and might.**  
**Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**  
**Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!**  
**Hosanna in the highest!**

So today we come to you in prayer, trusting that if you can  
paint the stars in the sky,  
Then surely you can hear us over the noise...

...However, at the same time,  
We also say a prayer of gratitude for all the stars you have  
left for us this last year—  
The signs and mile markers of hope on the horizon.

*(Joys and Concerns offered here)*

So today, in this new year, we ask that once more you  
would give us a sign...

...We pray the prayer you taught us to pray, saying:  
**Our Father...**

The Breaking of the Bread & Sharing of the Cup

**MUSIC for OUR OFFERING** *"Make Me a Channel of Your Peace"*  
Sebastian Temple | arr. Lloyd Larson  
Kate Trybus, soprano soloist

Click here <https://onrealm.org/oxfordpresbychurch/-/give/now>  
to give online

**DOXOLOGY** – *"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"* #606

**HYMN** – *"Good Christian Friends Rejoice"* #132

Good Christian friends, rejoice  
with heart and soul and voice;  
give ye heed to what we say:  
Jesus Christ is born today;  
ox and ass before him bow,  
and he is in the manger now.  
Christ is born today!  
Christ is born today!

Good Christian friends, rejoice  
with heart and soul and voice;  
now ye hear of endless bliss:  
Jesus Christ was born for this!  
He has opened heaven's door,  
and we are blest forevermore.  
Christ was born for this!  
Christ was born for this!

Good Christian friends, rejoice  
with heart and soul and voice;  
now ye need not fear the grave:  
Jesus Christ was born to save!  
Calls you one and calls you all  
to gain the everlasting hall.  
Christ was born to save!  
Christ was born to save!

**BLESSING**

Arise, people of God! Shine!  
The light of our Christ is in you and among you,  
guiding you and blessing you, now and always.  
**May the Spirit of God be a guiding star before us,  
a glorious song above us,  
a gentle path below us,  
an inspiring voice behind us  
wherever we may journey with the Light. Amen.**

**POSTLUDE**

*"Praise Ye the Lord of Hosts"*  
Camille Saint-Saens

*(Liturgy adapted from prayers by Sarah Are | A Sanctified Art LLC  
| sanctifiedart.org.)*

**Congregational Concerns:** Betty Barnhart, Jim Baer, Rodger  
Cromer, John Curry, Bob Douglass, Nancy Gates, Genee Hesse,  
Ruth Miller, Jan Reinhart, Becky Rudolph, Sarah Soika, John &  
Jean Woodruff. **Email request to Judy Fisher,  
fisherrh@miamioh.edu, or contact the church office.**

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**MINISTRY NEWS**

**Fellowship in the Virtual Molyneaux Lounge** – Join us after  
worship at this [link](#) on Zoom as we explore deeper connections  
for fellowship in the midst of this pandemic.

Once again, [click here for the link](#).  
Meeting ID: 836 5120 3672 | Passcode: 916856

**Save the Date: January 16, 2021 for a "Realizing Our  
Congregational Calls" Retreat** – Please join us as we come  
together to consider how best to move forward from our multiyear  
discernment process of individual and congregational call. Join us  
for an update on Eradicating Systemic Poverty and Caring for  
Creation, an inspirational reflection by Rebecca Barnes,  
Coordinator of the PCUSA Hunger Programs, and a call to commit  
to action in 2021. We will gather for a morning retreat via ZOOM  
on Saturday, January 16, at 9:00 am. Check The Voice for login  
information.

**Congregational Meeting** – The Annual Congregational Meeting  
of Oxford Presbyterian Church will take place January 17 following  
worship.

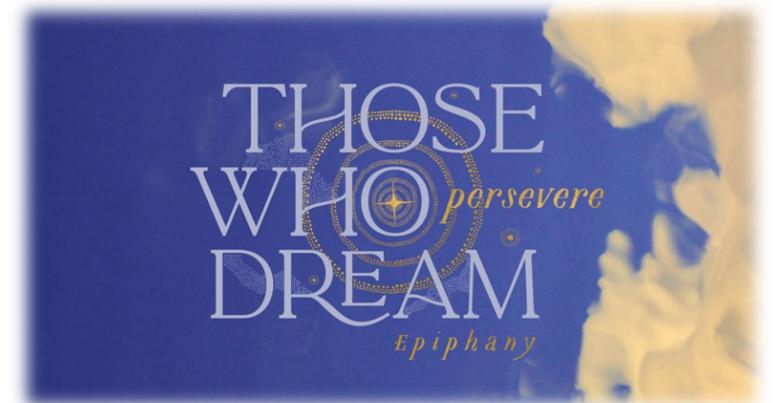
**Youth Group Meets on Sunday, January 17** – Youth Group is  
back on Sunday, January 17 at 7:45 p.m. with a new 6-week  
book club series entitled, "Worldchanging 101" based on the book  
(by the same title) written by David LaMotte. The book explores  
the complexities and ambiguities around how communities can  
affect real change and impact without feeling paralyzed or  
overwhelmed. The curriculum is co-written by author David  
LaMotte and Pastor Marc. If you are interested in participating in  
this 6-week series at youth group and would like a copy of the  
book, please contact Pastor Marc.

**Confirmation Class Meets Monday, January 18** – Our next  
confirmation class will be on Monday, January 18 at 7:45 p.m.  
Carrie Ann will be leading a lesson on blessing and service. Keep  
an eye on your e-mail over the next week or so for more  
information regarding meeting location. If you would like to be  
added to the confirmation class e-mail list, please contact Pastor  
Marc.

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**Oxford Presbyterian Church  
for a full ministry calendar, please visit:  
<https://oxfordpresbychurch.org/calendar/>  
Lawrence Bartel, Pastor – Marc van Bulck, Associate Pastor  
Kent Peterson, Music Director – Lynn Jacobs, Organist**

# Epiphany of the Lord



**Sunday, January 10, 2021**



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**[oxfordpresbychurch.org](https://oxfordpresbychurch.org)**

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