

**\*CLOSING HYMN**

*The Lord's Prayer*

**\*CHARGE AND BLESSING**

**POSTLUDE**      *What Star is This? by Michael Praetorius arr. Franklin Ritter*

**Congregation remains seated**

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Liturgist	Kurt Schuler
Ushers	Ginny Kramer, Edna Campbell, Linda North
Communion Servers	George Fraley, Cindie Postell, Ginny Kramer, Joleen Goens
Director of Music	Davis McKinney
Co Pastor	Rev. Tom Dunlap

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**Bolded words are read by the congregation. \*Indicates please stand as you are able.**

**Welcome:** to all who worship with us this morning, especially our visitors! If you have a joy or concern that you would like to share with the congregation, please use the yellow card in the pew pocket and place it in the offering plate. These will be shared with the congregation during our “Joys and Concerns.” Please fill out the worship registration pad found in the pew, and pass it to the person next to you. Once the form is completed the last person to receive the form places the form in the offering plate.

We hope you feel at home at Trinity, and that you will join us again. We invite you to consider becoming part of our church family.

**Portions of today's liturgy** *Portion of today's liturgy are from Close to Home, Words for Worship for Advent-Epiphany, Year C, “Adapted from a prayer by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed, A Sanctified Art LLC, sanctifiedart.org.”*

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# **Trinity Presbyterian Church**



www.trinitypresbyfairfield.org  
2nd Sunday of Christmas  
January 2, 2022 10:15 AM  
Worship leaders in plain type/ Congregation in bold type

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## **ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME**

**GATHERING MUSIC**

*Joseph, Dearest Joseph Mine:  
14th century German arr. Larry Shackley*

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**THE PEACE**

The Peace of Christ be with you.  
*And also with you!*

**INTROIT #148**

*Mary and Joseph Came to the Temple*

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

We come to this place—**each of us on our own path.**  
The path is winding, **and the path is not always clear,**  
and the path changes, **but we are here.**  
God is walking us home.  
**What a gift it is to not walk alone.**  
Let us worship Holy God.

**\*OPENING HYMN #151**

*We Three Kings of Orient Are*

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

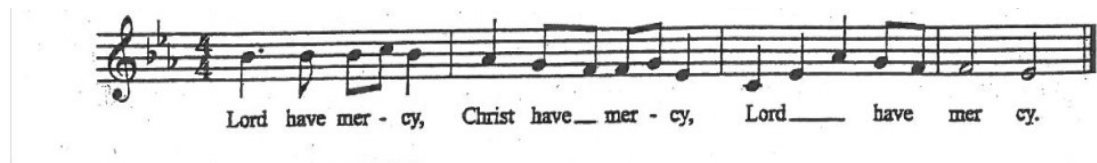
...Friends, we are not always the best versions of ourselves when we are faced with uncertainty or changing plans. Facing the unknown pulls on every ounce of our anxiety and fear. It rings all our stress alarms and can erode our patience .... Fortunately for us, we worship a God who is gracious beyond imagination and meets us on every twist and turn of the road home. So let us pray together now, knowing that even in our worst moments, we are held by God.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**God of changed plans, The Magi heard in a dream that they were to take a new way home—a different path, an untraveled road. And to our amazement, they did just that. The Magi packed their bags and went home by another way. We wish that change could be easy for us, but more often than not, when whispers of change come, we tend to clench our fists and hold on tighter. Forgive us for resisting change that might be holy. Forgive us for ignoring that there is more than one road home. Forgive us for failing to hear your invitation. Guide our steps to unfamiliar places. Gratefully we pray, Amen.**

**MINUTE OF SILENT PERSONAL CONFESSION** *Let us sing to the Lord...*

**KYRIE—All Sing**



**DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

No matter which roads we take in this one wild and precious life, God walks with us. God never leaves our side. When the road changes and we find ourselves on a new path home, God is always there. So hear and believe this good news: No matter where we go, no matter what we do, we are claimed, loved, and held by God. **Thanks be to God for a love like that.**

**SPECIAL MUSIC** *Masters in This Hall; French carol arr. Douglas Wagner*

**PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD**

**PROCESSIONAL HYMN #591** *Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!*

**CHILDREN'S MOMENT** *Children's Sermon*

*(The children will be dismissed to Children's Church after the Children's Moment.)*

**RECESSIONAL HYMN** *Jesus Loves the Little Children*

Jesus loves the little children, All the children of the world.  
Red, and yellow, black, and white, They are precious in His sight,  
Jesus loves the little children of the world.

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Holy God, You speak to us in Scripture and in prayers, in sunrises and sunsets, in friends and in strangers, in dreams and in songs. You are speaking all the time, and how often do we miss it? Still our minds so that we can listen with a depth that we have not heard before. Still our hearts so that we can receive with open arms what it is you are offering us today. We know you are speaking, so we are listening. Gratefully we pray, **Amen.**

**NEW TESTAMENT READING:** Matthew 2:1-12

**SERMON** *The Journey* *Rev. Tom Dunlap*

**MOMENT FOR REFLECTION**

**RESPONSE TO THE WORD**

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *Apostles' Creed (Ecumenical)*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**  
**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**  
**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**DOXOLOGY Hymn #609**

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise God, in Jesus fully known:  
Praise God, all creatures high and low. Creator, Word, and Spirit one.  
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

God of new beginnings, We offer these gifts to you today because we love you. The world will tell us to keep our money to ourselves, to hold it tight, to tuck it away, but just as the Magi made a different choice, we make a different choice. Instead, we give what we have, trusting that when we live like we belong to one another, we will see a better world. So take these gifts and use them for your good. With hope we pray, Amen.

**JOYS AND CONCERNS**

**SEALING THE WORD**

**SACRAMENT OF THE LORDS' SUPPER (see insert)**

*The Lord's Table is open to all who profess faith in Jesus Christ.  
Baptized children are invited to partake with their parents' blessing.  
Please eat the bread when you receive it, symbolizing your personal relationship with Christ. Hold the cup until all have been served, symbolizing our unity in Christ.*

**THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**  
[Clergy expressions; Congregation response]

**THE INVITATION TO THE LORD'S SUPPER**

Gracious God, you call us, you welcome us, you invite us to your table.

**We come—to be fed, to be nurtured, to have our wounds bound and our emotions healed.**

Your table is set before us.

**We come—as one people with one hope.**

Fear not. For I am here.

**(All) With great expectation, let us now meet at your table.**

**HYMN OF PREPARATION #150**

*As With Gladness Men of Old*

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION** *(unison)*

**Eternal God, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his body and blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*See Closing Hymn*

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[Clergy expressions; Congregation response]

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*See Closing Hymn*

**OPENING HYMN ##151**

*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!

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

Frankincense to offer have I: Incense owns a Deity nigh;  
Prayer and praising we are raising, worshiping God Most High.

Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume breathes a life of gathering gloom;  
Sorrowing sighing, bleeding, dying, sealed in the stone cold tomb.

Glorious now behold Him arise, King and God and Sacrifice;  
Alleluia, Alleluia sounds through the earth and skies.

**HYMN #150**

*As With Gladness Men of Old*

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 to Thee.

As with joyful steps they sped, Savior, to thy lowly bed,  
There to bend the knee before thee, whom heaven and earth adore;  
So may we with willing feet ever seek thy mercy seat.

As they offered gifts most rare at thy 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.

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.