

First Sunday after Christmas
10:00 a.m. December 31, 2023

Entering God's Presence

Welcome, Life in the Community, and Ritual of Friendship

*Hymn 152 *What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright* PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

*Expressing Our Joy Reece Humphreys

Leader: The Christ child is born! All who would find him,

People: Prepare for a journey, as determined as the Magi.

Leader: All who would praise him,

People: Come with the faith to follow a star.

Leader: All who would worship him,

People: Come with humility to the child, who shows us the immeasurable riches of God! (Congregation seated.)

Prayer of Trust and Confidence

Invitation to Self-Examination and Confession of our Need for God's Forgiveness (unison)

God of all forgiveness, we pray for new life as we confess our old ways. We hear your promise amid our own self-doubt. Hope is proclaimed, yet we seek guarantees. Christ calls us to obedience, but we set conditions. When called to follow, we ask to what end. We applaud commitment, but we treasure our comfort. Forgive our reluctance to walk in newness of life.

Time of Silence and Personal Confession

Musical Meditation

Assurance of God's Forgiveness

*Hymn 151 *We Three Kings of Orient Are* (vs. 1, 2, and 3) THREE KINGS OF ORIENT

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 (NRSV) [You will find the text on page 581 in the pew Bible.]

Instrumental

Sermon *Turn! Turn! Turn!* Reece Humphreys

*The Apostle's Creed (*Traditional Version*, Page 35) and *Gloria Patri* (No. 581)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Dedicating our Gifts and Tithes ~ **See oursunrise.org to give securely online**
(In the *Offering*, we dedicate our lives and a portion of the resources God has entrusted to us. Your gifts may be dedicated online, by mail, or in-person.)

Offertory with Musical Interlude

*At the Presentation *Doxology* (No. 606) OLD HUNDREDTH

Prayer of Dedication, concluding with *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.

*Hymn 134 *Joy to the World* ANTIOCH

*Benediction

*Going Out into the World

*Those that are able, please stand.

We welcome guest organist Andrew Byrd.