

## THE FAMILY OF GOD IN WORSHIP

*Building a Community of Disciples for Christ*

January 3, 2021

10:55 am



### *The Epiphany of the Lord*

#### WELCOME

Tom Cabaniss

#### PRELUDE

Carol Cone

#### THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Mark Hill

Leader: A single step on a twisted road,

**People: A fragile toehold on an upward climb,**

Leader: A cautious peep around a sudden corner,

**People: A joyful skip on a sun-drenched path.**

Leader: Many journeys,

**People: Yet one common goal.**

Leader: Different paths,

**People: Yet one shining star.**

Leader: Like wise men of old, we come and worship.

#### † CAROL

*The First Nowell*

THE FIRST NOWELL

*The first Nowell the angel did say, Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;*

*In fields where they lay keeping their sheep, On a cold winter night that was so deep.*

*Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Born is the King of Israel.*

*For all to see there was 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.*

*Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Born is the King of Israel.*

*And by the light of that same star The wise men came from country far;*

*To seek for a king was their intent, And to follow the star wherever it went.*

*Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Born is the King of Israel.*

*Then let us all with one accord Sing praises to our heavenly Lord*

*Who hath made heav'n and earth of naught, And with His blood mankind hath brought.*

*Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Born is the King of Israel.*

#### PASTORAL PRAYER

Tom Cabaniss

#### † CAROL

*What Child Is This*

GREENSLEEVES

*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.*

*This, this is Christ, the King, Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:*

*Haste, haste to bring Him laud, The Babe, the Son of Mary!*

*So bring Him incense, gold and myrrh, Come, peasant, king, to own Him;*

*The King of kings salvation brings; Let loving hearts enthrone Him.*

*This, this is Christ, the King, Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:*

*Haste, haste to bring Him laud, The Babe, the Son of Mary!*

#### WORDS FOR OUR CHILDREN

Candice Carter

#### CHORAL PRAISE

*Carol of the Kings*

arr. Jay Rouse

*Kings from afar follow the star throughout the night, led by the Light.*

*Wisemen all three, for they can see wonders and signs, as Heaven shines.*

*Gifts for the King their offering, gold they present, myrrh, frankincense.*

*Glory, glory to the King of kings. All glory, glory to the King of kings!*

*For on this glad morn, Jesus is born. Joy to the earth: welcome His birth!*

*We three kings of Orient are, Bearing gifts we traverse afar*

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

*Born a King on Bethlehem's plain, Gifts we bring to crown Him again,*

*King forever, ceasing never over us all to reign!*

*Glorious now behold Him arise, King and God and Sacrifice;*

*Alleluia, alleluia! Sounds though the earth and skies!*

*On this glad morn, Jesus is born, Joy to the earth; welcome His birth!*

*Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

#### MESSAGE

Tom Cabaniss

#### † CAROL

*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 to Thee.*

*As with joyful steps they sped To that lowly manger bed,*

*There to bend the knee before Him whom heav'n and earth adore,*

*So, may we with willing feet, Ever seek the mercy seat.*

*As they offered gifts most rare At the 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 heav'nly King.*

*Holy Jesus, ev'ry 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.*

#### † BENEDICTION

Tom Cabaniss

#### † OUR RESPONSE

*Amen*

DANISH

#### POSTLUDE

Carol Cone

**†Those who are able please stand.**

## “A Game of Chess”

Matthew 2:1-12

### THE MAGI

These men were often called wise men or kings...

They disappeared from the story as quickly and as mysteriously as they appeared.

Four valuable lessons...

In December, 1903...

### THEY ASKED A QUESTION

Verse 2...

The presence of Jesus raises questions...

Where is the Lord for you?

A relationship with the Lord...

An attorney and a witness...

### THE PROBLEM

Along the way to see Jesus, the wise men encountered a problem with Herod.

Even today, we run into “Herods...”

Nathan Crawford...

### THEY OPENED THEIR TREASURES

After getting past Herod...

We all have treasures...

R. G. LeTourneau...

What could we become?

### A DIFFERENT WAY HOME

Verse 12...

If you want to make some changes in your life...

The original lie of Satan...

A king and his chess game...

