



Our Worship of God

January 5, 2020

9:15 am

(† Indicates those who are able, please stand)

✧ Epiphany Sunday ✧

Welcome & Announcements

Pastor Carol McEntyre

†Call to Worship (responsive)

Arise, for God has placed a star in the sky.

**The brightness of God's light
shines upon all the nations.**

All are welcomed to the nativity of Christ.

God gathers us from far away and carries us.
With radiant eyes, with rejoicing hearts,
we receive the abundance God gives.

We respond in praise.

**With our gifts, with our very selves,
we worship God.**

†Opening Song

What a Beautiful Name/Agnus Dei

†Passing the Peace of Christ

Matthew 2:1-12

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.” When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

‘And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler
who is to shepherd my people Israel.’”

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.” When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

The Gospel of our Lord.
Praise be to Christ.

Prayer for the New Year

O Star-flinging God,
whose light dances across eternity,
dazzle us into your presence this new year.

Open our hearts to the mystery of your love.

Awaken us to your presence,
knit to the ordinary.

Reveal to us what is possible, but not yet present.

Heal us, that we might be healers.

Reconcile us to you and to ourselves,
that our living might be reconciling.

Stop us often, we pray

with news that is good

with hope that holds

with truth that transforms with a Word

tailored to this trail we're on.

May the word of your grace guide our steps
like the bright star guided the magi,
as we travel into the gift of a new year.

Amen.

†Song of Epiphany

We Three Kings

†Offertory Sentence

Offering

Beautiful Story

Message

Carol McEntyre

†Song of Preparation

All Belong Here

Invitation to Holy Communion (responsive)

Since his birth, with the visit of the wise ones, strangers from the East, Jesus was not content to limit his welcome and message to his own people. Jesus was one who reached across human borders and boundaries, seeing in everyone a common heritage as a child of God. Whether it was magi from the East, or a woman from Samaria, or a leper from a nearby colony, Jesus welcomed them all.

We remind one another: Jesus welcomes everyone at this table.

No one is turned away.

If you seek God's presence, come and eat.

If you are hungry for this spiritual food, come and eat.

If you have questions and doubts, come and eat.

If you feel unworthy, come and eat.

This table is spread for all of us that we each might experience

God's abundant and unconditional love.

By the light of the star,
God led travelers to the Christ child.
When they saw the child
they were overwhelmed with joy.
By the light of divine love,
God leads us to this holy meal.

**Gathered together,
we encounter the living Christ
and taste the deepest joy.**

So now, gathered around this table, we recall and recount how the Epiphany God was made known in the actions and words of Jesus as he shared a last supper with his friends:

We remember how the humble service of washing feet revealed the shape of God's Kingdom;

How the blessing, breaking and sharing of bread revealed the pattern of God's life;

how the blessing, pouring and sharing of wine revealed the depth of God's love;

and recalling and treasuring these things we join our voices with those of all creation in recognition and celebration of the grace and goodness of God present and at work in the world.

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Epiphany God, send down your Holy Spirit now on us, and on these gifts of bread and cup, that we might recognize and know you are present with us here, and in receiving the gifts of our love, find ourselves renewed. **Amen.**

Communion

†Song of Response

Follow You Anywhere

†Benediction

Week at a Glance

Monday, January 6

9-10:30 am Senior Yoga

Parlor

1-3:00 pm Staff Meeting

Office Commons

Wednesday, January 8

5:30 pm Praise Band Rehearsal

Fellowship Hall

7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Sanctuary

Sunday, January 12

9:15 & 11:15 am New Sermon Series Begins

You're Enough: Embracing Original Blessing

Announcements

Welcome! We're Glad You're Here

We would love to help you connect with our church. To learn more about First Baptist, fill out an information card during worship and drop it in the offering plate or give it to the pastor after worship. You can also stop by the Connections table and pick up our newsletter, *The Spire*. Information about our Children's Ministry and some of our adult small groups can be found on the back of the bulletin.

New Sermon Series: *You're Enough: Embracing Original Blessing*

Scripture tells us when God spoke the world into existence, all of creation was anointed with goodness. God bestowed this goodness, or blessing, before creation had done anything at all. This gift is called original blessing and all human beings are endowed with it! Yet, our culture constantly bombards us with the message that we are not enough...not thin enough, rich enough, beautiful enough, smart enough, promoted enough, or powerful enough. With all of these negative messages coming our way, how do we develop a sense of inner worthiness? Can we let go of perfectionism and shame? Come learn how original blessing can be an anchor that reminds each of us, "You're Enough."

Combined Worship & Annual Business Meeting

Join us on Sunday, January 26 at 11:15 am in the Sanctuary for Combined Worship followed by our Annual Business Meeting in the Fellowship Hall. We will pause to look back at the highlights of the last year and celebrate all that God has done in and through us. We will talk about ministry plans for 2020. We will vote on the Nominating Committee report and the 2020 budget. Lunch will be provided for a suggested donation of \$6.00.

For Parents:

The nursery (Birth-Age 3) will open at 10:15 am and remain open until the business meeting ends.

First Kids Sunday School will meet as usual at 10:15 am for potty-trained 3-year-olds through 5th grade.

At 11:15 am, potty-trained 3-year-olds through kindergarten can remain upstairs for extended session. 1st – 5th graders are encouraged to participate in combined worship with their family.

Following worship, children who participated in combined worship can be brought upstairs to join those in extended session for pizza, games, and activities.

Worship Notes

Call to Worship, from Feasting on the Word ©2013 Westminster John Knox Press

Prayer for the New Year written by Glenn Mitchell, and posted on MINemergent's Daily Communique.

Communion Litany from Enter With Joy by Pat Bennett. www.ionabooks.com

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Thank you for worshiping with us today! If you wish to share this worship experience with a neighbor, the service is broadcast live, and the sermon is available on our website within a week.



For Children During Worship:

Birth-Kindergarteners can be checked in at the nursery, located next to the sanctuary, where they will be cared for by our professional staff.

1st- 5th Graders are encouraged to participate in worship with their family.

10:15 Spiritual Formation Hour:

Birth-Age 3 Childcare is provided by our professional staff in the nursery, which is located next to the sanctuary.

First Kids Sunday School (3 years old through 5th grade) is on the third floor.

Youth Bible Study (grades 6-12) is on the third floor.

Adult Small Groups are located on the second floor:

-Discussion Group (Parlor) has begun an in-depth study of 1 Corinthians.

Everyone is welcome to join the conversation.

-Faith Forum (Elevator Lobby Classroom) is a diverse group that likes to read the lesson for the day together, share information, and ask questions to learn from one another.

-Connections Group (office commons) is made up of younger adults. They spend time building community, sharing life, and often take on heady theological topics.

*The all-gender restroom is located in the Child Development Center Hallway outside the Sanctuary.

Church Staff

Rev. Dr. Carol McEntyre, Senior Pastor

Michael McEntyre, Associate Pastor of Youth, Missions, and Interim Administration

Brittany McDonald Null, Interim Assistant Pastor

Shelby Myers, Awakening Worship Praise Band Director, Colleen Ostercamp, Pianist and Organist

Marques J. Ruff, Interim Music Director-Traditional Worship

Susan Goudie, Administrative Assistant, Bethany James, Nursery Director

Brenda Rice, Project Coordinator, Michael Ide, Custodian