

He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him.

John 1: 10



Grace Presbyterian Church
Fort Wayne, IN
January 4, 2026

2nd Sunday of Christmas

Community Worship on Zoom – Live Stream/Replay on Facebook

Sunday Service – January 4, 2026

How can we pray for you? Let us know in the Zoom/Facebook Chat!

We invite you to join in the liturgy by speaking the parts in ***BOLD*** with us from your homes!

10:15 – Zoom Meeting Starts ~ ~ ~ 10:20 – Facebook Live Stream Starts

10:30 – Live Prelude Starts

We Three Kings by Hopkins, Jr.

Welcome

Call to Worship –

Arise, shine! For your Light has come.

The glory of God has risen upon us!

The star has led the seekers, the Magi from distant lands.

Christ is revealed to all nations, and salvation dawns for the world.

Come, people of God—let us walk in the Light of the Lord.

We come to worship the One who is Light, and in whose light we see light.

Opening Hymn #150 “As with Gladness Men of Old”

Call to Confession –

In the brilliance of God’s light, we see both God’s glory and our own shadows.

Epiphany invites us to let God’s light shine into every corner of our lives.

With humility and hope, let us turn to God in confession.

Prayer of Confession –

God of Light and Love,

you shine in the darkness, yet we confess how often we close our eyes.

You reveal Christ to the nations, yet we confess how often we fail to see him in our neighbors, in the stranger, in the vulnerable, in the overlooked.

Forgive us, Lord.

We come with gifts too small, with hearts distracted, with fears that dim our trust in you.

Like the Magi, lead us again by your star.

Open our eyes to your presence in the world.

Open our hands to offer our treasures.

Open our hearts to reflect your radiant love.

In Christ, the Light of the world, we pray. Amen.

Time for silent confession.

Assurance of Pardon –

Hear the good news: The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. In Jesus Christ—God-with-us—we are forgiven, restored, and made new.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Amen.

Song of Assurance #583 “Glory to God”

Passing the Peace –

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another. The Peace and Love of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you!

Please take a moment to greet your neighbor and others with the peace of Christ.

Children’s Message

Time for Music & Meditation

Prayer for Illumination –

Let us Pray: Holy God, your Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth. As the Scriptures are read and proclaimed, shine your light into our hearts. Open our minds to discover Christ, open our eyes to recognize him, and open our lives to follow where he leads.

Amen.

Epistle Reading – Ephesians 1:3-24

p.1817

3 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. 4 For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love 5 he predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will— 6 to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves. 7 In him we have redemption

through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace 8 that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and understanding, 9 he[c] made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ, 10 to be put into effect when the times reach their fulfillment—to bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ.

11 In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will, 12 in order that we, who were the first to put our hope in Christ, might be for the praise of his glory. 13 And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, 14 who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession—to the praise of his glory.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Choir Anthem #459 "O Word of God Incarnate"

Gospel Reading – John 1: (1-9) 10-18

p.1645

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was with God in the beginning. 3 Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. 4 In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. 5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome[a] it.

6 There was a man sent from God whose name was John. 7 He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. 8 He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.

9 The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world.

John 1:10-18

10 He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. 11 He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. 12 Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— 13 children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

14 The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

15 (John testified concerning him. He cried out, saying, “This is the one I spoke about when I said, ‘He who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.’”) 16 Out of his fullness we have all received grace in place of grace already given. 17 For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. 18 No one has ever seen God, but the one and only Son, who is himself God and[a] is in closest relationship with the Father, has made him known.

Sermon

I Brought Cake. What Did You Bring?

Affirmation of Faith: The Apostles' Creed

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.

Hymn of Response #192 “Lord, the Light of Your Love is Shining”

Prayers of the People —

God of Epiphany light, we thank you for revealing Christ to the world—to the Magi long ago and to us today.

Shine your light upon your church, that we may carry your love to all nations and all neighbors. Where faith wavers, strengthen us. Where hope fades, renew us. Where love grows cold, rekindle us.

Shine your light upon the world you so love. Where there is war, bring peace. Where there is injustice, bring justice. Where communities are wounded, bring healing. Where people walk in darkness, bring the dawning of new hope. Shine your light upon those in need today—the sick, the lonely, the grieving, the

displaced, the hungry. May your comfort surround them and your presence be revealed in surprising ways.

Shine your light upon us, O God, that we may be bearers of your grace: seeking Christ, following his star, and offering our treasures for the sake of your kingdom.

We pray this in the name of Jesus, the Light of the world, who taught us to pray, saying:

We pray this in the name of the One who taught us to pray, saying:

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.

Call to Offering –

Like the Magi who opened their treasures before Christ, we are invited to offer our gifts—not out of duty, but out of gratitude and love. In this season of revelation, let us give with joy, that Christ's light may shine through the ministry of this church and into the world God loves. **Amen.**

Offertory

Prayer Song by Curtis

Doxology #606 “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Prayer of Dedication –

Radiant God, bless these gifts and bless our lives. May all that we offer—our time, our treasure, our talents—shine with the light of Christ. Use these gifts to reveal your love, to guide those who seek you, and to build your kingdom of justice, peace, and joy. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

Announcements

Closing Hymn #156 “Sing of God Made Manifest”

Charge —

Benediction —

Postlude *March of the Three Kings* arr. by Broughton

ANNOUNCEMENTS

January Newsletter: Our community newsletter for January is being put together this week. If you have any upcoming events or reports please get them to the church office by Tuesday, January 6th, 10:00 AM.

Updated Directory: Justin will be updating our directory over the next few weeks. If you have had an address or phone change please send the changes to the office. Not only is this helpful for the office, but once printed, this updated directory will be particularly useful for our incoming pastor.

Annual Reports: If you are responsible for an annual report, please get it to the church office Wednesday, January 7.

All Congregational Meeting: Grace's Annual Congregational Meeting will be on Sunday, January 25, following the service.

Per Capita: The PCUSA 2025 per capita is \$45.05. If you haven't paid, you still can.

Birthdays

Elliot Lehman – January 5

Anniversaries

ZOOM INSTRUCTIONS

To connect to our worship services on Zoom, follow these instructions to watch or listen. You can connect at 10:15 for fellowship; the service starts at 10:30.

Option 1: Automatically Join the Meeting

Follow the link in the email sent every week. This is by far the easiest way to connect to the live video.

Option 2: Manually Join the Meeting

You can download Zoom from <https://www.zoom.us>.

After you have installed the program/app, click on “Join” and enter this information:

Meeting ID: 9712063468 Password: 030414

Option 3: Call in to Listen (Audio Only)

On Sunday Morning, you can call to listen to the service. After you call, it will ask you to enter the Meeting ID and Password Below:

Phone Number: (301) 715-8592 Meeting ID: 9712063468 Password: 030414

As with Gladness Men of Old 150



1 As with glad-ness men of old did the guid-ing star be - hold;
 2 As with joy - ful steps they sped, Sav - ior, to thy low - ly bed,
 3 As they of - fered gifts most rare at thy man-ger, rude and bare,
 4 Ho-ly Je - sus, ev - ery day keep us in the nar - row way;



as with joy they hailed its light, lead - ing on - ward, beam-ing bright;
 there to bend the knee be - fore thee, whom heaven and earth a - dore;
 so may we with ho - ly joy, pure and free from sin's al - loy,
 and when earth-ly things are past, bring our ran-somed souls at last



so, most gra-cious Lord, may we ev - er - more be led to thee.
 so may we with will - ing feet ev - er seek thy mer - cy seat.
 all our cost-liest trea-sures bring, Christ, to thee, our heaven-ly king,
 where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glo - ry hide.



The first three stanzas here use an as/so structure to draw parallels between the coming of the Magi and the spiritual lives of the singers, summed up in the prayer of the fourth stanza. Even though this adapted German tune was named for him, the author did not care for it.

TEXT: William Chatterton Dix, c. 1858

MUSIC: Conrad Kocher, 1818; abr. William Henry Monk, 1861; harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906

DIX

7.7.7.7.7.7

Glory to God

583

Gloria, gloria

Capo 3: (Bm)

(Em) (A)

(D)

Dm

Gm

C

F

(chords continue)

*May be sung as a canon.

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text

MUSIC: Jacques Berthier, 1979

Music © 1979, 1981 Les Presses de Taizé (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)

GLORIA (Taizé)

192 Lord, the Light of Your Love Is Shining

Shine, Jesus, Shine

Capo 2: (G) (C) (G) (D) (G)

A D A E A

While the reference to Jesus as the Light of the world (John 8:12, 9:5) can be understood generally, this hymn is perhaps best understood as a response to the Transfiguration (Matthew 17:1-8/Mark 9:2-8/Luke 9:28-36). This is the most popular of the author/composer's many songs.

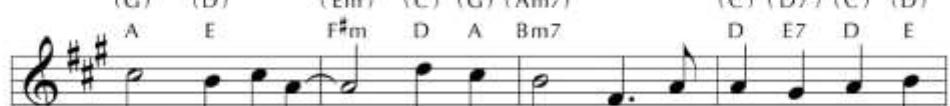
JESUS CHRIST: LIFE

(G) (D) (Em) (C) (G) (Am) (Am/G) (F) (D7sus) (D7)
A E F#m D A Bm Bm/A G E7sus E7



Blaze, Spir - it, blaze; set our hearts on fire.

(G) (D) (Em) (C) (G) (Am7) (C) (D7) (C) (D)
A E F#m D A Bm7 D E7 D E



Flow, riv - er, flow; flood the na - tions with grace and mer - cy.

(G) (D) (Em) (C) (G) (Am) (D7) (G)
A E F#m D A Bm E7 A



Send forth your word, Lord, and let there be light.

Sing of God Made Manifest 156

1 Sing of God made man - i-fest in a child ro - bust and blest,
 2 Sing of God made man - i-fest when at Jor - dan John con-fessed,
 3 Sing of God made man - i-fest when Christ came as wed - ding guest
 4 Sing of God made man - i-fest on the cloud-capped moun-tain's crest,

to whose home in Beth - le - hem where a star had guid-ed them,
 "I should be bap - tized by you, but your bid - ding I will do."
 and at Ca - na gave a sign, turn - ing wa - ter in - to wine;
 where the law and proph - ets waned so that Christ a - lone re-mained:

ma - gi came and gifts un-bound, signs mys - te-rious and pro-found:
 Then from heaven a dou - ble sign—dove-like Spir - it, voice di - vine—
 fur - ther still was love re-vealed as he taught, for-gave, and healed,
 glimpse of glo - ry, pledge of grace, given as Je - sus set his face

myrrh and frank - in - cense and gold grave and God and king fore - told.
 hailed the true A - noint - ed One: "This is my be - lov - ed Son."
 bring - ing light and life to all who would lis - ten to God's call.
 towards the wait - ing cross and grave, sign of hope that God would save.

"Epiphany" means "manifestation" or "showing forth," and this text cites key disclosures of Jesus as Messiah: the coming of the Magi, his baptism by John the Baptist, the wedding at Cana. All are summed up in the Transfiguration, recalled on the Last Sunday after the Epiphany.