

ASSURANCE OF PARDON:

One: ...Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

All: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!**

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST:

One: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

All: **And also with you.**

* PEACE RESPONSE: Sara Schaffzin



Peace is our hope, peace is our joy. Peace is what we strive to share. Lead us on the path of peace, so that your light is seen by all.

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD OF GOD

CHILDREN'S TIME

Children who want to go to Sunday School (K-7) can follow the teachers to their room. Younger children may be dropped off at the nursery (ages 0-4), and all children should be picked up at their rooms following the service.

* HYMN #152: **"What Star Is This"** *Puer Nobis Nascitur*

THE PROPHETS: Isaiah 60: 1-6 p. 690 OT

THE GOSPEL: Matthew 2: 1-12 p. 2 NT

One: The Word of the Lord

All: **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM: "The Star Carol" John Rutter

Sing this night, for a boy is born in Bethlehem,
Christ our Lord in a lowly manger lies.
Bring your gifts, come and worship at his cradle,
hurry to Bethlehem and see the son of Mary.

*Refrain: See his star shining bright in the sky this Christmas night.
Follow me joyfully—hurry to Bethlehem and see the son of Mary.*

Angels bright, come from heaven's highest glory,
bear the news with its message of good cheer.
Sing, rejoice for a King is come to save us—
hurry to Bethlehem and see the son of Mary.

See, he lies in his mother's tender keeping;
Jesus Christ in her tender arms asleep.
shepherds poor, come to worship and adore him,
offer their humble gifts before the son of Mary.

Let us pay our homage at the manger,
sing his praise on this joyful Christmas night.
Christ is come bringing promises of salvation;
hurry to Bethlehem and see the son of Mary.

THE MESSAGE: "Miqedem."

"Magi came from the east to Jerusalem..." - Matthew 2:1

* GLORIA PATRI:



Glo-ry to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Spi-rit: as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for- ever. A men, A - men. A - men!

RESPONSE TO THE WORD OF GOD

* RECEIVING TITHES AND OFFERINGS:

One: As wise ones of old came to give their gifts,

All: **we present to the Christ Child our tithes and our offerings.**

OFFERTORY: "Es ist ein Ros' entsprungen" J. Brahms

* DOXOLOGY: *to the tune of "All Creatures"*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow!
Praise Christ, all creatures here below! Alleluia!
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore.
Alleluia!

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION.

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: *Philippians 2: 5-11*

Let the same mind be in us that was in Christ Jesus; who, though he possessed the form of God, did not cling to it—but emptied himself, taking on the form of a servant, assuming human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself, and became obedient to the point of death — even death on a cross.

Therefore God exalted him, and gave him the name that is above every other name — so that at the name of Jesus, every knee should bow, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE FOLLOWED BY 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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; 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 #153: **"In Bethlehem a Newborn Boy"** *In Bethlehem*

* BENEDECTION.

* CHORAL AMEN.

POSTLUDE: Praeludium and Fugue in C Major V. Lübeck

Join us after the service for coffee, cookies and fellowship time in the Narthex!

IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH:

- **Sunday School today:** children may follow the teachers to the Sunday School room after Children's time. Parents, please pick up your children from the second floor before Fellowship Time.
- **Today in Adult Education:** Kirianne will be leading us in an examination of the Biblical theology of hospitality and welcome. What does the Bible say regarding these themes? When the text refers to welcome or hospitality, what does its message seem to be? Join us in Dodds Hall after fellowship time.
- **Next week's worship:** Next weekend includes the national holiday of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. Our church historically celebrated this Sunday with St. James AME Zion, but family matters keep Rev. Terrance King of their church from worshiping with us that day. After church, however, we invite everyone to join us in walking or driving to St. James to join them in their worship service.

Those who walk: Get your coats on and DO NOT LEAVE THINGS AT CHURCH and meet in the back of the church by the Tower Door. We will walk south on Cayuga Street until we get to the

Commons, where we will stop by the Martin Luther King, Jr. statue and honor it with a round-circle reading and prayer—briefly, only because of the cold! Then we will walk west on State Street and then south on Plain Street to get to Cleveland Avenue and St. James AME Zion.

Those who drive: Streetside parking is free on Cleveland Avenue and in the area of St. James generally. DO NOT LEAVE THINGS AT CHURCH—our church building will be closed when their service is done! If you take someone else who could use a ride, thank you in advance!

*St. James is at 116 Cleveland Ave.
We will have maps available next Sunday!*

- **Karaoke Night!** Join us for our first Family-Friendly Dinner and Karaoke! Saturday, Jan 18, 6:30pm. K-House Karaoke (15 Catherwood Rd) Bring the family! Sing some songs in a safe, comfortable space, Enjoy each other's fellowship and some pizza (K-House serves other food too).
- **Join our Church Directory!** Friends old and new, we would love to include you in our church's directory. To join, fill out the enclosed insert and we will share it with the congregation. Our directory is available in print and on phone—see the back of the insert for more information.
- **Congregational Meeting:** There will be a brief Congregational Meeting at the end of the church service in two weeks on January 26, 2025, for the purpose of electing officers for upcoming terms. We will still have after-church activities as usual. Please join us then!

Our greeters today are:

Marilyn Ewing, Beth Patton, and Linda McLean.

Our ushers today are:

William Chen, Glen Dowell, Will Lloyd, and Charlie Woodworth.

We hold in our prayers:

David Brown; Jennifer Carlson; Mischa Dixon;
Harris Faulkner; Vivian and Jim Russell;
and Marj Smart.

CALENDAR OF CHURCH EVENTS

SUNDAY, JANUARY 5:

9:00-10:00 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
9:30-12:30 pm Nursery Available (Second Floor)
10:00 am Worship (Sanctuary)
11:00 am Fellowship (Narthex)
11:30 am Adult Education (Dodds Hall)
11:30 am Youth Group

MONDAY, JANUARY 6.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 7:

9:00-1:00 pm FPCI Office Hours
7:00-8:00 pm AA Meeting (Dodds Hall)
7:00-9:00 pm Irish Music (Second Floor)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8:

9:00-1:00 pm FPCI Office Hours
9:30-10:30 am Wednesday Worship Meeting
9:30-10:30 am Al Anon (Fireside Room)
5:30-6:30 pm Personnel Committee
6:00-7:00 pm YMSS Committee (Zoom)
6:30-7:30 pm Shepherd Training

THURSDAY, JANUARY 9:

9:00-1:00 pm FPCI Office Hours
9:00-10:00 am Buildings and Properties Committee (Heritage Room)
6:30-9:00 pm Community Game Night (Dodds Hall)
7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

FRIDAY, JANUARY 10:

9:00-1:00 pm FPCI Office Hours.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 11.

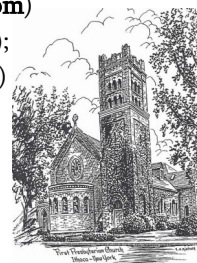
SUNDAY, JANUARY 12:

9:00-10:00 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
9:30-11:30 am Nursery Available (Second Floor)
10:00 am Worship (Sanctuary)
11:00 am Fellowship (Narthex)
11:30 am Adult Education (Dodds Hall)

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and find us on Facebook: First Presbyterian Church, Ithaca, NY.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ITHACA



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firstpresithaca.org

Following Christ's teachings,
we are fully inclusive in mem-
bership and leadership.

A congregation proud
to be PC(USA).

JAN. 12, 2025: CELEBRATING EPIPHANY

PREPARATION FOR THE WORD OF GOD

*This service is being livestreamed. You can view services on our website.
Please share your name in the Friendship Pads at the end of each pew.*

PRELUDE: Epiphany selections from Orgelbuchlein J. S. Bach

WELCOME: Rev. Kirianne E. Weaver

* CALL TO WORSHIP: Elder Tavie Flanagan

One: Give the ruler your justice, O God,

All: and your righteousness to a ruler's son.

One: May they judge your people with honor,

All: and your poor with justice.

One: May the mountains yield prosperity for the people,

All: and may the hills benefit them all.

One: May they defend the cause of the poor among the people;

All: may they deliver the needy and crush the oppressor.

One: Your ruler, O God, delivers the needy when they call,

All: and all the poor—those who have no helper.

One: Your ruler has pity on the weak and the needy;

All: your ruler saves their lives.

from Psalm 72

One: We praise you, O God, that your Christ has come.

All: Let us worship God!

* HYMN #151: "We Three Kings" *Kings of Orient*
Soloists only on verses 2, 3 and 4

PRAYER OF CONFESSION: Rev. Cynthia A. Weaver

Holy and merciful God, in your presence we confess

our failure to be what you created us to be.

You alone know how often we have sinned:

in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts,

in forgetting your love.

By your loving mercy, help us to live in your light,

and abide in your ways, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior...

... Time for silent confession.