



First Presbyterian

CHURCH OF EASTON



SIMPLE CHURCH
January 8, 2023
Epiphany Sunday

**Standing*

WE GATHER

GATHERING MUSIC

TOWER BELLS

PRELUDE

In Dulci Jubilo (Hymn 28)

J. S. Bach

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME

This is the day that God has made!
Let us celebrate the birth of Christ!

*SING

The First Nowell

Verses 1 & 2

**The first Nowell the angel did say
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
In fields where they lay, a-keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
Born is the King of Israel.**

**They looked up and saw 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.**

WE LISTEN

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 2:7-12

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.

LESSON

Star Words

Rev. Stefanie Muntzel

WE RESPOND

*SING

The First Nowell

Verses 3 & 4

**And by the light of that same star,
Three 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.**

**This star drew nigh to the north-west;
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest;
And there it did both stop and stay
Right over the place where Jesus lay:
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
Born is the King of Israel.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Prayers shared by the congregation

Response: **Christ our light, hear our prayer!**

THE PRAYER JESUS TAUGHT

**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.**

GIVE

WE GO

*SING

The First Nowell

Verses 5 & 6

**Then entered in those wise men three,
Fell reverently upon their knee,
And offered there in His presence,
Their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense.
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
Born is the King of Israel.**

**Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord,
That hath made heaven and earth of nought,
And with His blood our life hath bought.
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
Born is the King of Israel.**

*SENDING PRAYER

Follow the light of Christ, trusting it leads you towards joy!

May the grace of God hold you,
The peace of God surround you,
The love of God flow from you
And the strength of God protect you.
Go now to share the grace, peace, love and strength of God with others!

POSTLUDE

In Dulci Jubilo (Hymn 28)

Buxtehude

The flowers today are given by Jason & Andrew Lesonick.

~*~*~

Worship Leaders

Rev. Stefanie Muntzel

Gloria Snyder, Organist

Elizabeth Campbell, Chancel Choir Director

Tech Support: Jacob Van Norman, Bill Bartlett, Rich Linnell, Pat Koefoed, Luke McGloughlin

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*Each Sunday we sing hymns taken from the blue hymnal provided for you in the pew where you are seated.
Though we print the lyrics to the hymns in the bulletin, we encourage you to turn to the hymnal so you can also
read the accompanying music.*