January 5, 2025

Epiphany Sunday

Welcome! We are glad you came to worship with us today! It is our prayer that you will be richly blessed as we worship.

†Denotes please stand as you are able in praise to God.

Pastoral Greeting:

†Opening Hymn: "Angels from the Realms of Glory" UMH #220

Call to Worship:

L: Children of God, we enter the new year as we ended the last: gathered together for worship!

P: We gather to seek, find, and follow the Light.

L: The prophet Isaiah calls to us from deep in the past: "Arise, shine; for your light has come."

P: We gather to seek, find, and follow the Light.

L: The magi followed a star to find a small child who is the Light of the world.

P: We gather to seek, find, and follow the Light.

L: So, let us receive the call of Isaiah and follow the example of the magi as we begin this new year turning our faces to God whose glory shows up among us as a vulnerable child, a poor carpenter, and a footwashing servant who is the salvation of the world.

P: We gather to seek, find, and follow the Light today and every day. Amen.

Call to Prayer of Confession:

L: Because we have passed through the waters of baptism, we dare to bare our souls before God. in God's grace, let us confess our sin. All: Lord, we confess that we have been wrapped up on our secular celebration of Christmas. We have thoroughly enjoyed the music, the food, the swirl of activities. We have looked happily at the Christmas lights and decorations, and yet we have chosen to ignore the people who are most in need of compassion and assistance during this time. We often feel overwhelmed by the demands on our resources and so we turn our "deaf ear" and look away. Open our hearts today, precious Lord, and help us hear the cries of those in need.

Bring us to an understanding of active discipleship in which we work helping others and thus serving you. Heal us and give us courage and joy in your service. For we ask this in Jesus' Name. AMEN.

Words of Assurance:

†Affirmation of Faith: "The Apostles Creed" UMH #881

†Gloria Patri: UMH #70

Passing the Peace of Christ:

Prayer for Illumination:

All: Spirit of God, in the proclamation of your Word, reveal to us the hidden mystery of your love in Christ, and strengthen our faith that we may approach you with boldness. Amen.

O.T. Scripture: Isaiah 60:1-6 Pew Bible Pg. 528

†N.T. Scripture: Matthew 2:1-12 Pew Bible Pg. 681

Hymn of Preparation: "We Three Kings" UMH #254

Message: "Invitations from the Magi"

Special Music:

Pastoral Prayer and Concerns:

Offering of Our Tithes and Gifts:

Holy Communion:

*The Doxology: "Praise God...... UMH #95

†Closing Hymn: "The First Noel" UMH #245

Benediction:

Sending Forth: "Make Me A Servant" TFWS #2176

Church Annoucements!!!!

Weekly Church Services:

Sunday School: 9:00 a.m.

Sunday Morning Worship: 10:00 a.m.

Weekly Bible Study: Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m.

Church Staff:

Ministers: All Members of the Congregation

Asst. to the Ministers: Jay W. Brown, CLM, OSL-Pastor

(856)728-3191(H) - / - (609)238-6916(C)

Lay Leader & Secretary: Lettie-Jane White 856-768-3416

Administrative Chairperson: Roberta Suloff

President of Trustees: Robert White

"Please invite family and friends to view or follow our Sunday Worship at 10:00 a.m. on Zoom.

This is the Zoom Meeting ID and Password:

Meeting ID: 894 5832 3418 Passcode: 14cZDy

You can also join the Zoom Meeting using the below:

 $\frac{https://us05web.zoom.us/j/89458323418?pwd=n2FxM6eb}{qSVsFOzPLKvxDIrgbJdFI0.1}$

Wesley United Methodist Church

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