

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
ROSWELL, NEW MEXICO**

**January 8, 2023
10:00am**

BAPTISM OF THE LORD

GATHERING

PRESERVICE MUSIC

“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”

“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”

“In the Bleak Midwinter”

“Love Has Come” (January Hymn of the Month)

“The Friendly Beasts”

“There’s a Star in the East”

“We Three Kings”

“What Child Is This”

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SHARING OF PRAYER REQUESTS

CHIMES

(The pouring of water invites us to remember and to celebrate our baptism into the body of Christ.)

PRELUDE

“Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring” (Bach)

***PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

Please exchange these words with your immediate neighbors: “The peace of the Lord be with you.” “And also with you.”

CALL TO WORSHIP

Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

The brightness of God’s light shines upon all the nations. All are welcomed to the brightness of God’s dawn.

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 HYMN #263** *“All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name!”* (Holden)

***PRAYER OF ADORATION**

O Lord our God, your glory shines as far as the east is from the west, from the north to the south, so that all people may see and be radiant, so that every heart might thrill and rejoice. Guide us on our baptismal journey in Christ. Overwhelm us with the joy of your presence. May we enter your house and pay homage to him whose infant arms were already reaching out to the ends of the earth that all might be gathered in. In your triune name we pray.
Amen.

***GLORIA PATRI #581** *“Glory Be to the Father”* (Greatorex)

CALL TO CONFESSION

The Gospel of John tells us the basis for our judgement is this: “The light came into the world, and people loved darkness more than the light, for their actions are evil.” We confess our sins to God, to whom we have access through faith in Christ. We come in boldness and confidence, not according to our merit, but according to God’s grace.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of justice, we confess that our actions are evil whenever we remain passive while others are oppressed; whenever we guard our own prosperity at the expense of those who are poor; or when we ignore the cries of those in need of help. Forgive us, we pray, for hiding in the darkness of this world more than loving the light of your righteousness made known to us in Jesus Christ. Judge us with mercy, we pray, and extend your grace to us. Strengthen our faithfulness to you and to all who are precious in your sight. We pray in the name of Christ, our Light. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, God is for us and not against us. For that very reason God sent the Son into the world—not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him. We declare the good news of the Gospel:

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and set free to live a new life in him. Thanks be to God!

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

O God of wonder, as that ancient star rose and guided the magi, illuminating the place where Jesus was, so now may the light of your Holy Spirit shine in our hearts and minds as the Word is read and proclaimed. Guide us again to Christ, and direct us in new paths of faithfulness. In Christ we pray. **Amen.**

MOMENT FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

READING FROM THE BOOK OF PSALMS

Psalm 72:1-7,10-14

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

READING FROM THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES

Isaiah 60:1-6

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT

Ephesians 3:1-12

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

SPECIAL MUSIC *“Do You Hear What I Hear”* (DeCesare) (Choir Ensemble)

(Please stand for the reading of the Gospels if you are able)

*READING FROM THE GOSPELS

Matthew 2:1-12

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

SERMON

*HYMN #151

“We Three Kings of Orient Are” (Hopkins)

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Jesus Christ is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible. All things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn of the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross. Amen.

PASTORAL PRAYER

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

God is our deliverer, helping those who call to God for justice. As people of God, we participate in God's care for creation and for all who are in need. We bring to God our offerings with glad and generous hearts.

MUSICAL OFFERING

"Baptized in Water" (Broughton)

*DOXOLOGY #606

Genevan Psalter

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION

Though we are least among the saints, O God, still you have given us the gift of your grace that we might share with others the boundless riches of Christ, and also the resources we hold in trust. Receive now, we ask, what we have given today. Use these offerings and use us for your plans and purposes. We pray in Christ's name. Amen.

*OUR 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 and ever. Amen.**

SENDING

*CLOSING HYMN #110

"Love Has Come" (French Melody)
(January hymn of the month)

*MOMENT OF SILENCE TO PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

*POSTLUDE

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

*Please stand if you are able where asterisks are printed.
Words in **bold print** are spoken by the congregation.

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