

****PRAYER of DEDICATION (UNISON)**

Emmanuel, God with us, the Magi followed the star to find you. Amazed, they gave gifts. We too are amazed by your presence among us, by the gift that you are to us. With joyful hearts, we bring you our gifts of time, of money, and of ourselves. Use these and us to serve you and your world. Amen.

COMMUNION HYMN #504 “Draw Us in the Spirit’s Tether” (vs. 1-2)

THE LORD’S SUPPER

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

INSTRUCTIONS: For communion, an elder will place a piece of bread in your hand, please hold for all to take together. When the elder gives you the cup, take as you receive.

Prayer after Communion (Unison)

You have fed us, Lord, and we are grateful. Allow us to respond this day, and in the days to come, with hearts made ready, eyes made open, hands made strong, and feet made willing to do your will in this place, and in all the places to which you call us. Amen.

****HYMN of SENDING #68 “What Star Is This, with Beams so Bright”**

****BENEDICTION** *(Please remain seated until instructed to leave.)*

****BENEDICTION RESPONSE** “Go With Us Lord” Tallis

POSTLUDE “Glad Tidings” Chesterton
(Please remain seated until instructed to leave.)

PASTORS: Rev. Bob Thomson and Rev. Diana Hartman

MUSIC DIRECTOR: Becky Tish

ORGANIST: Eleanor Lane

CHILDREN’S AND YOUTH MINISTRY DIRECTOR: Ashley Braisted



Church Mission Statement

As followers of Jesus Christ, under the authority of the Bible, our mission is:
~ Glorifying and worshiping God
~ Baptizing and strengthening disciples
~ Loving and serving all people

*First
Presbyterian
Church*



*Vibrant Worship,
Vibrant Discipleship,
Vibrant Service*

January 3, 2021 ~ 10:00 a.m.

Worship Service Theme: “Epiphany of John the Baptist”

Epiphany / White: Symbolizes the Purity of Christ

PRELUDE “The Shepherds’ Song” Murschhauser

TOLLING of the BELLS

GREETINGS, ANNOUNCEMENTS and PASSING of the PEACE

GATHERING AROUND the WORD of GOD

INTROIT “This Is the Day the Lord Hath Made” Cruger

CALL to WORSHIP

Becky Tish

Leader: The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.

People: Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge.

Leader: There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard;

People: Yet their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world.

Leader: The glory of God echoes throughout the world.

People: Let us praise the name of the Lord.

Leader: Let us pray...

PRAYER of PRAISE (Unison)

God of Advent, of waiting and hoping, keep our hearts expectant, ready for your coming among us. God of Christmas, of celebration and rejoicing, make our hearts glad with the joy nothing can take from us. God of Epiphany, of hiding and making known, fill our hearts with wonder at the revelation of your glory that we have seen in Christ, our Lord. Amen.

****HYMN of PRAISE #470**

“O Day of Radiant Gladness”

Serving Christ Since 1869

220 W. 22nd St. ~ Cheyenne, WY 82001-3614 ~ 307-638-3345
www.firstprescheyenne.org ~ churchoffice@firstprescheyenne.org

****CALL to CONFESSION**

The light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because of their sin. Let us confess our sin to God.

****PRAYER of CONFESSION (UNISON)**

God of grace, you have given us Jesus, the light of the world, but we choose darkness and cling to things that hide the brightness of your love. Immersed in ourselves, we have not risen to new life. Baptize us with your Spirit, that, forgiven and renewed, we may preach your Word to the nations and tell of your glory shining in the face of Jesus Christ, our Lord and our light forever. (A time for silent personal confession) Amen.

****ASSURANCE of PARDON**

This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. If we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. Amen.

****GLORIA PATRI #579**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

LISTENING for the WORD of GOD

PRAYER for ILLUMINATION (UNISON)

Becky Tish

God of all nations, we have seen the star of your glory rising in splendor. The radiance of your incarnate Word pierces the darkness that covers the earth and signals the dawn of justice and peace. May his brightness illumine our lives even now as your Word is read and proclaimed. We ask this through Jesus Christ, your Word made flesh. Amen.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Matthew 2:1-12 (pg. 783)

The Word of the Lord

Becky Tish

Thanks be to God

ANTHEM

Melinda Brazzale and Eleanor Lane

“Carols of the Bells”

Bober

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Mark 1:1-8 (pg. 812)

TIME for CHILDREN

(Children may go upstairs for Sunday School)

INTERPRETATION of the WORD

“Epiphany of John the Baptist”

Rev. Bob Thomson

RESPONDING to the WORD of GOD

****HYMN of RESPONSE #63**

“As with Gladness Men of Old”

****CONFESSION of FAITH - Apostles’ Creed — Traditional Version**

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.

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE and 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.

RESPONSE

“Amen”

Weaver

GIVING of OURSELVES to GOD: Our Gifts and Offerings

As God’s dear children, then, take him as your pattern, and follow Christ by loving as he loved you, giving himself up for us as an offering and a sweet-smelling sacrifice to God. We invite you during the offertory to prepare your offering. You may place your offering in the offering plate as you leave, donate through our website, or send your offering through the mail.

OFFERTORY

“We Three Kings of Orient Are”

Eleanor Lane

Hopkins/Bober

****DOXOLOGY #592**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.