



Epiphany

January 4, 2026



Gathering Around the Word

Prelude

“Ye Holy Angels Bright”

Smith

Welcome

Call to Worship

Arise, shine; for your light has come!

The glory of God has risen upon us.

Tell the good news throughout the earth:

The saving grace of Jesus Christ is for all.

Come and adore the Savior of the nations.

We offer the gifts of our lives to the Lord.

All: Let us sing our praises to Jesus Christ, the light of the world!

Songs of Praise

"Jesus, the Light of the World"	#100
"Away in a Manger"	#86
"O Little Town of Bethlehem"	#88

Prayer of Confession

Great God our Father, you have given us Jesus, the Light of the world. But we often prefer darkness. We cling to sins that hide your brightness. We are frightened disciples, slow to speak your good news. We have not lived your new life. Forgive and renew us, O Lord, and fill us with your Holy Spirit, so that we may preach your Word to the nations and proclaim your glory in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Light forever. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God!

Passing of the Peace

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.

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

And also with you.

Please greet one another with the peace of Christ.

Proclaiming the Word

Scripture Reading	Isaiah 60:1-6	Carrie Heins
Time for Young Disciples		The Sirguy Family
Scripture Reading	Luke 14:1-24	
Sermon	"Ring the Dinner Bell!"	Pastor Matt

Responding to the Word

Hymn of Response	"As with Gladness, Men of Old"	#105
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Affirmation of Faith - Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Offering

Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

#83

Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia!

Glory to God, glory to God,
in the highest heaven!

Peace be on earth, peace be on earth,
alleluia, alleluia!

Communion - Invitation

Great Thanksgiving

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.

Lord's Supper

Communion Hymn

"Arise, Your Light Is Come"

#102

Prayers of the People

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.

Bearing and Following the Word into the World

Closing Hymn

"Angels We Have Heard on High"

#82

Benediction

Postlude

Aria on "Southwell"

Johnson

Leading in Today's Service

Worship Leaders: Pastor Matt, Michael Rivers, Carrie Heins

Pianist/Organist: Anna Nichols

Worship Music Team (varies): Beverly Brown, Jim Buckmaster, Pam Carnahan, Dick Chambers, Iantha Frazer

Media Team (varies): Ruth Brown, Wayne Brown, Dan Cobb, Jody Cox, Bret Curtis, Dona Hair, Michele Haworth, Todd Haworth, Bonnie McCloskey, Bruce McCloskey, Barb Pappas, Bob Pappas, Dorita Reed, Paul Stutesman, Mark Wendt

Slides: Lauren Corder, Cathi Hughes

Next Week's Worship, Sunday, January 11, Baptism of the Lord

Pastor Matt will be preaching (fpcpa.org/worship).

Isaiah 42:1-9, *Luke 14:25-35; "Not an Easy Path"

Jesus cautions those following him that the road he is on is a challenging one. Anyone who wishes to follow him must be prepared for a costly and difficult journey. As we celebrate Baptism of the Lord Sunday, we remember our own baptisms and contemplate the road ahead in 2026. What challenges and opportunities do you see in the year ahead? What tools can we use to remind ourselves that while we fall short again and again, Christ's grace is greater still?