



*Come!*

LET US WORSHIP

THE *Light*

OF THE WORLD!

*Jesus*

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
OF DRYDEN  
**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2024**

## *Welcome to our Church!*

Thank you for worshipping with us

If you are a visitor, we invite you to fill out a Welcome Card, which you will find in the pew rack. You can place the card in the offering plate.

Let us know if we can assist you.

## *Sunday Servants*

<u>AV System:</u> Dave & Tim Parsons	<u>Organist:</u> Michael Singbusch
<u>Kids' Club:</u> Fran Sincerbeaux	<u>Flowers:</u> Flower Committee
<u>Preacher:</u> Nancy Didway	

*All for the glory of God*

## Order of Worship

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Gathering Prayer

✠ Call to Worship from Isaiah 60:1-6

Call: Arise, shine! for our light comes!

**Response: The glory of the LORD has risen upon us.**

Call: Darkness covers the earth, and thick darkness the nations.

**Response: But the LORD arises upon us, and his glory appears over us.**

Call: We lift up our eyes. Kings all gather together to the brightness of dawn.

**Response: They come. Your sons and Your daughters come from far away.**

Call: Then we shall see and be radiant; Your heart shall thrill and rejoice.

**Response: The wealth of the nations shall come to You. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.**

✠ Hymn "Our Day of Joy Is Here Again" # 161

Prayer of Confession & Promise of Forgiveness

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But when we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

1 John 1: 8– 9

**Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment. Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image; through Jesus Christ, the light of the world.**

Do not fear, says the Lord, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name; you are mine. God is doing a new thing; now it springs forth! By the grace of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Isa. 43: 1, 19

**Thanks be to God.**

Welcome Friends at Home

Sharing Our Joys & Concerns

Prayers of the People & *The Lord's Prayer*

Call: God of grace,

**Response: hear our prayer.**

Children's Message "Epiphany Stars" Brenda Carpenter

Children (PreK-5<sup>th</sup> grade) are invited to Kids' Club.

Special Music

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 9:2-7

OT p. 638

Matthew 2:1-15

NT p. 2

Message

“Come! Let’s Go!”

Hymn

“As with Gladness Men of Old”

# 163

Giving our Gifts

† Doxology for the Nativity

“For Unto Us”

# 146

† Prayer of Thanksgiving

† Hymn

“We Three Kings”

# 166

† Blessing

† Postlude

† All are invited to stand as they are able.

Credits: Gathering Prayer by Don C. Skinner. Confession/Forgiveness litany and Prayers of the People from *The Book of Common Worship*, PCUSA. Prayer of Response by J. Barrie Shepherd. Prayer of Thanksgiving and Blessing from *Feasting on the Word – Worship Companion C1*.

## *Prayer and Praise*

**Dave Parson's brother** passed away this week. Our prayers are with his family.

**Aiden Payne** is still sick. Her family appreciates continued prayers for her to get better. She is enjoying the cards and notes that she has been receiving in the mail. (Still no calls or visits, please.)

Joyce Day is down with her family. Your prayers for daughter-in-law, **Robyn Day** are still needed and very much appreciated.

Please pray for Sue Barry's brother-in-law, **Ken Wilkins**, who is hospitalized in critical condition. Also, her brother, **Arthur**, is grateful for your prayers as he undergoes radiation therapy.

Larry King's sister, **Rhonda**, needs continued prayer. She is no longer responding to treatment.

**Barb Davidson** needs prayer to walk through difficult challenges in her life. She also asks for continued prayer for her son, **Tom**.

If you wish to list a prayer request,  
please contact the church office at 607-844-8321  
or [drydenpresoffice@gmail.com](mailto:drydenpresoffice@gmail.com).

## *Deacons' Prayer Circle*

Alternatively, or additionally, the Deacons welcome you to share your prayer request by filling out the **Deacons' Prayer Circle** pew card and dropping it in the offering basket. Requests shared this way will not be made public or added to the bulletin unless you wish them to be.

## Calendar

Sun. 12/29 10:30 a.m. Worship/Epiphany Sunday  
Joe & Doughs

Mon. 12/30 11:00 a.m. Kitchen Cupboard

**Tues. 12/31 New Year's Eve – Office Closed**

**Wed. 01/01/25 New Year's Day – Office Closed**  
**Kitchen Cupboard Closed**

Thu. 01/02 Bulletin deadline

Fri. 01/03 11:00 a.m. Kitchen Cupboard

Sun. 01/05 9:30 a.m. Choir  
10:30 a.m. Worship/Installation  
11:30 a.m. Joe & Doughs  
Choir  
Ministry Committee Meeting

### Ongoing Opportunities to Serve

Here are some much-needed and much-appreciated ways to serve . . .

- ❖ **Be an usher**
- ❖ **Or a liturgist**
- ❖ **Provide a short children's message**
- ❖ **or bring flowers.**



You'll find the sign-up sheet on the easel outside the sanctuary.

**If you have not submitted your pledge card for 2025,**

please do so soon.

Additional cards are in the fellowship hall. Thank you.

# Our Day of Joy Is Here Again

## Verse 1:

Our day of joy is here again,  
With love and peace and song;  
Come, let us join th'-angelic strain  
With voices clear and strong.

## Refrain:

Glory to our God, we sing,  
Glory to our Lord and King;  
Peace, goodwill with all abide  
This holy Christmas tide.

## Verse 2:

When darkness lay upon the earth,  
A glorious light did shine;  
God sent a gift of priceless worth  
And showed His love divine.

## Refrain

## Verse 3:

Now to the manger let us go  
To worship and adore  
The tender Babe upon the straw,  
Our Savior evermore.

## Refrain

## Verse 4:

How wonderful that God's own Son  
Should so Himself abase!  
He thrust the mighty from their throne,  
And gave the lowly grace.

## Refrain

## As with Gladness Men of Old

### Verse 1:

As with gladness men of old  
Did the guiding star behold;  
As with joy they hailed its light,  
Leading onward, beaming bright,  
So, most gracious Lord, may we  
Evermore be led to Thee.

### Verse 2:

As with joyful steps they sped  
To that lowly manger bed,  
There to bend the knee before  
Him Whom Heav'n and earth adore,  
So, may we with willing feet  
Ever seek the mercy seat.

### Verse 3:

As they offered gifts most rare  
At the manger rude and bare,  
So may we with holy joy,  
Pure and free from sin's alloy,  
All our costliest treasures bring,  
Christ, to Thee our heav'nly King.

### Verse 4:

Holy Jesus, every day  
Keep us in the narrow way;  
And when earthly things are past,  
Bring our ransomed souls at last  
Where they need no star to guide,  
Where no clouds Thy glory hide.  
Amen.



## For Unto Us a Child Is Born

For unto us a Child is born,  
Unto us a Son is given,  
Unto us a Son is given:  
And His name shall be call-ed  
Wonderful, Counselor,  
The Mighty God,  
The Everlasting Father,  
The Prince of Peace,  
The Everlasting Father,  
The Prince of Peace.

Text and Music: *For Unto Us*, George Frederick Handel;  
based on Isaiah 9:6, 7; arranged by Tom Fettke  
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# We Three Kings

Verse 1:

We three kings of Orient are:  
Bearing gifts we traverse afar –  
Field and fountain, moor and mountain –  
Following yonder star.

Refrain:

O star of wonder, star of night,  
Star with royal beauty bright,  
Westward leading, still proceeding,  
Guide us to thy perfect light.

Verse 2:

Born a King on Bethlehem's plain:  
Gold I bring to crown Him again,  
King forever, ceasing never  
Over us all to reign.

Refrain

Verse 3:

Frankincense to offer have I:  
Incense owns a Deity nigh;  
Prayer and praising, all men raising,  
Worship Him, God on high.

Refrain

Verse 4:

Myrrh is mine: its bitter perfume  
Breathes a life of gathering gloom –  
Sorr'wing, sighing, bleeding, dying,  
Sealed in the stone-cold tomb.

Refrain

Verse 5:

Glorious now behold Him arise:  
King and God and Sacrifice;  
Alleluia, Alleluia!  
Earth to heav'n replies.

Refrain