

*Wise Men Came from the East* by Michael Torevell

## WORSHIP SERVICE AND COMMUNION

JANUARY 4, 2026

EPIPHANY SUNDAY

2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

614 Griffis Street, Cary, NC 27511

[www.carypresbyterian.org](http://www.carypresbyterian.org)

# ORDER OF WORSHIP — 10:30 A.M.

## Gathering

(\* Please stand as you are able.)

### Gathering Chime

**Prelude**

*The Three Wise Men*

Traditional

### Welcome and Announcements

**\*Introit**

*The First Nowell (v. 5)*

No. 147

### \*Call to Worship

In the dark of morning,

**the stars still shine.**

In the depth of winter,

**the birds still climb.**

At the start of the year,

tender and new,

**God is here.**

**God is near.**

Do not rest in your fear.

**God is here.**

So like the stars and the birds,

**Let us worship holy God.**

**\*Hymn**

*We Three Kings of Orient Are (vv. 1-4)*

No. 151

### Call to Confession

### Prayer of Confession

Ever-loving God,

we long for Christmas to usher in a season of peace and joy.

However, we know that is not how the world works.

Even just days after Christmas,

we find ourselves face to face with fear once again.

So today we pray—

**forgive us when we allow fear to stop us in our tracks.**

**Forgive us when our own fear  
 prevents us from following your call.  
 Forgive us when fear is louder than love.  
 Show us how to turn our fear into action.  
 Show us how to live like the magi  
 who searched for you in a fearful world.  
 With hope we pray, amen.**

### *Silent Confession*

## **Kyrie**

## *Lord, Have Mercy*

No. 551

Capo 3: (D) F (A) C (D) F (G) (A) (D) B $\flat$  C F

Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have

(A) C (D/F $\sharp$ ) F/A (F $\sharp$ m) Am (G) B $\flat$  (A) C (Bm) Dm

mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy;

(G) B $\flat$  (D) F (A) (Bm) C Dm (Em7) Gm7 (A) C (Dsus) Fsus (D) F

Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

## **Assurance of Pardon**

## **\*Response**

*We Three Kings of Orient Are (v.5)*

No. 151

## **Word**

## **Prayer for Illumination**

## **Scripture Reading**

Psalm 2

**One:** This is the word of the Lord.

**All:** **Thanks be to God.**

**Scripture Reading**

Matthew 2:1-18

**Message***Homage and a Star*

Alan Bancroft

**Hymn***We've Seen God's Face*

Like the ma - gi from the east we tra - vel in - to  
If we find our path has led us to King Her - od's  
We will trust that star to guide us to the place where  
When new threats de - rail our jour - ney from the path we



the un - known Step by step we make the jour - ney, called by  
den of fear Still we'll keep our fo - cus fixed on chas - ing  
we were called Find - ing God em - bod - ied in the humb - lest  
planned to take We won't let fear par - a - lyze us, no we



God to seek the throne O - ver moun - tains, through the des - erts  
down that star so clear Though the ty - rants rage and threat - en  
dwell - ing place of all As King Her - od sends his sol - diers  
won't stay locked in place Stay - ing nim - ble, we'll move for - ward



Seek - ing Christ we fol - low e - ver 'Til at last  
Noth - ing weak - ens our pro - fess - ion It is God's  
Time stands still while we be - hold him Here's where we  
Keep - ing safe by cross - ing bor - ders Move a - round



we reach the place Where we hope to see God's face  
voice we have heard Fear will not have the last word  
were called to be God's in - car - nate love to see  
the fear with grace For we know we've seen God's face

**\*Affirmation of Faith:** *The 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.**

**Time with Our Children**

Jen Pierce

## Responding

### Offering

### Offertory

*I Saw a Star!*  
Grace Notes Ensemble

Althouse

### Prayer of Dedication

### Joys and Concerns of the Congregation

*Lord in your goodness: Hear our praise; Lord in your mercy: Hear our prayer.*

### Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

### The Lord's Supper

#### Invitation to the Lord's Table

*(All bread is gluten-free. The congregation is invited to come forward to receive the elements, returning to your seats to partake. The elements may be brought to any who choose to remain seated in the pews.)*

### Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: The Lord be with you.

**Many: And also with you.**

One: Lift up your hearts.

**Many: We lift them to the Lord.**

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**Many: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

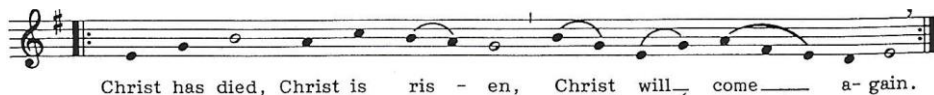
Holy God,  
 you made the world to hum in harmony;  
 you listened and you called it good.  
 In time we broke off from singing the song  
 and went our own way,  
 but you called us back  
 and when the time was right  
 you came in flesh and blood  
 to live as one of us.

Therefore we praise you,  
 joining our voices with angels and archangels  
 and with all the faithful of every time and place,  
 who forever sing to the glory of your name:

The musical score is written for a single voice part in G major (one sharp). It consists of five staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a tempo marking of *mp* (mezzo-piano). The melody is written on a five-line staff with a key signature of one sharp. The lyrics are: "Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and God\_\_\_ of might." The second staff continues the melody with the lyrics: "Heav - en and earth\_\_\_\_\_ are full\_\_\_ of your glo - ry". The third staff continues with the lyrics: "Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san-na in the high - est". The fourth staff continues with the lyrics: "Bless - ed is he\_\_\_ who comes in the\_\_\_ name\_\_\_ of\_\_\_ the\_\_\_ Lord." The fifth staff continues with the lyrics: "Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho-san-na in the high - est." The music is written in a simple, melodic style with many ties and slurs, suggesting a hymn-like quality.

Holy One,  
 the beginning and the end,  
 the giver of life:  
 Blessed are you  
 for the birth of creation.  
 Blessed are you  
 in the darkness and the light.  
 Blessed are you  
 for your promise to your people.  
 Blessed are you  
 in the prophets' hopes and dreams.

Blessed are you  
for Mary's openness to your will.  
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,  
the Word made flesh.



With this bread and cup  
we remember your Word  
dwelling among us,  
full of grace and truth.  
We remember our new birth  
in his death and resurrection.  
We look with hope for his coming.

**Come, Lord Jesus.**

Holy God,  
we long for your Spirit.  
Come among us.  
Bless this meal.  
May your Word take flesh in us.  
Awaken your people.  
Fill us with your light.  
Bring the gift of peace on earth.

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

All praise and glory are yours,  
Holy One of Israel,  
Word of God incarnate,  
Power of the Most High,  
one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## **Breaking of the Bread**

### **Communion**

### **Prayer after Communion**



## Sending

- \*Hymn**                      *As With Gladness Men of Old (vv. 1-3)*                      No. 150
- \*Blessing and Charge**
- \*Response**                      *As With Gladness Men of Old (v. 4)*                      No. 150
- \*Postlude**                      *March of the Three Kings*                      Traditional
- \*Sharing the Peace of Christ**  
*You are invited to share Christ's peace with those around you.*

### Today's Worship Service Participants

**Minister:** Rev. Alan Bancroft, Rev. Dr. Paul H. Lang

**Music Director:** Ed Yasick

**Vocal Ensemble:** Grace Notes

**Lay Reader:** TBD

**Time With Our Children:** Jen Pierce

**Ushers:** Russell Diggs, Jane Dunbar,  
Susan Bowdish, Tom Bolick

**Tech Team:** John Campbell

**Slides:** Karen McMenamin

# Notes. Prayers. or Scribbles

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# This Week at Cary Presbyterian Church

Website and Online Member Directory: [www.carypresbyterian.org](http://www.carypresbyterian.org)

Sunday January 4	9:15 a.m. 9:15 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	Pastor's Class: <i>The Screwtape Letters</i> (FH Annex) Feasting on the Word Bible Study (Parlor) Sunday Worship Service (In Person & Online)
Monday January 5	11:00 a.m. 6:15 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Staff Meeting (Parlor) GSA Troop 1951 (Youth Area) BSA Troop 232G (Fellowship Hall) Cub Scout Pack 232 Den Mtgs. (C. Ed. Bldg.) Deacons Meeting (Library)
Tuesday January 6	9:30 a.m. 6:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Triple F (IHOP/Kildare Farm Rd. Cary) Session Meeting (Zoom) Cool Books Club (Zoom) BSA Troop 232B (Youth Area)
Wednesday January 7	7:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
Thursday January 8		
Friday January 9	7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Courage, Strength, & Hope / Alateen (Youth Area) Al-Anon / Courage, Strength, & Hope (101/102)
Saturday January 10		
Sunday January 11	9:15 a.m. 9:15 a.m. 9:15 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	Children's Faith Formation: K-5 <sup>th</sup> Grade (C. Ed. Wing) Pastor's Class: <i>The Screwtape Letters</i> (FH Annex) Feasting on the Word Bible Study (Parlor) Sunday Worship Service (In Person & Online)



find  
your  
place  
at CPC

Ministry teams are a great way to participate in the life and work of the church and 'Find Your Place' at CPC! See the opportunities at: <https://carypresbyterian.org/teams>



Volunteering for a specific activity? All of our current and most used SignUpGenius links are now in one place for your convenience at: <https://carypresbyterian.org/signup>

**SIGNUP  
CENTRAL**