



LEWISTOWN

CHURCH

Presbyterian

Shining the light of the gospel into the heart of Lewistown since 1785

January 5, 2020
Epiphany of the Lord Sunday

Sermon: God Always Gives First

Scripture: Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14; Matthew 2:1-12

17 EAST THIRD STREET
LEWISTOWN, PA 17044
Telephone: (717) 248-4561
lewispres@comcast.net
lewistownpresbyterian.org
Rev. Sarah Sedgwick

LEWISTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Shining the light of the gospel into the
heart of Lewistown since 1785

January 5, 2020

10:30 AM

| | | |
|----------------|--|-----------------|
| Prelude | O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright I Saw Three Ships | Ashdown Wood |
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Welcome and Announcements

Introit

Call to Worship

Isaiah 60:1-3

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

**All: For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick
darkness the peoples;**

Leader: But the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will
appear over you.

**All: Nations shall come to your light, and kings to
the brightness of your dawn.**

Leader: Let us worship together the Light of All Nations!

* **Hymn #66** (blue)

We Three Kings

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Lord God, we call you our King,
but faced with the mystery of your purposes,
riches we can never fully explore,
**we know only too well our need of help and a new
start.** (silence)

Wise men traveled through cities, spoke to politicians,
Followed the star-sign, gave of their treasure –

**We cannot do that. We do not have enough wisdom,
faith or love. May we come then and find you as a
child.** (silence)

Then we would come quietly: with awe, but not afraid;
With joy, maybe pain – tears in our laughter.

We have no precious gifts, but we will kneel, the better to see you, and, forgetting ourselves a moment, dare to reach out and touch your small, warm hand. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

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! Amen!**

Anthem

The Church Shall Rise

Pethel

Sharing Christ's Peace

Leader: As we have been forgiven, let us forgive each other. Let us greet one another with a sign of God's peace. The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

Children's Chat

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture Reading

Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14
Matthew 2:1-12

Sermon

God Always Gives First

*** Song**

Shine, Jesus, Shine

Lord the light of Your love is shining
In the midst of the darkness, shining
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us
Set us free by the truth You now bring us
Shine on me, Shine on me

Refrain:

Shine, Jesus, shine
Fill this land with the Father's glory
Blaze, Spirit, blaze, Set our hearts on fire
Flow, river, flow
Flood the nations with grace and mercy
Send forth Your Word, Lord, And let there be light

Lord, I come into Your awesome presence
From the shadows into Your radiance
By the blood I may enter Your brightness
Search me, try me, consume all my darkness
Shine on me
Shine on me

Refrain:

Shine, Jesus, shine
Fill this land with the Father's glory
Blaze, Spirit, blaze, Set our hearts on fire
Flow, river, flow
Flood the nations with grace and mercy
Send forth Your Word, Lord, And let there be light
Sing praise, sing praise.
Sing praise, sing praise.

Affirmation of Faith

Nicene Creed (Ecumenical)

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: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. 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. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He 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.

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Table

Communion Prayer & 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.

Words of Institution

Communion by Intinction

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Invitation to the Offering

Prayer of Dedication

Offertory Wintertime Pastorale Rowland-Raybold

Doxology #592 (blue)

Prayer of Dedication

* **Hymn #53** (blue)

What Child Is This?

Charge and Blessing

Follow the star,

Seek Christ's light.

Kneel before him,

Offering the treasure of your life;

And share with others the treasure of Christ:

Light in the darkness.

And may the love of God uphold you;

The light of Christ guide you;

And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit

Fill you with joy, now and forever. Amen.

* **Closing Chorus #29** (blue)

Go Tell It on the Mountain

*Go tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and everywhere!*

*Go, tell it on the mountain,
that Jesus Christ is born!*

Postlude

Yuletide Joyeux

Penfield

**if comfortably able, please stand*

Scripture Readings

Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14

Give the king your justice, O God,
and your righteousness to a king's son.
May he judge your people with righteousness,
and your poor with justice.
May the mountains yield prosperity for the people,
and the hills, in righteousness.
May he defend the cause of the poor of the people,
give deliverance to the needy,
and crush the oppressor.
May he live while the sun endures,
and as long as the moon, throughout all generations.
May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass,
like showers that water the earth.
In his days may righteousness flourish
and peace abound, until the moon is no more.
May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles
render him tribute,
may the kings of Sheba and Seba
bring gifts.
May all kings fall down before him,
all nations give him service.
For he delivers the needy when they call,
the poor and those who have no helper.
He has pity on the weak and the needy,
and saves the lives of the needy.
From oppression and violence he redeems their life;
and precious is their blood in his sight.

Matthew 2:1-12

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage."

When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler
who is to shepherd my people Israel.'"

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

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SERVING IN WORSHIP

Accompanist: Joan Loewen

Introit & Anthem: Chancel Choir; Director, Doug Garner

Liturgist: Bill Sisson

Next Week: Paul Olbrich

Acolyte: Lucas Garner

Children's Chat: Pastor Sarah

Next Week: Leah Riden

Ushers: Shelly & Kevin Kodish, Derek Warke, Gloria Runk,
Larry Welshans

Children's Church: Communion; no children's church

Next Week: Leah Riden

Infants/Preschool: Kate Diven

Next Week: Donis Zagurskie

Deacon for the Month: Larry Welshans

Counters: Ed Curry & Lonnie Griffith

Next Week: Lisa Snyder & Lynn Curry

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME! If you are visiting with us, please sign the Visitors' Register and pick up a Welcome Brochure. Children's activity bags, Bibles, large print hymnals and hearing devices are available from the ushers.

TUESDAY SMALL GROUP: The Tuesday night group is starting the new year with a new study! Join us as we begin "*Circle Maker: Praying circles around your biggest dreams and greatest fears.*" This is a DVD/discussion study by Mark Batterson. All are welcome!

YOUTH: It's IMPACT time! March 6-8 at the Radisson, Camp Hill. All youth, grades 6-12 are invited to attend this high energy, Jesus-focused weekend youth conference. See Ginny Westover or Susan Ferguson for a brochure and registration form.

THE ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF ELDERS AND DEACONS will take place next Sunday, January 12, 2019 during our worship service. Also, a **congregational meeting** will be held at the end of the worship service on **Sunday, January 19**, to receive a motion from the Pastor Nominating Committee.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the congregation and corporation of the Lewistown Presbyterian Church will be held on Sunday, February 2, 2020. Reports for the **Annual Report are due by January 10.**

2020 OFFERING ENVELOPES are available in the narthex.

A HUGE THANK YOU to the Christian Education Team, including CE Director Ginny Westover, for creating and leading a wonderful Epiphany event yesterday for all ages! Follow the light!

WEEKLY REFLECTION PAGE

The weekly reflection page is a resource for your use to dig deeper into today's scripture and worship theme.

Question for Reflection

"Ponder these words in your hearts." Ponder the selection of your star word. What is the definition of your star word? Hang or place your star word somewhere you will see it every day and allow your word to speak in and through you.

"Epiphany is the celebration of God's presence breaking through to shine as a light in the darkness. May your star word be your personal reminder that God is generous and giving – One star gift at a time."

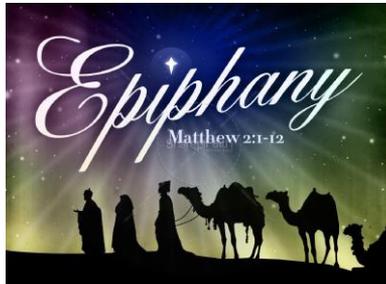
Morning Prayer

God of this new morning, you have awakened me to the brightness of your dawn. I begin this day in gratitude, recalling your mercies through the night, anticipating glimpses of your glory in the hours ahead. Make my face shine today with the joy of your grace, so that another is helped to see your presence and find hope. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

Evening Prayer

God of love, I will not be afraid of the darkness, for you are with me. Your glory never recedes, but is always expanding, bringing more and more people into the sphere of your love. Thank you for such boundless grace as has been given in Jesus Christ. Make me a prism for the light of Christ, reflecting his grace to others all my days. In his name I pray. Amen.

Feel free to share some thoughts on the reflection question with Pastor Sarah by emailing her at pastorsedgwick@gmail.com



CALENDAR OF UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

SUNDAY, January 5 Pick your STAR word!

9:00 AM Adult Study Group – Library

10:30 AM Worship Service

MONDAY, January 6

11:30 AM Prayer Ministry

TUESDAY, January 7

6:30 PM Small Group Study – third floor

WEDNESDAY, January 8

7:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

SUNDAY, January 12

9:00 AM Adult Study Group – Library

10:30 AM Worship Service

Ordination & Installation of Deacons & Elders

11:30 AM Deacons' Meeting

GIVING REPORT AS OF 12/29/19

Weekly Need: \$ 3,173.08 YTD Need: \$ 165,000.00

Received: \$ 2,805.94 YTD Received: \$ 163,138.90

If you would like to schedule a meeting or event at the church, please call the church office so that we can avoid conflicts and properly publicize church related events.

A number of 12 Step Groups meet in the church building throughout the week. If you or someone you know is interested, call the church office or check the listing at the Third Street church entrance for a list of meeting times.