

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.

What can I give him,
poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd
I would bring a lamb;
if I were a Wise Man,
I would do my part;
yet what I can I give him —
give my heart.

From "In the bleak mid-winter" (No. 145) in The Book of Praise,
based on a poem by the English poet Christina Rossetti.

Canadian Ministries

030116



Epiphany Sunday



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, January 3, 2016

Communion Service/Epiphany Sunday

Please stand at items marked * if you are able.

Passages in **Bold Print** are to be spoken in Unison
Organ Prelude – Hymn and Quiet Reflection

Welcome & Announcements

Rev. Susan Mattinson

Organist - Carol Wehrstedt Music Director- Kendall House

WE GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

* Entry of the Bible

Introit

Call to Worship

* Hymn: *"Songs of thankfulness and praise"* #176

Opening Prayer:

O God of light: by the leading of a star, you revealed your son to the peoples of the earth. Stir in our hearts that we, who know you now by faith, may come to see your glory face to face. Glory be to Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit. God of mercy and loving-kindness, you sent Christ among us as a gift to be the light of the world and to reveal your love to all people. We confess that our sins and pride hide the brightness of your light; we waste our gifts, we ignore cries for justice, and we do not strive for peace. In your mercy, cleanse us and make us new. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

* Children's Hymn: *"We three kings"* #173

(last verse to be sung after Children's Time)

Children's Time

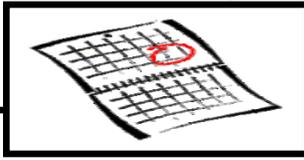
WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Hymn of Preparation

452 (v.2)

**Breathe the Holy Spirit into every heart;
bid the fears and sorrows from each soul depart.**

"Be Still and Know that
I am God" (Ps. 46: 10)
Please take the time before
the service as an
opportunity to quietly
prepare your heart and
mind for worship.

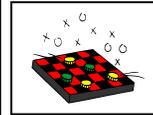


Upcoming Events at First

Tues., Jan 5th	- More than Mission	- 1 pm
Thurs., Jan. 7th	- Choir Practice	- 7 pm
Fri., Jan 8th	- Crafts and Conversation	- 1 pm
Sat., Jan. 9th	- Church de-decorate	- 11 am
Mon., Jan. 11th	- Cards afternoon	- 1 pm
Wed., Jan. 13th	- Session Meeting	- 7 pm

Please take note - choir practice is now at 7 pm

January 16th at 5:30 pm:



The Fellowship Committee invites all members of all four local Presbyterian Churches to a Family Games Night and Potluck at First



NOTICE: all annual reports must be submitted to the office no later than January 19, 2016. Email submission for cut and paste purposes would be much appreciated.

Rev. Susan will be away from January 4th to 11th.
For pastoral emergencies, please contact Ken Haggerty at 622-9536.
Pulpit supply on January 10th is Anne MacDonald.



Thank you this week to:

Greeters: Betty Irwin and Betty Irving

Lay Reader: Lynae Grace

Fellowship Time: Ruth George and Debbie Linkletter

Elevator Operator: _____

Offering Counting: Alice & Laird Morrison and Linda Rydholm

Offering Collection: R. Brown, J. Nystrom, J. Taylor. B. Seabrook

Visiting/Phoning: Joan Anderson

Next week's volunteers: Jan. 10th

Greeters: Betty Irwin and Betty Irving

Lay Reader: Evelyn Konrad

Fellowship Time: Evelyn Kinsman and Vikki & Ian Kinsman

Elevator Operator: _____

Offering Counting: Doug & Joleen Brown and Don Munn

Offering Collection: R. Brown, J. Nystrom, J. Taylor. B. Seabrook

Visiting/Phoning: Joan Anderson

Body, Mind and Soul – Study Guide on Human Sexuality

Please join us for a series of studies on Human Sexuality at 10:00am on Jan. 23, Jan. 30, and Feb. 6. The Presbyterian Church in Canada's study guide "Body, Mind, and Soul" is available as a free PDF at:

<http://presbyterian.ca/sexuality/> A printed version can be ordered from the Resource Centre (1-800-619-7301) for \$10.00. If you would like us to order a copy for you for \$10.00, please notify the church office (623-0717) by January 6th, so we can ensure that your copy gets to you no later than Sunday January 17th. Please make cheques payable to Presbyterian Church in Canada.



Thank you so much to everyone who donates to the Food Bank.

Bible Readings:

Isaiah 60: 1-6

P. 690

O.T.

Psalms 72: 1-10

P. 533

O.T.

Ephesians 3: 1-12

P. 193

N.T.

Gloria Patri:

594

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.

Sermon: "Mystery Made Known"

WE RESPOND TO GOD

Tithes and Offerings

*** Offertory Response**

275

Let every creature rise and bring the honours due our glorious King; angels descend with songs again, and earth repeat the long amen.

Prayer of Dedication

Purposeful Lord, we praise your wisdom and your insight in providing us the opportunity to give to your ministries through this local church during 2015. Through His birth and deeds, Jesus set us free from earthly limitations. Today, we joyously acknowledge that our spiritual blessings are evidence of your love for your children. May these generous gifts be applied according to your plan as we glorify your Holy Name. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Invitation

*** Hymn: "What child is this"**

#161

Affirmation of Faith:

The light of the world has come! The Word is made real and human in our midst. All things are possible with God. Our thanks and praise rise into the heavens. In this season, of all seasons, we believe that God's love will never be

defeated and that peace will come and be found among us. We believe that God has entered human life. Our journeying is forever accompanied by Jesus, who is the light of the world, and is understood in kindness. This we believe and from this we live.

Remembering the Meal with Jesus

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Holy and Merciful God, maker of all; blessed are you for all the wonders of creation. All your works, from the heights of the heavens to the depths of the sea and land, echo the music of your praise. You gave us breath and speech, melody and harmony to join all living things to sing your praise:

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

God of heaven and earth, God with us on the streets where we live, God with us in the tiny babe, Jesus, wrapped in the cloth of childhood, you came to be with us to show us that peace on earth begins for us with your embrace. As Jesus grew in this world of conflicts, you taught us that we must live for justice and guard the last and the least in our lives. As we gather around this table laid for us in Jesus' name, we give you thanks for all the tables we have shared this year and years past. Thank you for all the goodness we taste in the gifts of the earth. We remember all those of your children who do not have enough to share this day and pledge ourselves to do what we can to bless their lives in the coming year:

**Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

(Continued on Page 4)

God of mystery and manger, come again to feed us at this table, so that we may taste your presence in our lives. Let your Holy Spirit move in power over us and over these gifts of bread and wine. As we taste the bread and sip the wine may we know that Jesus Christ, your love made flesh, shares our flesh. Open our eyes to see him in each other and open our hearts to live for him with each other.

Amen.

Sharing the Meal

Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer (debtsdebtors)

WE GO OUT TO SERVE

* Hymn: *"Christ, whose glory fills the skies"*

#177

Blessing

Response:

**Praise the Lord from whom all blessings flow.
He has washed and made me white as snow.
I'm redeemed from all my sin and shame.
Now and forever, praise his holy name.
Praise his holy name. Praise his holy name.
To God be the glory now and forever.
Praise his holy name!**

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT

Our Mission purpose is to put our faith into action through mission education, community outreach, and personal and financial support both at home and abroad.