

**“Whoever you are...wherever you are on life’s journey,
you are welcome here.”
God is Still Speaking**

THE REFORMED CHURCH OF THE

Ascension

**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**



An Open and Affirming Congregation

January 3, 2021

11:00 AM



**1700 West Main Street, Jeffersonville, PA 19403
(610) 539-1693**

www.ascensionucc.org

info@ascensionucc.org

Order of Worship

PRELUDE

“O Gracious Light” (FitzHugh)

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
CHIMING OF THE HOUR
RECEIVING THE LIGHT**

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: A great light has shone upon the earth.

People: Christ the light has come.

Leader: Darkness has been penetrated and clouds of despair scattered.

People: Christ the light has come.

Leader: As magi who followed a star to kneel in awe and adoration before the divine child, let us draw near to worship with wonder and give thanks to God the source of our salvation.

GATHERING HYMN

“Angels From the Realms of Glory” *Glory to God 143*

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Creator God, we acknowledge that the shining forth of your light from within your church is dimmed, for the windows of our souls have become smudged by sin. As a corporate body, we often fail to be the effectual beam of hope and love by which you intend to draw others toward life in you. We confess we are prone to speaking out regarding what we see to be wrong rather than showing the world who we are as members of Christ's body. We confess that a lack of clarity about our Christian identity causes us to be more defensive than proactive, to be more concerned about our own affairs than seeking freedom and justice for all people. We confess also our compromise with the world's values that creates within us, and conveys to others, confused loyalties and aspirations. Forgive us, we pray, for failing to rightly honor and heed the calling of Jesus to be the light to the nations in his name.

silent prayer of confession

“You Are the Lord, Giver of Mercy” *Glory to God 437*

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a time signature of 6/8. It consists of three staves of music. The lyrics are: "You are the Lord, giv-er of mer-cy!" for the first staff, "You are the Christ, giv-er of mer-cy!" for the second staff, and "You are the Lord, giv-er of mer-cy!" for the third staff. Chord symbols are placed above the notes: Em, D, Em, Am, Em, D, Em for the first staff; Am, D, C, D, Em, C, Em for the second staff; Em, D, G, Am, Em, D, E for the third staff.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: By his coming, Christ brought light to earth
which neither sin nor death can extinguish.

People: **As children of the light, we are forgiven of our
sin and freed to live a new life as faithful
followers of Jesus and emissaries of Christ's
mission in the world.**

SONG OF PRAISE

“Halle, Halle, Hallelujah” *Glory to God 591*

PASSING THE PEACE

THE SCRIPTURE READINGS

First Reading Isaiah 60:1-6

“We Three Kings of Orient Are” *Vs. 1-3 Glory to God 151*

Second Reading Ephesians 3:1-12

“We Three Kings of Orient Are” *Vs. 4-5 Glory to God 151*

Gospel Lesson Matthew 2:1-12

Leader: Holy Wisdom

People: Holy Word

THE SERMON

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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.

Forgive us our sins,

as we forgive those who sin against us.

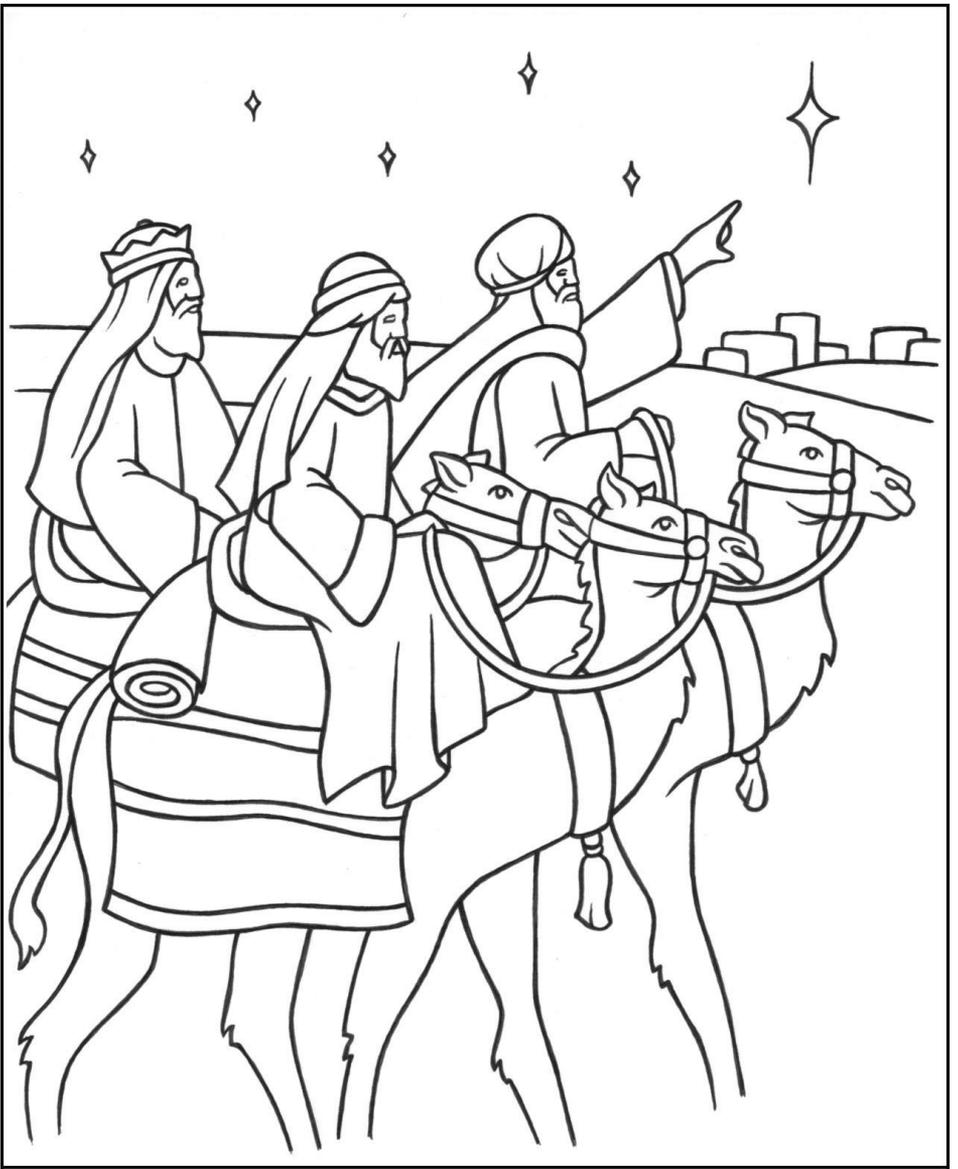
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom,

and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

January Birthdays
1/1 through 1/9/2021

Mary MacNeel (3); Emeric Suto (7); Danielle Gieringer (9)





We welcome you to our Community of Faith. We pray that God will speak to you during this worship experience. If you have need of pastoral assistance, we encourage you to contact Pastor Dwayne at the church office number listed below or make an appointment with him today.

We welcome children in worship at all times. If you would prefer, childcare is available. Please see one of our ushers. Children's bulletins and crayons are available from the ushers.

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| Ministers | All the people of the Congregation |
| Pastor | The Rev. Dwayne A. Mosier |
| Minister of Music | Dan Weckerly |
| President of the Consistory | Liz Brunton |
| Vice President of the Consistory | Michele Luke |
| Secretary of the Consistory | Molly Lorenz |
| Moderator of Spiritual Council | Molly Lorenz |
| Elders: | Liz Brunton, Robin Weed, Mary Lambon Molly Lorenz, Barbara Montague-Graham |
| Chair of the Diaconate | Michele Luke |
| Deacons: | Liam D'Aquila, Sandy Dounce Michele Luke, Lynda Waltman, Christa Cavanaugh |
| Church Secretary | Judy Parker |
| Sexton | Emeric Suto |
| Treasurer | Sandy Maben |

Telephone: (610) 539-1693

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