



SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Valley Community Presbyterian Church
8060 SW Brentwood, Portland, Oregon 97225

January 10, 2010 at 10:00 AM

❖ *Please stand as you are able*
Bold Text is spoken by everyone

GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

HYMN SING

ACOLYTES

Ariel Derting and Elizabeth Boyle

WELCOME & COMMON CONCERNS (Please sign and pass the friendship folder)

OUR PURPOSE IN ACTION

Donna Russell

❖ INTROIT

Carol of the Epiphany (verses 1 and 2 choir, verses 3-5 everyone)

No. 2094

❖ CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist, Elaine Rea

We enter this place of worship in search of light to guide our way.

We seek to exchange the ashes of mourning for the garland of joy.

We come because we have seen the light afar off and desire to come closer.

We want to join with others in walking in the light so we may enjoy true human communion.

We worship that our light may shine and draw others to God's light.

In Christ, the light has come into the world, the bright expression of God among us. Let us worship God!

❖ HYMN OF PRAISE

We Three Kings of Orient Are

No. 66

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God, we thank you for revealing yourself to us in Jesus the Christ, we who once were not your people but whom you chose to adopt as your people. As ancient Israel confessed long ago, we realize that it was not because of our own righteousness, or our own superior wisdom, or strength, or power, or numbers. It was simply because you loved us, and chose to show us that love in Jesus.

As you have accepted us when we did not deserve your love, will you help us to accept those whom we find it hard to love? Forgive us, O Lord, for any

attitude that we harbor that on any level sees ourselves as better or more righteous than others. Will you help us to remove the barriers of prejudice and to tear down the walls of bigotry, religious or social? O Lord, help us realize that the walls that we erect for others only form our own prisons!

Will you fill us so full of your love that there is no more room for intolerance? As you have forgiven us much, will you enable us with your strength to forgive others even more? Will you enable us through your abiding Presence among us, communally and individually, to live our lives in a manner worthy of the Name we bear?

May we, through your guidance and our faithful obedience, find new avenues in ways that we have not imagined of holding the Light of your love so that it may be a Light of revelation for all people.

We thank you for your love, praise you for your Gift, ask for your continued Presence with us, and bring these petitions in the name of your Son, who has truly revealed your heart. Amen.

Silence is kept

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

This is the good news in Jesus Christ: God loves us more than we love ourselves. **God forgives us, encourages us, and frees us to love others. Thanks be to God.**

❖ RESPONSE OF PRAISE

Gloria Patri

No. 579

❖ THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you!

A TIME WITH THE YOUNG CHURCH

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

ANTHEM

This Little Babe, from A Ceremony of Carols

Britten

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Acts 4:1-4, 13 and Matthew 16:13-18

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word
Thanks be to God!

SERMON

A Guiding Light

Pastor Minshew

PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER (p.16)

RESPOND TO THE WORD

OFFERING

Call for the Offering

Offertory

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

Manz

❖ Doxology

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

No. 592

❖ Prayer of Dedication

We are grateful, O God, that we can be part of a cause greater than ourselves. Bless these gifts, as through them our influence extends far beyond our own small circle. Amen.

GO IN GOD'S NAME

❖ HYMN

What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright

No. 68

❖ BENEDICTION

❖ BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Sent Out in Jesus' Name

No. 2184

POSTLUDE

In Thee is Gladness

J.S. Bach