

# SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

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

Epiphany Sunday  
January 11, 2009 at 10:00 AM

❖ *Please stand if you choose*  
***Bold Text is spoken by everyone***

## GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

### HYMN SING

PRELUDE *Greensleeves* Purvis

ACOLYTES Madeline Smith and Will Smith

### WELCOME AND COMMON CONCERNS

CONGREGATIONAL INTROIT *Come Away with Me* No. 2202  
(verses 1 and 5 only)

### ❖ CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Although the beckoning star heeded by wise travelers long ago no longer leads the way,

**All: The manger-born Christ is still to be found and followed.**

One: We are not brought to our knees in surprise as were those journeyers of old,

**All: Yet our desire to worship can be as deep as theirs.**

One: And though we do not bear gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh,

**All: We offer ourselves and what we have.**

One: The story continues. The good news abounds. There is a living Christ to discover and worship and serve.

**All: Let us rejoice and be glad!**

❖ HYMN OF PRAISE *What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright* No. 68

### LITANY FOR EPIPHANY

One: Let us greatly rejoice in the Lord!

See what has happened!

Come, see with your own eyes!

God has sent a Child to us, a Child like no other:  
He shall teach us the ways in which we should go;  
he shall lead us in the paths of peace.

**All: See what has happened! Come and see!**  
**God has sent to us a child just as special as any child.**  
**He cries; he smiles; his parents love him tenderly.**  
**He teaches us the wonder of each new day;**  
**the warmth in his father's hands,**  
**the tenderness in his mother's eyes,**  
**the sunlight on the animals' fur.**

One: He shall be tender and strong, teaching us of God's love.

**All: He shall be hurt and shall weep; he shall celebrate and shall laugh.**

One: We can't yet imagine all that he will become.

**All: We can't yet imagine all that he will become.**

One: Praise to God for this special child come among us!

**All: Praise to God for all the children come among us!**  
**Sing praises to God!**

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God, who has pity on the weak and needy, we come before you admitting our brokenness. We confess that we have not been a source of light to those in desperate need of light, and we confess that we have run from your light, preferring to hide in the dark places of our own need. Have mercy on us. Lift up your eyes and look around. Shine the light of your love on us all, that we may reflect your light in the places of our lives. Amen.

## SILENT, PERSONAL PRAYER OF CONFESSION

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

#### ❖ 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

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

### SCRIPTURE LESSONS

*Isaiah 60:1-6 and Matthew 2:1-12*

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.  
**Thanks be to God!**

### ANTHEM

*The Glory of the Father*

Hovland

### SERMON

*Gold, Frankincense or Myrrh?*

Ben Paroulek

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

## RESPOND TO THE WORD

### OFFERING (Please sign and pass the friendship folder)

Call for the Offering

Offertory

*The Sussex Carol*

Schulz-Widman

❖ Doxology

❖ Prayer of Dedication

**God of Light, we have been illumined by the glory of your presence and enlightened by the word of your grace. We see and have become radiant with your love. We dedicate ourselves and these gifts for service in the world. May we be beacons of love and justice in a darkened world, shining your light on the poor and needy, the victims of oppression and violence, and all living in dark places in need of your light. Amen.**

## GO IN GOD'S NAME

❖ HYMN

*O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright*

No. 69

❖ BENEDICTION

❖ BENEDICTION RESPONSE and RECESSIONAL

*O Laughing Light*

*The time after the benediction is a time for hospitality. Please take this opportunity to make new friends and invite them to join you upstairs at coffee hour.*

**WE WELCOME LITURGISTS** this morning to our service!  
They are all youth active in our church. Participating today are Courtney Bird,  
Taylor Rawlings, Maria Freeborg and Sophia Searce.

