

Merry Christmas to you, still!

Christmas is a season—a short one, to be sure, with only twelve days, but a season nonetheless, with its own rhythm and invitations. I hope the days of Christmas are a time of resting, connecting with family and friends, walking in the beautiful sunshine...prayers for moisture, and doing some dreaming about the year ahead.

This Christmas season ends with Epiphany, a day in which the early church celebrated Jesus' brilliant manifestation (epiphaneia in Greek, also translated as "appearing") not only to the Magi but also to the world through his birth, baptism, and the first recorded miracle at the wedding at Cana. Eastern Christianity maintains this multifaceted celebration of Epiphany, while we in the West focus primarily on remembering and celebrating the arrival of the Magi, those mysterious and devoted Wise Men who traveled far to welcome the Christ and offer their gifts.

As we travel toward Epiphany and savor the final days of Christmas, this is a good time to ponder where we are in our journey. As we cross into the coming year, where do you find yourself on the path? Have you been traveling more by intention or by reacting to what's come your way? What direction do you feel drawn to go in during the coming weeks and months? Is there anything you need to let go of...or to find...in order to take the next step? In the coming months, what gift do you most need to offer, that only you can give?

***This Sunday in worship, we will be drawing our new star words on Epiphany. The premise is this: the magi followed the star to find baby Jesus, bringing their gifts. We are also seeking Jesus, trusting God can/ does use many signs (or stars) to guide us closer to the Divine presence. (We've included a star in your envelope if you receive this by mail.) I ask that you trust the word that selects you and let it speak to you. A word that may seem unclear on Sunday may gain new meaning as the year goes on.***

Blessings to you as we approach Epiphany and the year to come. I look forward to walking with you. - Rev. Sheri Fry



10785 Melody Drive, Northglenn, CO 80234 ~ 303-452-5478

***A Service for the Lord's Day  
January 2, 2022 ~ 10:00 am  
2nd Sunday of Christmas***

## GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

*As the music begins, we invite you to use this time to make the transition from getting here to being here.  
Take these few minutes to silently prepare for worship and allow the Spirit to refresh you.*

### Prayer for the Day

Like an infant's open-eyed wonder and the insights of a wise grandmother, like a young man's vision for justice and the vitality that shines in a girl's face, like tears that flow in a friend bereaved and laughter in a lover's eyes, you have given us ways of seeing, O God, you have endowed us with sight like your own. Let these be alive in us this day, let these be alive in us. Amen.

Gathering Music

Jeremy Kurn

Words of Welcome

Rev. Sheri Fry

Introit

Jeremy Kurn

\*Call to Worship

Liturgist Jay Dee Conrad

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

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

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

**All: In Christ, the light has come into the world, the bright expression of God among us.**

Leader: We worship that our light may shine and draw others to God's light. Let us worship God!

Parts of the service in **bold** are for everyone to speak in unison.  
Parts with an asterisk \* mean that all are to stand in body or in spirit.

\*Lighting the Christ Candle (unison)

Jay Dee Conrad

**We give thanks for the light of hope – unrelenting and inexplicable.**

**We give thanks for the light of peace – strong and unafraid.**

**We give thanks for the light of joy – persistent and unpredictable.**

**We give thanks for the light of love – hot and holy.**

**Let the light we kindle go before us, strong in hope, wide in good will, inviting the day to come. Amen.**

\*Opening Hymn #142

*Twas in the Moon of Wintertime*

\*Prayer of Confession (unison)

Rev. Sheri Fry

**God of Light and Love, we confess that we hide our light, we hold close our love.**

**We fear our light isn't strong enough, and we are afraid of our hearts being broken. We forget that the light is from You, it is not ours alone. We forget that the love You have given us is for all, and that Your love has us when the world breaks us. Help us to shine the light You have given us, to share the love You have loved us with. In the name of Christ, we pray. Amen**

\*Assurance of God's Love

\*Response of Praise

*He Came Down that We Might Have Love (v. 1 & 2)*

## LISTENING FOR THE WORD OF GOD

Prayer for Illumination (unison)

Jay Dee Conrad

**Be light to our path.**

**Be hope to our world.**

**Be born in our hearts again this year.**

**Amen.**

First Lesson

Isaiah 60:1-6

Jay Dee Conrad

Response to Reading

**Leader: Listen to the voice of the Spirit speaking to the church.**

**All: Thanks be to God.**



GoodStuff@GoodShepherd

## Your Church at Work

**FOOD  
BANK**

Tuesday through Thursday 10:00 am - 11:45 am

Third Saturday of the month 9 am - 12 pm. Need donations of toilet paper.



In December the Food Bank served 91 households with

270 people, including 85 children and 70 seniors. In addition to receiving groceries, 269 clients received a filled Christmas Stocking and a \$25 King Soopers gift card.



The Food Bank would like to have a few backpacks (new or gently used) for our homeless clients. See Becky Van Dyke.

The Christmas Joy Offering has collected \$465 to date for special needs of current and past church workers and future church leaders attending college.

The Alternative Christmas Market raised \$840. \$440 will go to the agency for Women's Empowerment, 2 flocks of chicks and some shares of a cow. \$100 will go to Highlands Camp for camperships and \$300 will go to ZMP to help children in Zimbabwe. Thank you to all who helped with these projects for Good Shepherd to help others locally and globally.

## Joys and Concerns



Please pray for those dealing with health issues: for Marion H.; Jim M.;

Bill; Jane; Haylee; Gil; Joan Moore's new great-grandson, Landon;

Tammy Vaughn; and Maxine; for all those grieving the loss of loved ones:

for Jean Cook's family; Burton Kugler's family; the McCarron family; and

Sue C.'s family; and for communities affected by COVID-19 or by human rights violations here in the United States and throughout the world; and for our church, that it may thrive as it brings the good news to our area.

## *Opportunities This Week*

**Monday -** Men's Shed 10 am - noon  
Bell Choir Rehearsal 6:10 - 7:30 pm if needed

**Tuesday -** No ESL Class

**Wednesday -** Choir Rehearsal 7:00 - 8:15 pm

**Thursday -** No ESL Class

## *Opportunities Later this Month*

**January 16th -** Class on Legacy Giving

**January 23rd -** Annual Congregational Meeting

Anthem

"An Epiphany Carol"  
by Valerie Collison

Sara Love, Maria Forlenza,  
and Jeremy Kurn

Second Lesson:

Matthew 2:1-12

Sermon

*Mystery and Magi*

Rev. Sheri Fry

Moment of Silent Reflection

## **RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE**

\*Hymn #151

*We Three Kings of Orient Are*

Offering Ourselves and our Gifts

Offertory

Jeremy Kurn

\*Doxology #606

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below;  
praise Him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen

\*Prayer of Dedication (unison)

God, you have so greatly loved us, long sought us, and mercifully redeemed  
us. Give us grace that in everything we may yield ourselves, our wills and our  
works, a continual thank offering to you, through Jesus Christ our  
Lord. Amen.

## **THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**

Invitation to the Lord's Supper

Great Thanksgiving

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**All:** And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

**All:** We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All:** It is right to give God thanks and praise.

SENDING IN GOD’S LOVE

Leader: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Gracious God, creator of heaven and earth. You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. You have been faithful to us through all generations and continue to speak to us today. We praise You for this table of love You spread in the world as a sign of Your love for all people. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name.

Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord’s Prayer *(unison)*

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 of the People

*We will share the Sacrament of Communion by coming forward to pick up the bread and cup of juice. Please return to your seat and partake of your bread and juice in your own time. We are happy to serve you the communion elements if you prefer to stay seated in your pew.*

*The Presbyterian tradition does not include a specific rite for first communion. Our parents decide when their children are ready to participate.*

Communion Music

Jeremy Kurn

\*Prayer of Thanksgiving *(unison)*

Gracious God, you have made us one with all your people in heaven and earth. You have fed us with the bread of life and renewed us for your service. Help us, who have shared Christ’s body and received his cup, to be faithful disciples, so that our daily living may reflect your presence among us, and our love be your love, reaching out into the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

\*Closing Hymn #152 *What Star Is This, With Beams So Bright*

\*Benediction (Iona Worship Book)

Leader: Let us stand for a moment in silence and value our souls,  
Our minds and our bodies  
On which we will ask God’s blessing.  
All: **May God bless us in our bodies with health,  
In our minds with understanding,  
In our souls with the company of the Holy Spirit,  
That together we may produce a harvest of light  
To the glory of Christ  
Whose flesh we are,  
Whose name we bear,  
Whose love is all.  
Amen.**

\*Benediction Response *(unison)* *Surely the Presence*  
**Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place. I can feel his mighty power and his grace. I can hear the brush of angel’s wings I see glory on each face; surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.**

Postlude

Jeremy Kurn

.....	
Good Shepherd Staff	Accompanist: Jeremy Kurn
Interim Pastor: Rev. Sheri Fry	Audio/Visual Tech: Astin Lopez
revmo25@gmail.com	Liturgist: Jay Dee Conrad
Office Admin: Teddie McConnell	Flute: Maria Forlenza
GSPCoffice10785@gmail.com	www.thegoodshepherd.org
Choir Director: Sara Love	

All hymn texts, song lyrics, and tunes reprinted with permission using OneLicense #A-724275 and CCLI #11455786.