

January 4, 2026

GATHERING IN GOD'S PRESENCE

PRELUDE Melodie

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: In the dark of morning,

People: the stars still shine.

Leader: In the depth of winter,

People: the birds still climb.

Leader: At the start of the year, tender and new,

People: God is here. God is near.

Leader: Do not rest in your fear.

People: God is here.

Leader: So like the stars and the birds,

People: Let us worship God.

*OPENING PRAYER

*SHARING GOD'S PEACE

*HYMN #377 I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Ever-loving God, we long for Christmas to usher in a season of peace and joy. However, we know that is not how the world works. Even just days after Christmas, we find ourselves face to face with fear once again. So today we pray— forgive us when we allow fear to stop us in our tracks. Forgive us when our own fear prevents us from following your call. Forgive us when fear is louder than love. Show us how to turn our fear into action. Show us how to live like the magi who searched for you in a fearful world. With hope we pray, amen.

Leader: Let us continue our confession together in silence.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Family of faith, even when we doubt God's presence,

even when we fail to notice God's fingerprints in this world, God is always moving closer to us. Hear and believe the Good News this year: Nothing can keep God's love away. We are seen. We are forgiven. We are not alone.

People: Thanks be to God. Amen.

LISTENING TO GOD'S WORD

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

FIRST READING

Ephesians 3:1-12

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God

People: Thanks be to God

ANTHEM God Is My Shepherd

SECOND READING

Matthew 2:1-12, 16-18

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God

People: Thanks be to God

SERMON Searching for Epiphany

SILENT REFLECTION

RESPONDING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

*HYMN #151 We Three Kings of Orient Are

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

To share a joy or concern: Click [HERE](#) or use the QR code

OFFERING Serenade

To give online: Click [HERE](#), or use the QR code

*DOXOLOGY

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

GOING IN GOD'S NAME

*CHARGE AND SENDING

POSTLUDE

It is No Secret

“Liturgy by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org.”

Rev. Brett Gudeman, Pastor, brett@erpc.org
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Discover Membership Class Sunday January 18
Contact Pastor Brett or Sheree Fleming for more information. This group will meet in the library after Sunday service.
brett@erpc.org; membership.marketing@erpc.org

