

The Oaks Community Church
Worship Guide



December 28, 2025

I. A Call to Worship

Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise; give thanks to Him and praise His name.
Psalm 100:4 (NIV)

II. Worshipping God through Our Offerings

Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.
II Corinthians 9:6-8 (NIV)



III. **Four Responses of Worship**
The Worship of the Magi
Matthew 2:1-12
Pastor Bethany Rivera

Introduction & Review of our Advent Journey

Scripture Reading

Matthew 2:1–12 (NIV) – The Magi Visit the Messiah

2: 1 After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem **2** and asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.” **3** When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. **4** When he had called together all the people’s chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. **5** “In Bethlehem in Judea,” they replied, “for this is what the prophet has written: **6** “But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.” **7** Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. **8** He sent them to

Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him.” **9** After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. **10** When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. **11** On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. **12** And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

1. Jesus’ Kingship Demands a Response

No one is neutral toward Christ.

Responses in Matthew 2:

- **Herod** – hostility (*Matthew 2:3, 7–8, 16*)
- **Jerusalem** – disturbance and distraction (*Matthew 2:3*)
- **Religious leaders** – indifference and apathy (*Matthew 2:4–6; Micah 5:2*)

The birth of Jesus exposes the posture of every heart. The question is not *if* we will respond—but *how*.

2. True Worship Surrenders to Jesus as King, God, and Savior

Worship is costly, embodied allegiance in both faith and action

The Magi’s worship:

- Follow God’s leading (*Matthew 2:1–2, 9–10; Numbers 24:17*)
- Bow in worship (*Matthew 2:11*)

The Gifts:

- **Gold** – For His Royalty – Jesus is **King** (*Colossians 1:15–17; Revelation 19:16*)
- **Frankincense** – For His Divinity – Jesus is **God** (*Colossians 2:9*)
- **Myrrh** – For His Humanity – Jesus is **Savior**, fully human (*Hebrews 2:14–17*)

3. God Always Speaks & Rewards Those Who Seek Him

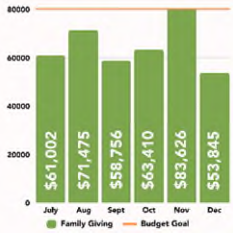
God meets people where they are and draws them to Himself.

- God speaks through a **star** (*Matthew 2:2, 9–10*)
- God speaks today!
- God wants to use us (*Matthew 28:19*)

Jeremiah 19:13 - You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.

God is always speaking and always seeking -will we respond in worship and will we partner with him to bring others to King Jesus in this new year?

Thank you for your generous giving to the ministry of The Oaks. Your prayers and giving are changing lives.



YTD Budget Need: \$ 461,330
YTD Tithes & Offering: \$388,260



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