

# Everybody's Church



First Presbyterian Church of Birmingham

Sunday, January 2, 2022, 8:30am, Second Sunday of Christmas

## Vision Statement

As Everybody's Church we commit ourselves to serving Christ by cultivating mission, inclusion and community.

## Inclusion Statement

As Everybody's Church we strive to be a faithful, open and inclusive community. We welcome the full participation of all people of any ability, gender identity, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation or any other life circumstance.

## Gathering Around the Word

PRELUDE "Prelude on Greensleeves" Purvis

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Bethany Peerbolte

CALL TO WORSHIP Liz Ngare

One: A voice cries out:

**Many: Prepare for God's arrival!**

One: Make the road straight and smooth, a highway fit for our God.

**Many: Fill in the valleys, level off the hills.**

One: Smooth out the ruts, and clear out the rocks.

**All: For our God is coming! Let's worship together.**

†HYMN 150 "As with Gladness Men of Old"

CALL TO CONFESSION Rev. Julie Madden

## UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Way-making God, there is a map set before us and we have preferred to find our own way. We have kept too much for ourselves and still have not felt fulfilled by our excess. Smooth down the mountains of our pride, and lift up the valleys of our ego. Open a path in the wilderness of our lives that we might find our way to you again.

## SILENT CONFESSION

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

†OUR RESPONSE 581 "Glory Be to the Father"

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen, Amen.

†When this symbol precedes an element of the service, please rise in body or in spirit.

Please join in reading those parts of the service printed in **bold**.

Hymntune: DIX

Confession acknowledges the reality of sin in our personal and corporate lives. This practice relieves us from the burden of sin and reminds us of the promise of God's forgiveness and grace sealed in our baptism.

This brief hymn of praise is an ancient text known as the Gloria Patri or "lesser doxology." We sing it to express thanksgiving for God's forgiveness.

## Proclaiming the Word

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

One: The Lord be with you!

Many: **And also with you!**

All: **Living and faithful Spirit, in You we live and move and have our being. Please remove from our minds and hearts whatever impediments hinder worship or dampen our hearing. Increase within us holy longing for knowledge. In the name of Christ Jesus. Amen.**

### FIRST TESTAMENT LESSON

Daniel 2:24-45

One: The word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

### SECOND TESTAMENT LESSON

Luke 3:1-14

One: The word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

### SERMON

“On the Road Again: The Map”  
Rev. Bethany Peerbolte

### MEDITATION

“Who Would Imagine a King”  
Beth Lackey, vocalist

Warren

## Sealing the Word

### INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

### THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

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

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

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Leader: Why do we give thanks and praise before this Table?

People: **We give thanks for God's work of creation, liberation, and salvation.**

Leader: ... who forever sing to the glory of Your name.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and  
might, Heav - en and earth are  
full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the  
Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est, - ho -  
san - na in the high - est.

Please follow along with the reading on page 821 of the Old Testament in your Pew Bible.

Please follow along with the reading on page 60 of the New Testament in your Pew Bible.

Use your bulletin or the prayer page in the Family Worship Resource to write or draw your prayer requests during the Musical Meditation in preparation for Prayers of the People.

“Holy, Holy, Holy” Land of Rest,  
Words and Music: Richard T.  
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*A prayer of thanksgiving for the ministry of Jesus, offered by the pastor.*

**Leader:** Why do we eat bread at this Table?

**People:** On the night before He died, Jesus took bread. After giving thanks He broke it, gave it to His disciples, and said, "Take, eat. This is my body given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

**Leader:** Why do we drink from the cup at this Table?

**People:** The same night Jesus took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sin. Do this in remembrance of me."

**Leader:** What do we remember at this Table?

**People:** We remember God's gracious love for us, Christ's death and resurrection for us, and the Spirit's tender care for us.

**Leader:** Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

**People:** Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

*A prayer calling on the Holy Spirit, followed by prayers of thanksgiving, intercession, and supplication.*

**All:** 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.

## COMMUNION OF THE FAITHFUL

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

## Bearing and Following the Word into the World

†HYMN 159 "O Sing a Song of Bethlehem"

†BENEDICTION

†PASSING OF THE PEACE

POSTLUDE "Prelude in G Major" Bach

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Andrew Herbruck, Director of Music Ministries, is playing the service.

The liturgist this morning is Elizabeth Ngare. Liz, originally from Kenya - East Africa - works in the healthcare field here in Michigan and is currently a student at Ecumenical Theological Seminary pursuing a Master of Arts in Pastoral Ministry. Liz is currently doing an internship here at Everybody's Church where she will further develop ministry practice skills for professional and personal growth as a pastor.

All that we have is a gift from God. In gratitude, we return a portion of those blessings to the work of God in the church.

Hymntune: KINGSFOLD

# Staff

<i>Ministers</i> .....	<i>The Congregation</i>
<i>Senior Pastor</i> .....	<i>Rev. John Judson, D.Min</i>
<i>Associate Pastor/Youth &amp; Mission</i> .....	<i>Rev. Bethany Peerbolte, M.Div</i>
<i>Parish Associates**</i> .....	<i>Rev. Julie Madden, M.Div</i> <i>Rev. Ted Thode, M.Div</i> <i>Rev. Kathryn Thoresen, D.Min</i>
<i>Director of Christian Education and All Abilities Inclusion Ministries</i> .....	<i>Cindy Merten, M.Ed</i>
<i>Education Administrative Assistant*</i> .....	<i>Nancy Quigley</i>
<i>Director of Music Ministries</i> .....	<i>Andrew Herbruck, M.Mus</i>
<i>Trombone Choir Director*</i> .....	<i>Ben Kohns</i>
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<i>Seminary Intern*</i> .....	<i>Elizabeth Ngare</i>
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*\*Part time Staff \*\*Non Stipend Staff*

## Need to Contact Us?

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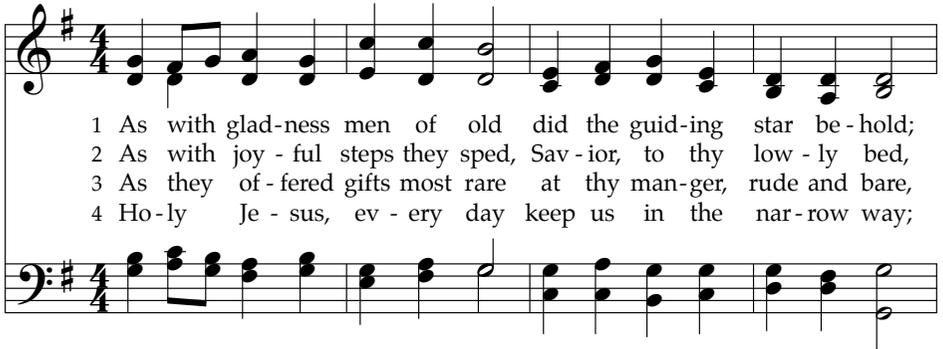


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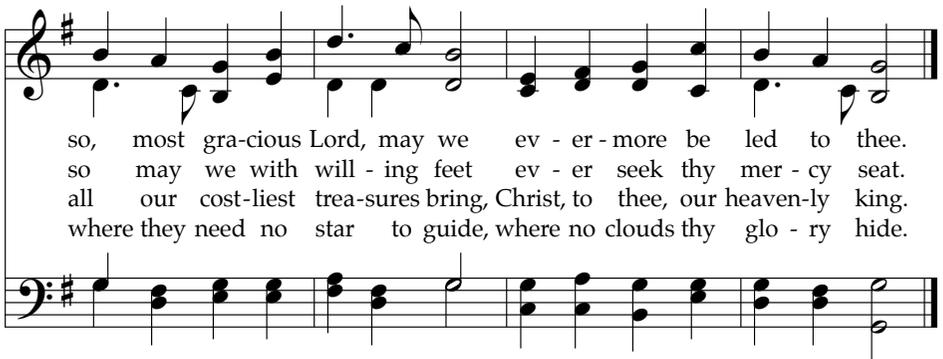
## As with Gladness Men of Old 150



1 As with glad-ness men of old did the guid-ing star be-hold;  
 2 As with joy-ful steps they sped, Sav-ior, to thy low-ly bed,  
 3 As they of-fered gifts most rare at thy man-ger, rude and bare,  
 4 Ho-ly Je-sus, ev-ery day keep us in the nar-row way;



as with joy they hailed its light, lead-ing on-ward, beam-ing bright;  
 there to bend the knee be-fore thee, whom heaven and earth a-dore;  
 so may we with ho-ly joy, pure and free from sin's al-loy,  
 and when earth-ly things are past, bring our ran-somed souls at last



so, most gra-cious Lord, may we ev-er-more be led to thee.  
 so may we with will-ing feet ev-er seek thy mer-cy seat.  
 all our cost-liest trea-sures bring, Christ, to thee, our heav-en-ly king.  
 where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glo-ry hide.

The first three stanzas here use an as/so structure to draw parallels between the coming of the Magi and the spiritual lives of the singers, summed up in the prayer of the fourth stanza. Even though this adapted German tune was named for him, the author did not care for it.

## 159 O Sing a Song of Bethlehem

1 O sing a song of Beth-le-hem, of shep-herds watch - ing there,  
 2 O sing a song of Naz - a - reth, of sun - ny days of joy;  
 3 O sing a song of Gal - i - lee, of lake and woods and hill,  
 4 O sing a song of Cal - va - ry, its glo - ry and dis - may,

and of the news that came to them from an-gels in the air.  
 O sing of fra - grant flow - ers' breath, and of the sin - less boy.  
 of him who walked up - on the sea and bade its waves be still.  
 of him who hung up - on the tree, and took our sins a - way.

The light that shone on Beth-le-hem fills all the world to - day.  
 For now the flowers of Naz - a - reth in ev - ery heart may grow.  
 For though, like waves on Gal - i - lee, dark seas of trou - ble roll,  
 For he who died on Cal - va - ry is ris - en from the grave,

Of Je - sus' birth and peace on earth the an-gels sing al - way.  
 Now spreads the fame of his dear name on all the winds that blow.  
 when faith has heard the Mas - ter's word, falls peace up-on the soul.  
 and Christ, our Lord, by heaven a - dored, is might-y now to save.

This hymn created by a noted Presbyterian hymnal editor and scholar employs place names and sensory images (light, fragrance, wind) to sketch the events of Christ's life. The tune name commemorates the village in Sussex where the arranger first heard the traditional melody.