



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
*of* MADISON



January 4, 2026  
Epiphany of the Lord Sunday

# ORDER of WORSHIP

## THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

### Prelude

### Welcome and Announcements

### \*Call to Worship

Leader: Arise, shine! For your light has come! The glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

**People: Jesus Christ is the light of the world.**

Leader: The mysteries of the ages are revealed, and the eternal plan of God is known to all.

**People: Jesus Christ is the light of the world.**

Leader: Let us kneel down before him with the treasures of our hearts and our lives.

**People: Jesus Christ is the light of the world.**

(Music for the hymns is in the back of the bulletin.)

### \*Opening Hymn

*Here in This Place*

### Prayer of Confession

Loving God, you sent your light to reveal your love for all people. We confess that our greed and pride hide the brightness of your light. We turn away from the poor, we ignore cries for justice, and we do not strive for peace. In your mercy, forgive us. Pour out your Spirit upon us, so that we might be renewed.

### Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Friends, believe the good news!

**People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

An asterisk(\*) indicates that those who are able are invited to stand. Bold letters denote that we say the words in unison. Italic fonts direct us to sing.

*Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,  
And to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,  
And to the Spirit, whose love has set me free,  
As it was in the beginning,  
Is now and ever shall be. Amen.*

**\*Passing of the Peace**

**Leader:** May the peace of Christ be with you all.

**People:** **And also with you.**

(You may pass the peace to one another.)

**PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

**Children's Message**

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Holy One, giver of all light, lift up our hearts to Christ, the morning star that never fades. By the light of your Holy Spirit, reveal to us your words.**

**First Scripture Reading**

Isaiah 60:1-6

Arise, shine, for your light has come,  
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.  
For darkness shall cover the earth  
and thick darkness the peoples,  
but the Lord will arise upon you,  
and his glory will appear over you.  
Nations shall come to your light  
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

Lift up your eyes and look around;  
they all gather together; they come to you;  
your sons shall come from far away,  
and your daughters shall be carried in their nurses' arms.

Then you shall see and be radiant;  
your heart shall thrill and rejoice,  
because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you;  
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.

A multitude of camels shall cover you,  
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;  
all those from Sheba shall come.

They shall bring gold and frankincense  
and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## **Second Scripture Reading**

Matthew 2:1-12

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, magi from the east came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star in the east and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him, and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it has been written by the prophet:

'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah,  
for from you shall come a ruler  
who is to shepherd my people Israel.' "

Then Herod secretly called for the magi and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out, and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen in the east, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

### \*Affirmation of Faith

from Philippians 2

Christ Jesus, being in very nature God,  
did not consider equality with God something to be used to  
his own advantage;  
rather, he made himself nothing  
by taking the very nature of a servant,  
being made in human likeness.  
And being found in appearance as a man,  
he humbled himself  
by becoming obedient to death—  
even death on a cross!

Therefore God exalted him to the highest place  
and gave him the name that is above every name,  
that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

### The Gifts of Our Tithes and Offering

Invitation to Offering

Offertory

\*Doxology

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;*

*Praise Christ all people here below;*

*Alleluia, Alleluia!*

*Praise Holy Spirit evermore;*

*Praise Triune God whom we adore.*

*Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*Amen!*

# **The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper**

## **Invitation to the Lord's Table**

### **The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving**

One: The Lord be with you!

**All: And also with you!**

One: Lift up your hearts.

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

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

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

### **Sanctus**

*Holy, holy, holy! Lord God almighty!  
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee;  
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!  
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!*

### **\*Communion Hymn**

*Shall We Gather at the River*

### **\*Communion of the People**

### **Prayers after Communion and the Lord's Prayer**

#### **Joys and Concerns**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

**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.**

# GOING FORTH TO LOVE AND SERVE THE LORD

\*Closing Hymn

*I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me*

\*Benediction

\*Postlude

*As our time of worship comes to an end, our time of service begins.  
We are the church, sent out in Jesus' name,  
to be Christ's body in the world.*

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## WORSHIP LEADER

Sara Burnet

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **WOULD YOU LIKE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE BY DONATING YOUR SPARE CHANGE TO HELP FIGHT FOOD INSECURITY?**

The Mission Team has created an easy way for you to put those extra pennies, nickels, and dimes to good use. Every Sunday, you'll find a container where you can drop off your coins. Quarters designated for RAMP should continue to go in the tube and will be matched by an amount from the mission budget. All coins collected (except quarters) will be counted at the CoinStar machine at Stop and Shop, and every cent will go directly to Feeding America, which is a nationwide network of 200 food banks and 60,000 food pantries and programs, providing food and support to people facing hunger. According to their website, every dollar donated helps provide at least 10 meals. Families can get involved by having children sort coins into two piles—quarters for RAMP and all other change for Feeding America.



## PRAYER LIST

During the week, each one of us can make it a part of our daily spiritual practice to pray. You are invited to participate, as you are able, offering prayer in light of God's healing love.

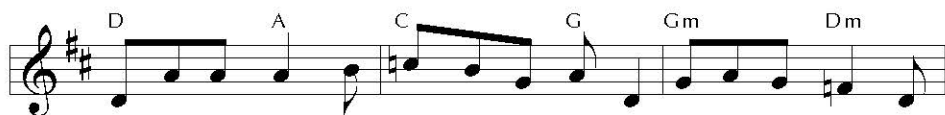
If you have an update for the prayer list, please email Rev. Carol Howard at [carolhoward@pcmadison.org](mailto:carolhoward@pcmadison.org) or call the church office at 973-377-1600. Thank you for helping us maintain a more current prayer list.

- Greg, a missionary in Uganda but back in North Carolina for treatment and rehabilitation
- Ryan, a friend of the Burnets, who had major surgery on December 10th
- Jackie and her children, as they grieve their husband and father
- Mike for healing and return to good health
- Joe for healing and return to good health
- Doug, a friend of the Burnet family, who was recently diagnosed with a serious illness
- Unity and peace in our country
- Anonymous
- Phil and Nancy as they manage her very serious health issues
- Thomas, as he recovers following hospitalization
- Debby & Graham who lost their home in the Texas flash flood
- Immigrants
- Kathleen, caregiver for her parents
- Joe and his family for comfort and support during a very stressful time
- Cristin for strength, rest, and peace as her father's caregiver
- Susan, sister of Bob Landrigan, as she battles Parkinson's disease
- Jeanne, to regain strength after a stroke, and for Mari, her caregiver
- John, who is in a clinical study for treatment of a rare disease, that he received the treatment (not the placebo), and his wife and caregiver, Cathy

## Here in This Place

401

Gather Us In



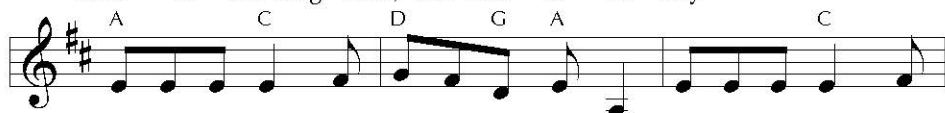
1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing; now is the dark-ness  
 2 We are the young, our lives are a mys-tery. We are the old who  
 3 Here we will take the wine and the wa-ter; here we will take the  
 4 Not in the dark of build-ings con-fin-ing, not in some heav-en,



van-ished a-way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings  
 yearn for your face. We have been sung through-out all of his-tory,  
 bread of new birth. Here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ters,  
 light years a-way: here in this place the new light is shin-ing;



brought here to you in the light of this day.  
 called to be light to the whole hu-man race.  
 call us a-new to be salt for the earth.  
 now is the king-dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for-sak-en; gath-er us in, the  
 Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty; gath-er us in, the  
 Give us to drink the wine of com-pas-sion; give us to eat the  
 Gath-er us in and hold us for-ev-er; gath-er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a-wak-en;  
 proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low-ly;  
 bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash-ion  
 make us your own; gath-er us in, all peo-ples to-geth-er,



we shall a-rise at the sound of our name.  
 give us the cour-age to en-ter the song.  
 lives that are ho-ly and hearts that are true.  
 fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

## 582

# Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

Capo 3: (G) B<sup>b</sup> (D) F (G) B<sup>b</sup> (D) F (G) B<sup>b</sup> (D) F (Em) Gm (D) F

1 Glo - ry to God, whose good - ness shines on me,  
2 World with - out end, 7 with - out end. A - men.

(D) F (G) B<sup>b</sup> (C) E<sup>b</sup> (G) B<sup>b</sup> (Em7) Gm7 (A7) C7

and to the Son, whose grace has par - doned me,  
World with - out end, 7 with - out end. A - men.

(A7) C7 (D) F (F#) A (Bm) Dm

and to the Spir - it, whose love has set me free.  
World with - out end, 7 with - out end. A - men.

(Bm7) Dm7 (D) F (Bdim7) Ddim7 (Em7) Gm7 (Dm)(A7) (D) Fm C7 F

As it was in the be - gin - ning, is now and ev - er shall be. A - men.

## 375 Shall We Gather at the River



1 Shall we gath-er at the riv-er, where bright an-gel feet have trod,  
 2 On the mar-gin of the riv-er, wash-ing up its sil-ver spray,  
 3 Ere we reach the shin-ing riv-er, lay we ev-ery bur-den down;  
 4 Soon we'll reach the shin-ing riv-er; soon our pil-grim-age will cease;



with its crys-tal tide for-ev-er flow-ing by the throne of God?  
 we will walk and wor-ship ev-er, all the hap-py gold-en day.  
 grace our spir-its will de-liv-er, and pro-vide a robe and crown.  
 soon our hap-py hearts will quiv-er with the mel-o-dy of peace.

*Refrain*

Yes, we'll gath-er at the riv-er, the beau-ti-ful, the beau-ti-ful riv-er;



gath-er with the saints at the riv-er that flows by the throne of God.



# 700 I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me

1 I'm gon-na live so (live so)  
 2 I'm gon-na work so (work so)  
 3 I'm gon-na pray so (pray so)  
 4 I'm gon-na sing so (sing so)

God can use me an - y -

where, Lord, an - y - time!  
 (an - y - time!)

I'm gon-na  
 I'm gon-na  
 I'm gon-na  
 I'm gon-na

live so (live so)  
 work so (work so)  
 pray so (pray so)  
 sing so (sing so)

God can use me an - y -

where, Lord,  
 (my Lord,) an - y - time!  
 (an - y - time!)

## NOTES

# CREDITS

**Cover Art:** “Starry Night” by Vincent van Gogh

WELCOMING ALL  
AS A LOVING COMMUNITY  
CENTERED IN CHRIST,  
GROWING IN FAITH,  
SERVING IN JOY, AND  
LIVING IN GRATITUDE

## STAFF

Reverend Carol Howard  
Pastor

Christine Antico  
Bookkeeper

Eileen Koppi  
Administrative Assistant

Michael Callahan  
Student Ministries & Outreach

Anna D'Achille  
Director of Music

WORSHIP  
Sunday Service 10:15 am

## SESSION

Jim Burnet  
Becky Moody, Clerk

Stephanie Haedrich  
Giorgios Vlamis

The Presbyterian Church of Madison is part of the PC(USA) Denomination  
[pcusa.org](http://pcusa.org)



ThePresbyterianChurchofMadison

| [info@pcmadison.org](mailto:info@pcmadison.org)

| 973- 377-1600

[pcmadison.org](http://pcmadison.org)