# **January 5, 2025**



# federated

live your faith

Matthew 2:1-12 Pastor Vicki McGaw

Gathered at Federated Church: 76 Bell Street, Chagrin Falls, OH 44022

Also streaming live at YouTube.com/TheFederatedChurch



January 5, 2025 Epiphany Sunday 10 AM

Chimes indicate the service is starting, and silence is appreciated to prepare for worship.

**Prelude** The Shepards' Farewell to the Holy Family (Berlioz/Cherwein)

Marcia Snavely, organ

**Welcome and Announcements** 

Pastor Vicki McGaw

Introit Rejoice Greatly (Joseph Martin) Federated Choir; Marcia Snavely, piano

Call to Worship (responsive) Rev. Betsy Wooster

One: We come to this place . . . All: Each of us on our own path.

One: The path is winding . . .

All: And the path is not always clear.

One: The path changes  $\dots$ 

All: But we are here.

One: God is walking us home.

All: What a gift it is not to walk alone as we gather to worship God.

\* **Hymn** Go Tell It On the Mountain No. 167

Message for the Young at Heart

Pastor McGaw

Passing of Christ's Peace

(Children K-5 leave for Sunday School)

\* **Hymn** Jesus, the Light of the World [words on screen]

#### Call to Confession/ Prayer of Confession

Pastor McGaw

One: God of changed plans, the Magi heard in a dream that they were to take a new way home — a different path, an untraveled road. And to our amazement, they did just that. The Magi packed their bags and went home by another way.

All: We wish that change could be easy for us, but more often than not, when whispers of change come, we tend to clench our fists and hold on tighter.

\* Those who are able stand

One: Forgive us for resisting change that might be holy, and for ignoring the fact that there is more than one road home.

All: Forgive us for failing to hear your invitation. Guide our steps to unfamiliar places. Gratefully we pray, amen.

#### **Words of Forgiveness**

One: No matter which roads we take in this one wild and precious life, God walks with us. God never leaves our side. When the road changes and we find ourselves on a new path home, God is always there. So hear and believe this good news:

All: No matter where we go, no matter what we do, we are claimed, loved, and held by God. Thanks be to God for a love like that.

#### **Invitation to Generosity**

Rev. Wooster

**Anthem** Three Kings of Orient (John Rutter) Federated Choir; Marcia Snavely, piano

**Doxology** Tune: TRURO

To God, all glorious heavenly light; To Christ revealed in earthly night; To God the Spirit now we raise; Our joyful songs of thankful praise.

Prayer of Dedication

Pastor McGaw

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Fellowship of Prayer

Rev. Wooster

\* **Hymn** As With Gladness No. 173

Scripture Matthew 2:1-12 Pastor McGaw

**Sermon** Pastor McGaw

**Sacrament of Holy Communion** 

Pastor McGaw and Rev. Wooster

## **Communion Prayer**

One: People of Advent, God be with you!

All: And also with you!



One: People of Christmas, lift up your hearts.

All: We lift our hearts to the One who was born for us.

One: People of the Star, offer your songs of joy and thanksgiving to God.

All: We will sing our praises to the One who has revealed glory and hope in the Babe of Bethlehem.

One: Come, all who journey in faith: bring your lives, fragile and holy. There is a place for you here.

All: We come to this table, ready to see anew.

One: God of grace, from age to age you infuse every particle of the universe with wonder. From age to age you surround every form of life with love.

All: From age to age you call to every corner of creation with promise.

One: Some travelers once journeyed together beneath a fiery star to seek the treasure of their hearts. Kneeling in a stable they found the gift they sought.

All: In this season, we also set out seeking signs of your presence and remembering how this child of Bethlehem broke bonds of oppression to pour out compassion for all.

One: We remember a final meal. Where bread and cup were blessed and shared with new meaning: "Here is life. Here is promise. You are my beloved."

All: As we share this bread and cup may we open ourselves to the strength of this love. Amen.

Communion Music

Break Thou the Bread of Life (J.S. Bach, C. Berry)

As the Deer (Nostrum/House) Marcia Snavely, piano

Hymn

Home By Another Way

[words on screen]

Benediction

Pastor McGaw

Morning Star (W. Wold)

Marcia Snavely, organ

~ Departing to Service~

### **UPCOMING WORSHIP**

Sunday, January 12th, 10 AM Rev. Betsy Wooster preaches