

**\*Call to Worship**

Kathy Meeks

Leader: How did you get here?

**Left side of the room: I walked, eyes looking up, following the star.****Right side of the room: I ran, lunging for a love that is bigger than me.****Left side of the room: I tumbled and fell, tender step after tender step.****Right side of the room: I ambled like a river, caught up in God's flow.****Left side of the room: I crawled, kissing the earth below me.**

Leader: Tell me again. How did you get here?

**Right side of the room: I am here by God's grace and love's pull.****Left side of the room: Welcome home.****Right side of the room: This is God's house.****Left side of the room: There is room for you here.****All: Let us worship our gracious God.****\*Hymn** "We Three Kings of Orient Are" 151**Call to Confession****Prayer of Confession (Unison):**

God of new beginnings, We admit that we often follow the well-worn path, simply because others have been there before. Sometimes this is holy and humble, but there are days when a new path needs to be tread. On those new-beginning days, O God, give us the courage to follow your star. Give us the courage to go home by another way. Give us the courage to kick up some dust and walk in a new direction for the sake of justice, love, and neighbor. For when you are doing a new thing, we want to have the courage to follow. With hope in our hearts we wander, we travel. Amen.

**Declaration of Forgiveness**

Leader: Dear travelers, no matter the roads you've taken, the steps you've made, or the paths you've traveled, there is nowhere you could go that would land you outside of God's love. Hear and believe the good news of the Gospel: Regardless of the path we travel, of how lost we may get, or the twists and turns along the way, we do not walk alone. We are loved. We are forgiven. We have every chance to begin again.

**People: Thanks be to God for a love like that!****\*Congregational Response** "Glory to God" (back cover Hymnal)**\*Passing of the Peace****Prayer for Illumination****First Reading** Isaiah 43:16-21**Children's Time****\* Please stand as you are able.****Second Reading**

Matthew 2:1-12

**Message**

"The Long Way Home"

Rev. Wil Reinowski

**\*Hymn**

"In the Bleak Midwinter"

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**Lord's Supper****The Invitation****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 up to the Lord**

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

**People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.***The prayer continues, ending with "sing to the glory of your name..."***Response** "Holy, Holy, Holy" (back cover Hymnal)*The prayer continues with an invitation to the Lord's Prayer. Please join in the language God has it on your heart.***The Lord's Prayer****Words of Institution****Sharing of the Lord's Supper****Prayer After Communion****\*Hymn** "What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright" 152**Invitation to Offering***The offering basket is located at the back of the west aisle of the sanctuary. Feel free to leave your offering at any time.***Offertory** "A Babe is Born!" (Wm. Mathias)**\*Doxology** 606**\*Prayer of Dedication (Unison):**

God of new beginnings, As we offer these gifts, we remember that the Magi carried their treasures across winding roads, trusting that you would use what they brought. Take what we give today—our money, our time, our energy, our hope—and use it to light the way for others. May these offerings help chart new paths of justice, mercy, and love, so that all might find their way home. With grateful hearts, we give. Amen.

**\*Hymn** "Love Has Come" 110**\*Benediction****Postlude** "It Came Upon a Midnight Clear" (arr. Gordon Young)

## In Our Prayers ✝

We pray for Dana Smith for continued healing after surgery. We also pray for our Special Care friends, especially Don Nead and Marilyn Pryor.

## Central Happenings

### **SUNDAY – January 4**

10:00 a.m. Worship (Sanctuary/Online)

### **MONDAY – January 5**

6:00 p.m. Scouts (Scout Room)

### **WEDNESDAY – January 7**

10:00 a.m. Women of the Word [WOW] (Fitch Parlor)

12:00 p.m. Charity Knitters (Discipleship)

5:30 p.m. Bell Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

### **THURSDAY – January 8**

10:00 a.m. Library Team (Fitch Parlor)

**The greeter this morning** is Jan Overton.

**Please use the Ritual of Friendship** pads to let us know you're with us today.

Whether you are in person or on-line, you can also sign in at [centralpreschurch.org/friendship](http://centralpreschurch.org/friendship)

**In our effort to be inclusive** of those who are unable to be with us in person, we live stream our worship services online. For those who are camera-shy, seating is available in the back two rows of the main floor or anywhere in the balcony.



# Central Presbyterian Church

Epiphany

Sunday, January 4, 2026



**Welcome**

**Minute for Mission**

**Prelude**

Chip Goldsberry

“O Magnum Mysterium”

(Morten Lauridsen)

Pastor: Wil Reinowski  
Congregation Coordinator: Jessica Pisarski  
Adult Handbells: Janice Spitalniak  
Organist: Doug Fletcher  
Custodian: Bob Hill

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