

SUNDAY, January 5, 2025

2nd Sunday after Christmas/ Epiphany Sunday

Caldwell United Methodist Church, 8 Academy Road, Caldwell, N. J. 07006

Rev. Kil Jae Park, Pastor

Jackie Han, Music Minister



PRELUDE

“Rise, Shine, You People”

Jackie Han

WELCOME & INVOCATION

Rev. Wayne Plumstead

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: The prophet Isaiah calls to us from deep in the past: “Arise, shine; for your light has come.”

P: We gather to seek, find, and follow the Light.

L: The magi followed a star to find a small child who is the Light of the world.

P: We gather to seek, find, and follow the Light.

L: So, let us receive the call of Isaiah and follow the example of the magi as we begin this new year turning our faces to God whose glory shows up among us as a vulnerable child, a poor carpenter, and a foot-washing servant who is the salvation of the world.

P: We gather to seek, find, and follow the Light today and every day. Amen.

*** OPENING HYMN**

“Hail to the Lord’s Anointed”

UMH # 203

**1. Hail to the Lord's Anointed,
great David's greater Son!
Hail in the time appointed,
his reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression,
to set the captive free;
to take away transgression,
and rule in equity.**

**2. He comes with succor speedy
to those who suffer wrong;
to help the poor and needy,
and bid the weak be strong;
to give them songs for sighing,
their darkness turn to light,
whose souls, condemned and dying,
are precious in his sight.**

3. He shall come down like showers
upon the fruitful earth;
love, joy, and hope, like flowers,
spring in his path to birth.
Before him, on the mountains,
shall peace, the herald, go,
and righteousness, in fountains,
from hill to valley flow.

4. To him shall prayer unceasing
and daily vows ascend;
his kingdom still increasing,
a kingdom without end.
The tide of time shall never
his covenant remove;
his name shall stand forever;
that name to us is love.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, grant us the grace to behold your glory and offer us the assurance that your loving light will not burn us. Grant us the confidence that we too can shine your light in our world. Remove the lampshades of fear and shame that hide our light. Dust off the cobwebs of doubt and despair that shadow our light. Shine in and through us, that your light may brighten our world. In the name of Jesus our Savior we pray, Amen.

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS AND PASSING OF THE PEACE

GATHERING SONG

“He Came Down”

TFWS # 2085

1 He came down that we may have love;
he came down that we may have love;
he came down that we may have love;
Hallelujah forevermore.

2 He came down that we may have peace;
he came down that we may have peace;
he came down that we may have peace;
Hallelujah forevermore.

3 He came down that we may have joy;
he came down that we may have joy;

he came down that we may have joy;
Hallelujah forevermore.

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 2:1-12

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.

Leader: This is the Word of God for the people of God

All: Thanks be to God

ANTHEM

“Morning Has Broken”

the CUMC Choir

MESSAGE

“The Outsiders”

Rev. Wayne Plumstead

RECEIVING THE MORNING’S OFFERINGS

*DOXOLOGY # 95

Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise Him all creatures here below
Praise Him above ye heavenly host
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Rev. Wayne Plumstead

HOLY COMMUNION**The Great Thanksgiving****UMH # 13**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

**It is right, and a good and joyful thing,
always and everywhere to give thanks to you,
Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

**Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.
By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection
you gave birth to your Church,
delivered us from slavery to sin and death,
and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.**

**On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread,
gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said:
"Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me."**

**When the supper was over he took the cup,
gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said:
"Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,
poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."**

**And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving**

as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,
and on these gifts of bread and wine.
Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,
that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ,
one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world,
until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church,
all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

Amen

And now, with the confidence of children of God, let us pray:

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 trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil,
for thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever.
Amen.

* CLOSING HYMN

“We Three Kings”

UMH # 254

1 We three kings of Orient are;
bearing gifts we traverse afar,
field and fountain, moor and mountain,
following yonder star.

Refrain:

O star of wonder, star of light,
star with royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding,
guide us to thy perfect light.

**2 Born a King on Bethlehem's plain,
gold I bring to crown him again,
King forever, ceasing never,
over us all to reign. [Refrain]**

**3 Frankincense to offer have I;
incense owns a Deity nigh;
prayer and praising, voices raising,
worshiping God on high. [Refrain]**

**4 Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume
breathes a life of gathering gloom;
sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,
sealed in the stone-cold tomb. [Refrain]**

**5 Glorious now behold him arise;
King and God and sacrifice:
Alleluia, Alleluia,
sounds through the earth and skies. [Refrain]**

*** BENEDICTION**

Rev. Wayne Plumstead

POSTLUDE

"Give me Jesus"

Jackie Han

***Stand as able**



Announcements:

- **We would like to extend our very special welcome and thanks to Rev. Wayne Plumstead for worshipping with us and bringing God's Word to us today. Thank you!**
- **Altar Flowers are given by Louise Woodcox to the Glory of God and in loving memory of her dear father John Rotter and her dear brother Jack Rotter.**
- **Special thanks to Donna Pierce for hosting the time of Fellowship today. Please join us for fellowship immediately following the worship service.**



If you wish to give electronically scan this QR code using the camera function on your smart phone. You will be taken directly to the donations page on our website.



Coming Up This Week

Happy Birthday to Gail Plumstead – January 8th.