



Stokesdale United Methodist Church

Epiphany Sunday

January 3, 2021

CALL TO WORSHIP

Arise! Shine!

God's light has come to reveal The Way in this New Year.

Arise! Shine!

The glory of the Lord has risen upon us.

Arise! Shine!

God's light penetrates the darkness that covers the world.

Arise! Shine!

**Nations shall come to God's light and kings to
the brightness of God's dawn.**

Arise! Shine! For the glory of the Lord has risen upon us.

WE THREE KINGS – UMH #254

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Glorious now behold him arise; King and God and sacrifice:

Alleluia, Alleluia, sounds through the earth and skies.

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

INVOCATION

**Light of God, illumine the path that leads us to healing, hope, and salvation.
Glory of God, fill this sanctuary and expose the darkness that stalks our souls.
Light of God, shine with such brightness that we marvel in awe.
Glory of God, fill each temple of the Holy Spirit present today.
Light of God, Glory of God, we welcome you in this place. Amen.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Prayers for our Shut-Ins

Betty Shelton	Carole Pegram	Diane Preddy	Judy York
Leola Vaughn	Lucille Friddle	Mike Hall	Ruth Thomas

Prayers for our Servicemen

Brandon Estrada – Army
Chris Seagraves – Air Force
Christopher Quesenberry – Air Force
Craig Rush II – Army
Jay Christopher – Navy
Mike Tumlin – Army
Roger Rich – Army
Will Quesenberry - Marines

Others:

Ann Grose	Becky Westmoreland	Betty Hawkins
Billy Hanks	Bonnie & David Stratton	Brian Landreth
Carmen Wilmer	Chris Griffin	Dee Mullins
Dennis Finnk	Elise Jones	Gene Tiesler
Jillian Jalovec	Rylie Cole	Sandra H. Leach
Sharon Ozment	Shay Black	Silas Mitchell
Steve Joyce	Ted Southern	The Tucker family
Vartkes Ajemian	Norma & Dock Coleman	Yorkie York
Lucia Lane	Gosnell family	Boone family
Randi Smith	Harry Webster	Grace Reed

Lori McKenzie Pat Elder Biggs family
Austin family Abigail Coles Pat Gentry
Regina & Steve Frederick Ann Wilson Brown & family
Paul Hodges family Peggy Joyce family Ruby Matthews family
Faye Case family Evon & Mitchael Lawson Pat Thacker family
Family members of those who have died from COVID
Local & Small Businesses
Those residing in hospitals and nursing homes
Essential employees
All healthcare workers and
First responders

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

ISAIAH 60:1-6

¹“Arise, shine; for your light has come, And the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. ²“For behold, darkness will cover the earth And deep darkness the peoples; But the Lord will rise upon you And His glory will appear upon you. ³“Nations will come to your light, And kings to the brightness of your rising. ⁴“Lift up your eyes round about and see; They all gather together, they come to you. Your sons will come from afar, And your daughters will be carried in the arms. ⁵“Then you will see and be radiant, And your heart will thrill and rejoice; Because the abundance of the sea will be turned to you, The wealth of the nations will come to you. ⁶“A multitude of camels will cover you, The young camels of Midian and Ephah; All those from Sheba will come; They will bring gold and frankincense, And will bear good news of the praises of the Lord.

ANTHEM

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

MATTHEW 2:1-12

¹Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, ²“Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we saw His star in the east and have come to worship Him.” ³When Herod the king heard *this*, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. ⁴Gathering together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They said to him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for this is what has been written by the prophet: ⁶“And you, Bethlehem, land of Judah, Are by no means least among the leaders of Judah; For out of you shall come forth a Ruler Who Will shepherd My people Israel.”” ⁷Then Herod secretly called the magi and determined from them the exact time the star appeared. ⁸And he sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the Child; and when you have found *Him*, report to me, so that I too may come and worship Him.” ⁹After hearing the king, they went their way; and the star, which they had seen in the east, went on before them until it came and stood over *the plac* where the Child was. ¹⁰When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. ¹¹After coming into the house they saw the Child with Mary His mother; and they fell to the ground and worshiped Him. Then, opening their

treasures, they presented to Him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.¹²And having been warned by God in a dream not to return to Herod, the magi left for their own country by another way.

**SERMON – Rev. Dr. Ed McKinney
“Worship, Give, Change Course”**

SIGN AT THE CHURCH NATIVITY

We are hoping that:

If you enter here as a tourist,

You would exit as a pilgrim.

If you enter here as a pilgrim,

You would exit as a holier one.

WHAT THE WISE DO WHEN THEY ENCOUNTER CHRIST. . .

- 1. Worship Him**
- 2. Offer Our Best Gifts**
- 3. Change Course**

PRAYER OF ST. FRANCIS – UMH #481

**Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace; where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light; and where there is sadness, joy.**

**O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;
to be understood, as to understand to be loved, as to love for it is in giving that we receive,
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned, and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.**

WHAT CHILD IS THIS – UMH #219

**What child is this who, laid to rest, on Mary’s lap is sleeping? Whom angels greet with
anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are keeping?**

**This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.**

**Why lies he in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christians, fear, for sinners here the silent Word is pleading.**

**This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.**

AN INVITATION TO RENEW OUR COVENANT WITH GOD

COVENANT PRAYER

I am no longer my own, but thine. Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt. Put me to doing, put me to suffering. Let me be employed by thee or laid aside for thee, exalted for thee or brought low for thee. Let me be full, let me be empty. Let me have all things, let me have nothing. I freely and heartily yield all things to thy pleasure and disposal. And now, O Glorious and blessed God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, thou art mine, and I am thine. So be it. And the covenant which I have made on earth, let it be ratified in heaven. Amen.

WAYS TO GIVE

We offer FOUR ways you can give to the church:

1. Give on-line by clicking the on-line giving tab on our web-site, www.stokesdaleumc.org and click on the "GIVE" tab. If you would like to learn more contact the church office.
2. Bring your check to the church office on Monday or Thursday from 9am to 2pm.
3. Mail your check to Stokesdale United Methodist Church, P O Box 38, Stokesdale, NC 27357.
4. Set up bill pay through your bank, making check payable to Stokesdale United Methodist Church.

WHAT CHILD IS THIS – UMH #219

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh, come, peasant, king, to own him; the King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone him.

This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord.

God of power and might

Heaven and earth are full of glory.

Hosanna, in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna, in the highest.

Christ has died,

Christ is risen,

Christ will come again!

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed by Thy Name,
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.
Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF BREAD

THE SHARING OF THE CUP

BEAUTIFUL STAR OF BETHLEHEM

O beautiful star of Bethlehem shining far through shadows dim giving the light for those who long have gone guiding the wise me on their way unto the place where Jesus lay O beautiful star of Bethlehem shine on

O beautiful star of Bethlehem shine upon us until the glory dawns give us a lamp to light the way unto the land of perfect day O beautiful star of Bethlehem shine on

O beautiful star the hope of life guiding the pilgrims through the night over the mountains 'til the break of dawn into the land of perfect day it will give out a lovely ray O beautiful star of Bethlehem shine on

O beautiful star of Bethlehem shine upon us until the glory dawns give us a lamp to light the way unto the land of perfect day O beautiful star of Bethlehem shine on

O beautiful star the hope of grace for the redeemed, the good and the blessed yonder in glory when the crown is won Jesus is now the star divine brighter and brighter He will shine O beautiful star of Bethlehem shine on

O beautiful star of Bethlehem shine upon us until the glory dawns give us a lamp to light the way unto the land of perfect day O beautiful star of Bethlehem shine on

BENEDICTION

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 3, 2021

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We are offering FOUR ways you can give to the church:

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2. Bring your check to the church office on Monday or Thursday from 9am-2pm.
3. Mail your check to Stokesdale United Methodist Church, P O Box 38, Stokesdale, NC 27357
4. Set up on-line bill pay through your bank to Stokesdale United Methodist Church.

Thank you...we continue to reflect God's love by our generous giving. There will be an updated graph next week.



Fall Sunday School for children ages 5-11
Go on Facebook to
Stokesdale UMC-Childrens Sunday School.
Craft supplies can be picked up in the church
office.

MONDAY

MISSIONS MEETING – 7 PM

WEDNESDAY

HANDBELL PRACTICE – 5:45 PM in the Fellowship Hall

CHOIR PRACTICE – 7:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall

THURSDAY

WORD & TABLE – 6:15 PM

SATURDAY

Taking down Christmas decorations at 9am. If you can help, please contact Robin Howerton

JANUARY 12th – Trustees Meeting @ 7PM

JANUARY 16th @ 9AM – We continue to accept monetary donations for the Food Pantry.
Distribution will be on January 16th @ 9AM

JANUARY 19th

6:30 pm – Finance Meeting

7:00 pm – Admin Council Meeting

JANUARY 21st @ 7:00 pm

GOSHEN BOOK CLUB

Reading “Next Year in Havana” by Chanel Cleeton Also discussing “Angels At My Fingertips” by Lorna Byrne Reading ahead: “Just Mercy” by Bryan Stevenson

JANUARY 26th 2:30 – 7:00 PM

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

3rd Tristin Pegram
4th Maggie Hanks
6th Becky Wilson
7th Sherrill Landreth
8th Cindy Byrne
Lisa Pegram
10th Jane Hartman
Meda Howell
11th Larry Eller
Bridgett & Larry Shelton
12th Cassandra Strickland
13th Rylie Cole Preddy
15th Payton Simmons
16th Christopher Brame
Bobby Gauldin
18th Mitchael Lawson
19th Mike Turner
21st Diane Preddy
22nd Nancy & Ted Southern

24th Alexandria Baxter
John Wray
26th Allison Harris
Steve Howerton
27th Mike Williams
28th Phyllis Green
Jamie Harte
Kevin Landreth
Suzanne Turner
29th Olivia Gannon
Louise Grotzinger
30th Scott Wilson

In Loving Memory donations were received from the following individuals:

of Ray McCall donations have been received from:

*Rebecca Melvin
Kathryn & Mark Richardson
Eileen Thiery*

of Lou Ann Joyce donations have been received from:

Jeanne Hardin-Richardson

of Ron Tiesler donations have been received from:

*Susie Joyce
Gene Tiesler*

of Peggy Joyce donations have been received from:

*Janice & Bob Simpson
Rachel & Bobby Gauldin
Marie Coleman
Rena Tarlton
Rachel & Mike Reid
LuAnn & Teddy Royal
Cindy Byrne
Suzette & Mark Shelton
Leigh & Todd Southard*

of Ruby Matthews donations have been received from:

*Eileen Thiery
Kathryn & Mark Richardson
Randy Southard
Terry & Doug Stephens
Rachel & Bobby Gauldin
Janice & Bob Simpson
Nan Hannah*

of Ruby Matthews donations have been received from:

*Nancy & Ted Southern
Rachel & Mike Reid
Robin & Steve Howerton
LuAnn & Teddy Royal
Suzette & Mark Shelton*

of Ruby & Clifton Matthews donations received from:

Leigh & Todd Southard

of Faye Case donations have been received from:

*Eileen Thiery
Kathryn & Mark Richardson
Randy Southard
Terry & Doug Stephens
Rachel & Bobby Gauldin
Janice & Bob Simpson
Robin & Steve Howerton
LuAnn & Teddy Royal
Rachel & Mike Reid
Nathan Anderson
Louise Case*

of Bonita Beshears donations received from:

Billy Fulp

of Elizabeth Ann Shelton donations received from:

Suzette & Mark Shelton

In Honor of donations were received from the following individuals:

of Mrs. McGee a donation was received from

Stuart Mease

of Peggy Joyce a donation was received from

Terry & Doug Stephens

of Evon & Mitchael Lawson, Eileen Thiery and Nancy & Ted Southern a donation was received from:

Kathryn & Mark Richardson

of Joe Simmons a donation was received from

Kathy Williford

of Jane Hartman donations were received from

*Melisa Hanks
Linda & Paul Curtis*

Thank you!

To my church family,

I just spent over 2 hours reading cards and letters and going through gifts received from church members. My mom, Faye Case loved her church and church family. She never stopped telling me how much she wanted to be able to come back to church. Thank you for all you have done.

-Barbara Case Marshall