

First Presbyterian Church of Inverness
January 5, 2025
Epiphany Sunday



— Gathering —

Welcome

Prelude

Dr. Marina Veiler

Introit

Dr. Marina Veiler

Opening Sentences

*The glory of God has now appeared **through Christ our light, in flesh.***

*The reign of God has now arrived **through Christ our king, our eternal ruler.***

*The mystery of God has been revealed **through Christ our peace, ever reconciling.***

*With the stars to lead us and the magi to teach us,
we come, bringing our gifts to worship God. Amen.*

Prayer of the Day

O star-flinging God, you lead us ever gently toward your promise. In unlikely ways and through unlikely people, you are always appearing in our midst, bringing greater revelations. Teach us this day to pay attention. Grant us softness of heart, so that we don't miss your appearance. Bring us into a deeper knowledge of you as we worship and seek you on this feast of Epiphany. Amen.

*Hymn #152

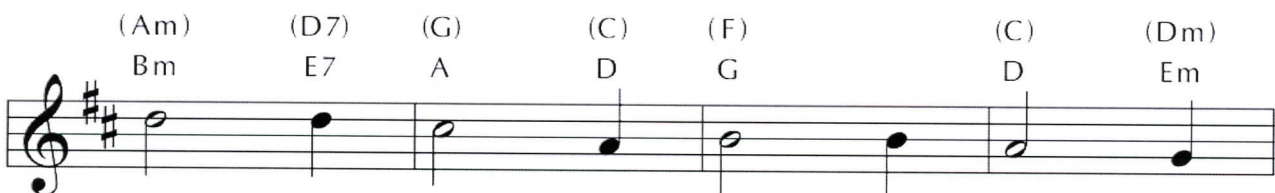
What Star Is This with Beams So Bright



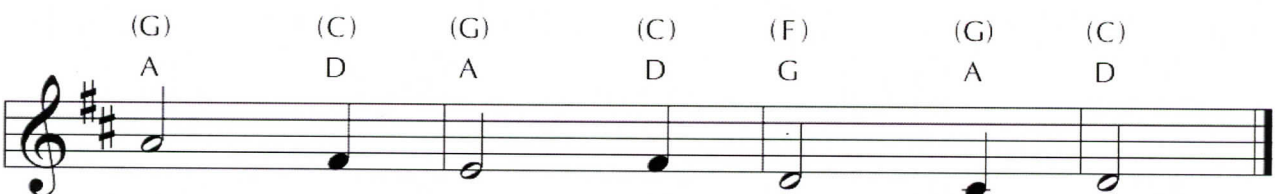
1 What star is this, with beams so bright, more
 2 'Tis now fulfilled what God de- creed, "From
 3 While out- ward signs the star dis- plays, an
 4 O Je- sus, while the star of grace im-



love - ly than the noon - day light? 'Tis
 Ja - cob shall a star pro - ceed;" and
 in - ward light the Lord con - veys and
 pels us on to seek your face, let



sent to an - nounce a new - born king, glad
 lo! the east - ern sa - ges stand to
 urg - es them, with ten - der might, to
 not our sloth - ful hearts re - fuse the



ti - dings of our God to bring.
 read in heaven the Lord's com - mand.
 seek the giv - er of the light.
 guid - ance of your light to use.

***Confession and Pardon** Eternal God, wondrous star, light no darkness can overcome, drive out the sin in our hearts. Forgive us for turning from your way, for denying your truth, for resisting the life you would have us live. Refresh us and restore us. Focus us on the brilliant light of Jesus Christ that we may see him more clearly and follow him more nearly, this day and every day. (silent confession)

***Passing Christ's Peace**

***Gloria** *Angels We Have Heard on High (chorus)*

Children's Message

Lori Wolford

Anthem

Dr. Marina Veiler

— *Word* —

Prayer for Illumination

God of light, whose wisdom shines like stars in the midnight sky, make these holy words clear to us so that our eyes will see your salvation and our lives will be radiant before you. We pray expectantly. Amen.

Scripture

Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 60:1–6

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 72:1–7, 10–14

Gospel Lesson

Matthew 2:1–12

Sermon

Rev. Lou Ellen Hartley

— *Thanksgiving* —

Invitation to the Table #133

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Great Thanksgiving and Lord's Prayer

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise...

Communion of the People

Prayer after Communion

— Sending —

*Hymn #151

We Three Kings

1 We three kings of O - ri - ent are; bear - ing gifts we tra - verse a - far,
2 Born a King on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I bring to crown him a - gain,
3 Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I; in - cense owns a de - i - ty nigh;
4 Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a life of gath - er - ing gloom;
5 Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise, King and God and Sac - ri - fice:

field and foun - tain, moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.
King for - ev - er, ceas - ing nev - er o - ver us all to reign.
prayer and prais - ing glad - ly rais - ing, wor - ship - ing God Most High.
sor - rowing, sigh - ing, bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the stone - cold tomb.
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! sounds through the earth and skies.

Refrain

O star of won - der, star of night, star with roy - al beau - ty bright,

west - ward lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - fect light!

*Blessing and Charge

*Postlude

Church Staff and Contact Information

Church Office 352-637-0770, fpcinoffice@gmail.com

Lou Ellen Hartley, Pastor – revhartley1000@gmail.com

Lori Wolford, Dir. of Outreach & Christian Education, dcelori.fpc@gmail.com

Lesa Shelton, Volunteer Choir Director

Marina Veiler, Organist

Danny Birstler, Sound Booth Coordinator

Vicki Oorbeck, Child Care Attendant

Laura Morrow, Office Administrator

Bruce Cook, Prayer Warrior

Danny Sullivan, Facilities Manager

Gary Oorbeck, Grounds |Maintenance |Security

Rev. Dr. Mark Scott, Parrish Associate for Visitation

Treasurer Email: fpcinvFinance@gmail.com

Church Office Hours

9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Monday - Thursday

Closed on Friday

Our Elders

Class of 2024: Caryl Birstler (clerk), Alicia Downing, George Schumacher, Carolyn Smith

Class of 2025: Barbara Dee Cawley, Jerry Reynolds, Leah Robinson

Class of 2026: Barbara Caudill, Bruce Cook, Lesa Shelton, John Morrison

Our Deacons

Class of 2024: Wilma Abel, Ron Shafer, Mary Beth Smith

Class of 2025: Toni Scott, Amanda Morrison

Class of 2026: Ray Birstler, Donna Dublo, Adele Wardrup

WORSHIP FLOWERS

This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. Psalm 118:24.

Nursery and Sunday School for All Ages

Infants and Pre-K

CE Hall, Room 2

Ms. Vicki

Elementary (K-5)

CE Hall, Room 4

Ms. Mary Beth

Men's Bible Study

Parlor

Rev. Dr. Mark Scott

Adult Sunday School

Library

Lori Wolford

Secondary/Youth Group (6-12)

CE Hall, Room 5

Ms. Lori, Mr. Ron &

6:00 p.m.

Miss Krya

SINGLES EATING TOGETHER

SET is meeting on **January 8th at 3:00 p.m.** at the Salty Dog, 107 Courthouse Square, in downtown Inverness. Please note the new date and time for our meeting.

NEW CRAFT GROUP

Do you have a craft that you enjoy? Would you like to learn a craft from others? Would you like to gather with old friends and make new friends? Please join us for our initial gathering of a weekly craft group in the Youth Room (in the Sunday School wing) on **Thursday, January 9, 2025, from 12:00 – 3:00 p.m.** There is a sign-up sheet at the Sign-Up Station.

CUBA UPDATE

Within the next few weeks, Pedro Fuentes will be traveling to Cuba to visit with our sister church. The Outreach Committee is collecting the following new and gently loved items for their congregation. Medicines: aspirin (adult and children), Pepto-Bismol, constipation pills, allergy medications, vitamins (adults and children), eye/ear/nose drops, toothache, first aid creams, thermometers (in centigrade if possible), band aids, hearing aids, a blood pressure gauge, powdered milk, instant mashed potatoes, Kool-Aid, condiments, children's clothing (no winter clothes), and reading glasses. There will be a basket in the Narthex for donations. Let's remember to pray for safe travel for Pedro, as well as, for the work of the congregation in Cuba.

EIGHT MORE

Our local Habitat for Humanity (HFH) affiliate just dedicated eight more homes to families that completed their partnership with Habitat. That makes 250 homes constructed by HFH in Citrus County in the past 20-plus years. Those eight families have celebrated their very first Christmas in their own forever home! And our own Vicki Oorbeck is part of a small group of ladies that put together a brand new quilt for every new Habitat homeowner! What a special housewarming gift and what a ministry! It's a mission.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION UPDATE

Classes and meetings will resume on **Sunday, January 12th.**

Children's Sunday School will continue to meet after the Children's Message. Youth Group meetings will meet on Sunday evenings from 6:00-7:30 p.m. The Adult Sunday School class will begin studying *The Chosen: Seasons 3 & 4* with Lori Wolford. All are welcome, please join us!

YOU ARE INVITED

The family of Barbara Dee Cawley invites you to attend an **after-service reception on January 19th** in the Fellowship Hall in honor of her 90th birthday (on January 14).

THIS WEEK AT FPC

Sunday, January 5, 2025

10:00 Worship Service

Monday, January 6, 2025

Tuesday, January 7, 2025

8:00 Blessings

10:00 Prayer Gathering – Parlor

11:00 Choir Rehearsal-Sanctuary

5:30 Session Meeting-Library

Wednesday, January 8, 2025

8:00 Blessings

9:00 Staff Meeting

10:00 Coffee & Conversation-FH

3:00 SET – Salty Dog, Downtown Inverness

Thursday, January 9, 2025

11:00 Fellowship Committee-FH

12:00-3:00 Craft Group-Youth Room

2:00-4:00 Presbytery Council Meeting-Zoom

6:00 Theology & Wine

Friday, January 10, 2025

Saturday, January 11, 2025

Sunday, January 12, 2025

Rev. Dr. Mark Scott Preaching

9:00 Adult Sunday School-Library

9:00 Men's Bible Discussion-Parlor

10:00 Worship Service

10:00 Children's Sunday School-CE Wing

6:00 Anchored

A SPECIAL

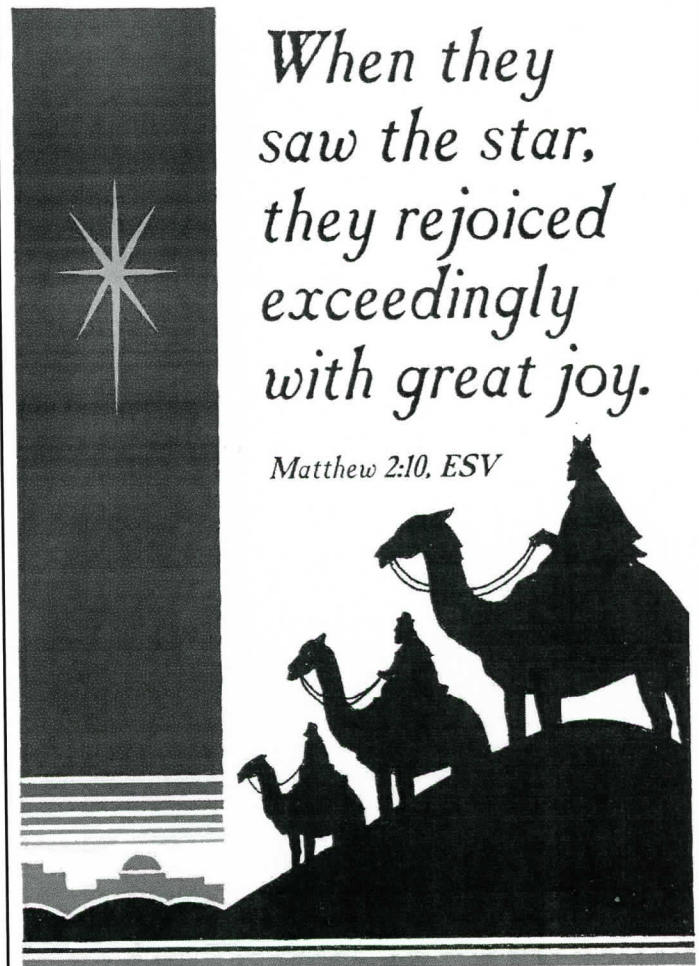
Thank You

TO THOSE SERVING TODAY

Ushers

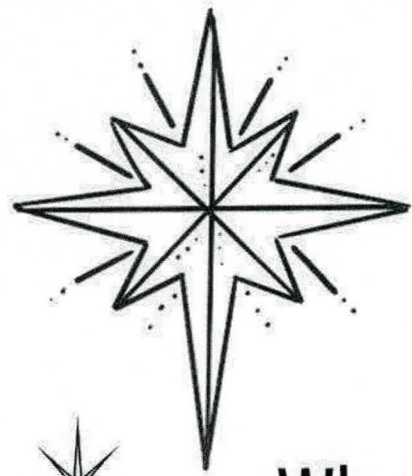
Jerry Reynolds

Ask Me Desk



*When they
saw the star,
they rejoiced
exceedingly
with great joy.*

Matthew 2:10, ESV



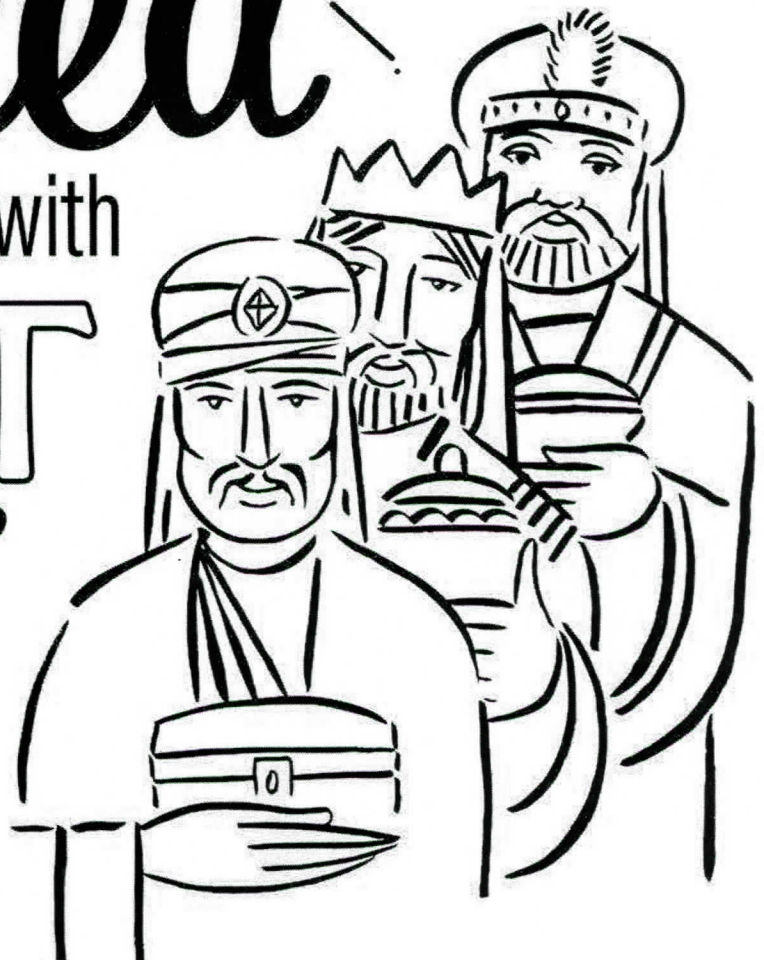
When they saw the

STAR, they

rejoiced

exceedingly with

**GREAT
JOY.**



Matthew 2:10, ESV