

The People of God Gathered to Worship As  
**THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WEST SALEM**

**January 9, 2022**  
Baptism of the Lord

Prelude

Welcome

Prayer Requests

**THE CALL TO WORSHIP**

**LEADER:** People of God, follow the Star!

**PEOPLE:** *Our Savior is among us, and we go eagerly to greet Him!*

**LEADER:** Bring your gifts of Frankincense, Gold and Myrrh!

**PEOPLE:** *We worship the holy, we hail the mighty, and we praise the King!*

**LEADER:** Let our gifts shower with Praise the God who came to end our loneliness!

**PEOPLE:** *Let the Songs that we sing tell all of the Joy we have been given!*

**LEADER:** So let us the worship the one who is both lamb and King!

**PEOPLE:** *Yes! Let us Worship the LORD!*

**\*Opening Hymn**

# 66 Presbyterian Hymnal  
We Three Kings of Orient Are

**\*Prayer of Confession**

Merciful God, hear now the confessions of your people. We are a sinful people, given to gossip and bickering. We often fail to carry out the actions you would have us do in the world, and all too often do the things that we should not. We call out for your kingdom, but hesitate when we see the ways in which it might hinder our own agendas. Forgive us, LORD, and hear us as we confess silently before you.

**Moment of Silent Confession**

**\*Assurance of Pardon**

**\*Gloria Patri**

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son  
And to the Holy Ghost.  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be.  
World without end. Amen, Amen.**

**Passing of the Peace** (*please remain in your seats*)

Let us greet one another as forgiven sinners

With the peace of Christ:

*“The peace of the Lord be with you.  
And also, with you.”*

**A Moment with the Children – Following A Star**

**Scripture Reading**

Matthew 2:1-12

<sup>1</sup>In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup> asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." <sup>3</sup> When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; <sup>4</sup> and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. <sup>5</sup> They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: <sup>6</sup> "And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel." <sup>7</sup> Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup> Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." <sup>9</sup> When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup> When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. <sup>11</sup> On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. <sup>12</sup> And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

## Prayer of Illumination

### Sermon

The Inconvenient King

Pastor Dan McCurdy

### Affirmation of Faith

*The Apostles Creed*

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,  
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;  
He descended into hell.  
The third day He rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into Heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy catholic church,  
The communion of Saints, the forgiveness of sins,  
The Resurrection of the Body, and the Life Everlasting. Amen.

### Presentation of Tithes, Offerings, and Gifts

The Salvation of Jesus Christ is not a thing that can be earned, and Jesus did not die on the cross for our money. We cannot purchase a thing that has been freely given, and any power of purchase we had would not be enough. We do not give in order to earn God's love, but rather, in thankfulness for all we have been given, we ALSO give, as an act of worshipful mimicking of all that God has given us. Come, let us worship the LORD with our Giving.

### Offertory

#### \*Doxology

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

### \*Prayer of Dedication

Gracious God, take now our gifts and bless them, making them holy, multiplying them so that when they go out into the world they can do great things, to serve those in need, to spread your word, and to share your light with a world lost in darkness.  
Amen.

### Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors;  
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

#63 Presbyterian Hymnal

As With Gladness Men of Old

### \*BENEDICTION

### \*SONG OF SENDING

# 432 Presbyterian Hymnal

Song of Hope

Pastor: Go in Peace. Serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

### \*The Postlude

## Updated protocols for Covid-19

Session has considered guidance from the CDC on the wearing of masks by vaccinated individuals.

The CDC does leave it up to local jurisdictions, businesses, and venues to set their own rules for COVID protections.

The following guidelines will be followed to ensure a safe experience for in-person worship:

- **Due to the rise in COVID cases, masks are required for all worshippers, regardless of vaccination status.**

- Seating has returned to normal, pre-Covid capacity.

- There are live song leaders and special music.

Worshippers are invited to sing along.

- Children are invited to the front of the sanctuary during the Children's Message. There are seating marks to maintain social distance.

- The offering will be collected by the ushers.

**Nursery Services are now open and fully staffed.**

## **Annual Meeting February 13<sup>th</sup> after Worship Service**

### **Tabitha Circle**

Bring your crafts and join us!

The first and third Monday each month at 1:00 p.m.

### **Youth Group!**

All youth in grades 6-12 are invited

Wednesday, January 19<sup>th</sup>

from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.!

Find us in the Fellowship Hall

fun games, great fellowship,

and the peace that the word of God brings!

### **Adult Bible Study**

Sundays from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. in the Chapel Room

We will focus on the lectionary scripture

presented that Sunday.

Bring your Bible or use one from the church.

### **Sunday School Teachers and Helpers Needed**

See Becca Bohnsack or Sara Oldenburg if you can help

### January 9, 2022 Worship Team:

<b>Acolytes</b>	Charli Pfaff Kordelle Pfaff
<b>Liturgist</b>	Howard Garves
<b>Musicians</b>	Julie Baker
<b>Sound Room</b>	Lily Oldenburg
<b>Usher</b>	Brian Baker

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### Tithes and Offerings

Donations can be mailed to:

**Presbyterian Church of West Salem**

**PO Box 861 West Salem, WI 54669**