

# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Greer, South Carolina

11:00 a.m. Worship



100 School Street Greer, SC 29651 ~ (864) 877-3612 ~ [www.fpcgreer.org](http://www.fpcgreer.org)

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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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January 2, 2022

2nd Sunday of Christmas/Celebration of Epiphany

11:00 a.m.

**Chiming of the Hour**

**Welcome & Announcements**

**Prelude**

*We Three Kings of Orient Are*

arr. Coates

**\*Call to Worship**

In the beginning, God created the light.

**Morning broke open on the first day.**

God sent the light.

**Jesus the Christ came to the world's people.**

Morning light opens for us.

**God's light illumines our lives and opens us to worship this day.**

**\*Prayer of Adoration**

**\*Hymn # 119**

*Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

MENDELSSOHN

**Confession of Sin**

The Light comes to the world.

**Our eyes, long used to darkness, fatigued from long searching, blink and twitch.  
We jerk away and do not answer.**

The Light comes to our lives.

**Shuddering with the warmth, preferring loneliness to the pain of answering, we  
jerk away and do not answer.**

The Light comes to touch our bodies and our spirit-minds:

**But we are lost to logic, living in our heads. Our bodies give us away to the truth  
of isolation.**

Calling, calling our names, the Light comes.

**Preferring to hear it as ice rattling branches of winter trees, we turn away,  
crouched against the wind, and we do not answer.**

**Response # 137**

*He Came Down*

HE CAME DOWN

*He came down that we may have light; he came down that we may have light;  
he came down that we may have light; hallelujah forevermore.*

**Assurance of Pardon**

We have seen the Light.

**We have heard the call.**

**We will dance in the Light with our God.**

**\*Response # 127**

*Jesus, the Light of the World*

WE'LL WALK IN THE LIGHT

*Hark! The herald angels sing. Jesus, the light of the world.*

*Glory to the newborn King, Jesus the light of the world.*

*We'll walk in the light, beautiful light. Come where the dewdrops of mercy shine bright.*

*O, shine all around us by day and by night. Jesus, the light of the world.*

*Joyful all you nations, rise. Jesus, the light of the world.*

*Join the triumph of the skies. Jesus, the light of the world.*

*We'll walk in the light, beautiful light. Come where the dewdrops of mercy shine bright.*

*O, shine all around us by day and by night. Jesus, the light of the world.*

**Invitation to the Children**

**Anthem**

*In the First Light*  
Wendi Arms, soloist

Kauflin

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Old Testament Reading**

Isaiah 60:1-6

**New Testament Reading**

Matthew 2:1-12

**Sermon**

“Overwhelmed with Joy”

Dr. Al Masters

**\*Affirmation of Faith**

The star of divine promise shines before us still.

**Over a world of mute hopes, dim visions, dark fears, still the light shines.**

In a world shrouded by darkness both tragic and willful,

**still we proclaim: our light has come, the glory of God shines upon us.**

For One born of God is born of our own flesh, and that One is the light for our lives.

**As we receive the Light and let it shine through us, it rises as a beacon for a darkened world.**

The peoples shall stream toward its promise; meek and mighty alike share in its dawning brightness.

**Then all shall say: Arise! The glory of the Lord is upon us!**

**Prayers of the People**

**Offering**

**Offertory**

*Meditation on Dix*

arr. Raney

**\*Response # 150**

*As with Gladness Men of Old*

DIX

*As with gladness men of old did the guiding star behold;  
as with joy they hailed its light, leading onward, beaming bright;  
so, most gracious Lord, may we evermore be led to thee.*

*As they offered gifts most rare at thy manger, rude and bare,  
so may we with holy joy, pure and free from sin's alloy,  
all our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to thee, our heavenly king.*

**Prayer of Dedication**

**Sacrament of the Lord's Supper**

Invitation and Institution

Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

Minister: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them to the Lord.**

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

**People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

The Lord's Prayer (debts/debtors)

Communion of the People

*Eat the bread individually, symbol of our personal communion with the Lord;  
Drink the cup together, symbol of our shared communion with the Lord.*

**Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.** Ephesians 3:20-21

Prayer

**\*Hymn # 151** *We Three Kings of Orient Are* KINGS OF ORIENT

**\*Charge and Benediction**

**\*Response # 545** *Lord, Bid Your Servant Go in Peace* LAND OF REST

*Lord, bid your servant go in peace; your word is now fulfilled.  
These eyes have seen salvation's dawn, this child so long foretold.*

*This is the Savior of the world, the Gentiles' promised light,  
God's glory dwelling in our midst, the joy of Israel.*

**\*Postlude** *We'll Walk in the Light* Simpson/Curenton

\*Those who are able may stand.

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**Welcome to worship on this Second Sunday of Christmas.** Please record your presence in worship today by signing the fellowship pads located in each pew. If worshipping with us online, please share your presence by emailing Lisa Johnson at [lisaj@fpcgreer.org](mailto:lisaj@fpcgreer.org).

**Today's bulletin artwork**, entitled "Magi", is from the Stushie Art website ([www.stushieart.com](http://www.stushieart.com)) and is used with permission.

**Thank you to** the Reverend Dottie Metropol for assisting with worship today.

**Please note that we have the capability to accept your offering via text message.** Please text GIVE to 18649993612. You may also give on our website or by mailing a check to the church office.

**2022 Offering Envelopes** are available for pick up in the hallway near Door A.

**Join us next Sunday, January 9th**, as we ordain and install our incoming Elders and Deacons during the 11 AM worship service.

**Remember to pick up your Christmas cards from the box near the Door A entrance.** Cards not picked up by January 3rd will be recycled.

**Al Masters and Logan Britt will be attending** the Montreat College Conference January 2nd—5th along with others from the Furman UKirk, a ministry we support.

**Joyful Noise Ringers**—a beginning handbell choir open to all ages, no musical experience needed and a one-month-at-a-time commitment. We will rehearse January 23rd, 30th, February 6th, 13th, and play for worship on February 20th. If interested, please let Lisa Dillard know by January 16th.