



*To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest;  
to all who mourn and long for comfort;  
to all who struggle and desire victory;  
to all who sin and need a Savior;  
to all who are strangers and want fellowship;  
to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness;  
and to all who will come, this church opens wide her doors  
and offers welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.*

**PARK CITIES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

January 7, 2024

*The whole life of Christ was a continual Passion;  
others die martyrs but Christ was born a martyr.  
He found a Golgotha even in Bethlehem,  
where He was born;  
for to His tenderness then  
the straws were almost as sharp  
as the thorns after,  
and the manger as uneasy at first as His cross at last.  
His birth and His death were but one continual act,  
and His Christmas Day and His Good Friday  
are but the evening and morning  
of one and the same day.  
And as even His birth is His death,  
so every action and passage that manifests Christ to us  
is His birth, for Epiphany is manifestation.*

— John Donne (1572-1631)

# ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

January 7, 2024  
8:00, 9:30, and 11:00 a.m.

## *Epiphany Sunday*

*Today we celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany. Our word “epiphany” comes from a Greek word meaning “manifestation or appearance,” and in church history this word has become closely associated with the revelation of Christ in connection with the visit of the Magi. In this “manifestation,” light and illumination are a reoccurring theme, reflected today in the liturgy.*

**Welcome and Announcements**

The Rev. Paul Goebel

### **The Prelude**

8:00                      “How Lovely Shines the Morning Star”                      *George Th. Miles*  
Mary Preston, organ

9:30/11:00                      “Prelude in G major, BWV 541/1”                      *J. S. Bach*  
Dr. Nathan Davy, organ

### **\*Call to Worship**

**Minister:** The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims His handiwork.

**People:** Day to day pours out speech, and night to night reveals knowledge.

**Minister:** There is no speech, nor are there words, whose voice is not heard.

**People:** Their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them He has set a tent for the sun.

Psalm 19:1-4



And by the light of the East - ern Star three  
Then en - tered in those Wise Men three, full  
Then let us all with one ac - cord sing



Wise Men came from coun - try far; To  
rev - 'rent - ly up - on their knee, and  
prais - es to our heav - 'nly Lord that

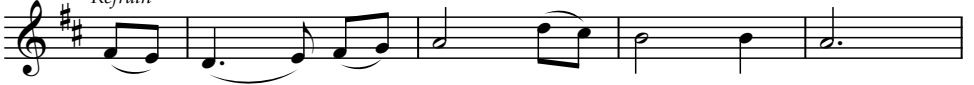


seek for a King was their in - tent, And to  
of - fered there in His pres - ence their  
hath made heav'n and earth of naught, and



fol - low the star wher - ev - er it went.  
gold, and myrrh, and frank - in - cense.  
with His blood man - kind hath bought.

*Refrain*



No - el, No - el, No - el, No - el!



Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

\*Prayer of Adoration concluding with

Almighty Lord God,

You gave Your Son, Jesus Christ, to be the light of the world:

We praise and magnify Your holy name that in Him

You have revealed the wonder of Your saving love to all people.

With those of old who brought their tribute to His feet,

confessing Him as King of heaven and earth,

we now present the worship of our grateful hearts,

asking You to give us grace to give ourselves to You,

through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.



1. As with glad - ness men of old did the guid - ing  
 2. As with joy - ful steps they sped to that low - ly  
 3. As they of - fered gifts most rare at that cra - dle  
 4. Ho - ly — Je - sus, ev - 'ry day keep us in the  
 5. In the heav'n - ly count - ry bright need they no cre -



star be - hold; as with joy they hailed its light,  
 cra - dle - bed; there to — bend the knee be - fore  
 rude and bare; so may we with ho - ly joy,  
 nar - row way; and when earth - ly things are past,  
 at - ed light; Thou its — light, its joy, its crown,



lead - ing on - ward, beam - ing bright; so most gra - cious  
 Him whom heav'n and earth a - dore; so may we with  
 pure, and free from sin's al - loy, all our cost - liest  
 bring our ran - somed souls at last where they need no  
 Thou its sun which goes not down; there for - ev - er



God, may we ev - er - more be led to Thee.  
 will - ing feet ev - er seek Thy mer - cy seat.  
 trea - sures bring, Christ, to Thee, our heav'n - ly King.  
 star to guide, where no clouds Thy glo - ry hide.  
 may we sing al - le - lu - ias to our King.

**Public Confession of Sin**

The Rev. Robby Higginbottom

**Almighty and merciful God,  
 we confess that we have sinned  
 against You and one another  
 in both our actions and our inactions.  
 We recognize that in Jesus Christ our light has come,  
 yet often we choose to walk in shadows and ignore the light.  
 Gracious God, forgive our sins and remove from us  
 the veil of darkness that shrouds our lives.  
 Illumined by Your Word and sacrament,  
 may we rise to the radiance of Christ's glory. Amen.**

**Private Confession**

## Words of Assurance and Pardon of the Gospel

He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the Kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Colossians 1.13-14

Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

## Prayer of Intercession/Offertory Prayer

Mr. Higginbottom

*In addition to giving via passed offering plates, you are also welcome to give online at [pcpc.org/give](http://pcpc.org/give) or text "give" to 214-833-7724.*

## Musical Offering

8:00

"Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern"  
Mrs. Preston, organ

Johann Pachelbel

9:30/11:00

"Brightest and Best"  
Chancel Choir • Nathan Davy, piano • J. Marty Cope, conducting

Heber/Southern Harmony

*Brightest and best of the stars of the morning, dawn on our pathway and lend us your aid. Star of the east, the horizon adorning, guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.*

*Shall we give Jesus our costly devotion, fragrance of Edom and offerings divine, gems of the mountain and pearls of the ocean, myrrh from the forest and gold from the mine?*

*Vainly we offer each ample oblation, vainly with gifts Jesus' favor secure. Richer by far is the heart's adoration. Dear to God are the gifts of the poor.*

## \*The Doxology

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise Him all creatures  
here be-low; al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia! Praise Him a-bove,  
ye heav'n-ly host, praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost: al-le-lu-ia,  
al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia!

During the 9:30 service, 1st and 2nd graders may exit at this time using the doors at the front-right of the Sanctuary to meet their teachers for Worship Explorers. **Children must be checked-in and have a nametag.** A check-in kiosk is available in the hallway outside the Sanctuary doors.

**\*The Scripture Reading: Matthew 2.1-15**

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem,  
2 saying, "Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we saw His star when it rose and have come to worship Him."  
3 When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him;  
4 and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born.  
5 They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:  
6 'And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a Ruler who will shepherd My people Israel.'"  
7 Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared.  
8 And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the Child, and when you have found Him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship Him."  
9 After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the Child was.  
10 When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy.  
11 And going into the house, they saw the Child with Mary His mother, and they fell down and worshiped Him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered Him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh.  
12 And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.  
13 Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Rise, take the Child and His mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the Child, to destroy Him."  
14 And he rose and took the Child and His mother by night and departed to Egypt  
15 and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, "Out of Egypt I called My Son."

**The Sermon**

"The King of Kings"

Mr. Goebel

Worshippers at 9:30 and 11:00, please continue at the closing hymn.

**\*The Great Thanksgiving 8:00**

Minister: The Lord be with you.

**People: And with your spirit.**

Minister: Lift up your hearts!

**People: We lift them up to the Lord!**

Minister: Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

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

Minister: It is right and good and a joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks unto You, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God.

**People: Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify Your glorious Name; evermore praising You, and singing:**

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,  
heav'n \_\_\_\_\_ and earth \_\_\_\_\_ are full \_\_\_\_\_ of Your glo - ry.  
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

**\*The Words of Institution 8:00**

**Communion 8:00**

*Please remain seated.*

*You will be served by your elders, and we will all partake together when so instructed by the pastor.*

*(The bread being served is gluten free.)*

**\*Closing Carol "Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come" ANTIOCH**  
*Hymn No. 195 in the Trinity Hymnal*

1. Joy to the world! the Lord is come: Let earth re - ceive her  
2. Joy to the earth! the Sav - ior reigns; Let men their songs em -  
3. No more let sins and sor - rows grow, Nor thorns in - fest the  
4. He rules the world with truth and grace, And makes the na - tions  
King; Let ev - 'ry heart \_\_\_\_\_ pre - pare Him room,  
poy; While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
ground; He comes to \_\_\_\_\_ make \_\_\_\_\_ His bless - ings flow \_\_\_\_\_  
prove The glo - ries of \_\_\_\_\_ His right - eous - ness, \_\_\_\_\_





And heav'n and na - ture sing, And heav'n and na - ture sing,  
 Re - peat the sound-ing joy, Re - peat the sound-ing joy,  
 Far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is found,  
 And won - ders of His love, And won - ders of His love,



And heav'n, \_\_\_\_\_ and heav'n \_\_\_\_\_ and na - ture sing.  
 Re - peat, \_\_\_\_\_ re - peat \_\_\_\_\_ the sound - ing joy.  
 Far as, \_\_\_\_\_ far as \_\_\_\_\_ the curse is found.  
 And won - ders, won - ders of His love.

**\*The Benediction**

Minister: May Christ, the Son of God,  
 be manifest in you,  
 that your lives may be a light to the world;  
 and the blessing of God Almighty,  
 the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
 be among you and remain with you always.

**People: Thanks be to God! Amen.**

**The Postlude**

8:00 "O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright" *Andreas Armsdorff*  
 Mrs. Preston, *organ*

9:30/11:00 "Fugue in G major, BWV 541/2" *J. S. Bach*  
 Dr. Davy, *organ*

*\*Please stand if you are able.*

*The flowers in our worship service this morning are given to the glory of God.*

*Be strong and take heart, all you who hope in the LORD. Psalm 31.24*

**Park Cities Presbyterian Church exists to extend the  
 transforming presence of the Kingdom of our  
 Lord Jesus Christ in Dallas and to the world.**

**SERMON NOTES**

Matthew 2.1-15  
“The King of Kings”

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

*The following questions help us engage with the sermon, music, and liturgy in this morning's worship service, and may be useful during personal devotions, group studies, and family worship.*

1. What is the Feast of the Epiphany? What does Epiphany have to do with Jesus and the Wise Men? What does Epiphany have to do with us?
2. What does the word "transcendent" mean? What does the word "immanent" mean? How does the Christmas story teach us that Jesus is both?
3. What was significant about Jesus being born in Bethlehem? How is the Kingdom of Jesus Christ different than the kingdoms of men?
4. Why does the Kingdom of Jesus Christ threaten our own little worldly kingdoms?
5. Why did Mary, Joseph, and Jesus flee to Egypt? How did this fulfill prophecy?
6. Read Colossians 1.13. How has the Kingdom of Jesus delivered us from the kingdom of darkness?

# Highlights

JANUARY 7, 2024

## What's Next?

We have friendly faces waiting to help you connect to Christ and one another at PCPC just as you exit the front of the Sanctuary. Look for the Connect banner on your way to the Grand Hall. We would also love to help you abide in and extend Christ. You can find out more at the Information Center in the Grand Hall. Download the free PCPC mobile app to explore more.



## Connection Card

Thanks for joining us today! If you are new or looking to connect at our church, please scan the QR code and fill out our Connection Card, so we can know you were here and help you connect.

[pcpc.org/connect](http://pcpc.org/connect)

## Don't Get Scammed

January 12

10:00-11:30 A.M. | OAK LAWN WEST

This class will teach how to spot scams received via email, phone, texts, and snail mail. It will be taught by Melody Parlett, Managing Director of Enable Support. Please RSVP by January 9. Contact Jane Beasley at 214-224-2771 or [jane.beasley@pcpc.org](mailto:jane.beasley@pcpc.org).

## 2024 Spring Guide

Launching January 14-19

Pick up or download a Spring Guide and register for groups and classes as we abide in Christ and connect with one another:

- Care & Counseling Groups
- Men, Women, & Couple's Bible Studies
- Middle & High School Small Groups
- Midweek Vespers & Dinner
- Parenting Ahead Class
- UNION Pre-Marriage Class

[pcpc.org/guide](http://pcpc.org/guide) or [pcpc.org/events](http://pcpc.org/events)

## New Members Class

Begins January 14

9:30 A.M. | FELLOWSHIP HALL

We invite you to learn more about our church, what it means to be a covenant member, and prayerfully consider calling PCPC your home. Register today!

[pcpc.org/membership](http://pcpc.org/membership)

## All-Church Prayer

January 14

4:00 P.M. | SANCTUARY

Whether you have a praise, request, emotional, relational, or spiritual need, join us to be prayed with by one of our elders or pastors.

## WinterGrace

February 3-4

Registration for childcare, luncheon, and concert tickets is now open for our on-campus retreat to be refreshed in God's grace through fellowship, learning, music, and worship. This year's theme is "God's Grace in Suffering." Singer-songwriter & author Andrew Peterson and pastor & author Kevin DeYoung will be our special guests.

[pcpc.org/wintergrace](http://pcpc.org/wintergrace)



## Special Events

Boys Basketball (Middle School)

JAN. 15 | 10:00 A.M.-12:00 P.M.  
PCPC GYM

Adkins & Nielson Concerts

JAN. 21 | 5:30 & 7:30 P.M.  
CAMBRIDGE HALL (LEVEL TWO)

Solitude Saturday (Young Adults)

JAN. 27 | 8:00 A.M.

[pcpc.org/events](http://pcpc.org/events)



## PARK CITIES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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[pcpc.org](http://pcpc.org)

Social: [@parkcitiespca](https://twitter.com/parkcitiespca)

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Pastoral Concerns: 214-224-2742

or [pastorsprayer@pcpc.org](mailto:pastorsprayer@pcpc.org)

24/7 Prayer Line: 214-224-2680

or [24-7prayer@pcpc.org](mailto:24-7prayer@pcpc.org)

Sermon Archives: [pcpc.org/sermons](http://pcpc.org/sermons)

Deep Light Podcast: [pcpc.org/deeplight](http://pcpc.org/deeplight)

Every Thought Captive: [etcdevo.org](http://etcdevo.org)

## GIVE ONLINE

You may scan the QR code to give online at [pcpc.org/give/](http://pcpc.org/give/).



Download the PCPC

App with iOS or Android device where you can give online (including setting up recurring gifts).

## GENERAL FUND

2023/2024 Operating Budget	\$15,925,000
Jul 1, 2023-Dec 31, 2023 Budget	\$9,121,477
Jul 1, 2023-Dec 31, 2023 Giving	\$9,596,380
Budget Variance	\$474,903