



King Tingz by Nicolette Faison

January 4, 2026, 10:30 am *Epiphany*

Welcome to worship! Led by the Holy Spirit, we glorify God, nurture the faith with each other, and witness the fullness of Christ's love in the world. Beyond the pews, we hope you will grow in faith with us on Sunday mornings and throughout the week. Our weekly announcements are e-mailed each Wednesday and posted online. Printed copies are available at the entrance.



Children are welcome in the Sanctuary throughout the service and are encouraged to borrow activity bags at the entrance with children's bulletins and other materials to engage in worship. Childcare is available for infants through 4-year-olds in the nursery, which is located on the 1st floor of the Education Building.

Assisted listening devices are available at the Princess Anne Street side entrance. Restrooms are located underneath the Sanctuary, accessed via the stairs off the porch on the Princess Anne Street side or elevator, or in the Education Building next to the offices or kitchen, both with elevator access. Our service is livestreamed via YouTube.

We are glad you are here as we give glory to God together!

ORDER OF WORSHIP

◇ We rise in body or spirit.

We say words in bold together.

GATHERING

Prelude

Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light

J.S. Bach

Welcome and Announcements Natasha Taylor, Faith Formation Coordinator

Gathering Prayer

God of endless light, you sent a star – rising from darkness, guiding seekers and sages, overwhelming us with joy. Let the splendor of your dawning light grow in us and in all the world until the whole creation shines with your glory through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Introit

Jesus Christ is Born!

Mark Patterson

Call to Worship

Liturgist: Paul Kukla

In the dark of morning, the stars still shine.

In the depth of winter, the birds still climb.

At the start of the year, tender and new, God is here.

God is near.

Do not rest in your fear.

God is here.

So like the stars and the birds,

Let us worship holy God.

◇ Hymn 133

O Come, All Ye Faithful

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant;

O, come ye; O come ye to Bethlehem!

Come, and behold him, born the king of angels!

O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him;

O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!

*True God from true God, Light from light eternal,
born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;*

very God, begotten, not created!

O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him.

O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!

Sing, choirs of angels; sing in exultation;

sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!

Glory to God, all glory in the highest!

O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,

O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;

Jesus, to thee be all glory given;

Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing!

O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,

O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!

◇ Prayer of Confession

Ever-loving God, we long for Christmas to usher in a season of peace and joy. However, we know that is not how the world works. Even just days after Christmas, we find ourselves face to face with fear once again. So today we pray— forgive us when we allow fear to stop us in our tracks. Forgive us when our own fear prevents us from following your call. Forgive us when fear is louder than love. Show us how to turn our fear into action. Show us how to live like the magi who searched for you in a fearful world. With hope we pray, amen.

◇ Assurance of Pardon

**We are seen. We are surrounded with grace. We are sent to serve.
Thanks be to God! Amen.**

◇ Joyful Response (Hymn 119, verse 3, refrain)

***Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"***

◇ Peace and Greeting

The peace of Christ be with you. And also with you.

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Readings: *Isaiah 60:1-6*
Psalms 72:1-7, 11-14, 18-19
Bible

p. 844 in the pew Bible
p. 656 in the pew

Moment with the Children

Anthem *Walk in the Light* Andre Thomas
*We'll walk in the light, beautiful light,
come where the dewdrops of mercy shine bright.
Shine all around us by day and by night, Jesus, the Light of the world.
Hark! The herald angels sing, Jesus, the Light of the world;
"Glory to the newborn King." Jesus the Light of the world.*

Scripture Reading: Matthew 2:1-12, 16-18 p. 2 in the pew Bible
The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon *Fear Doesn't Stop Us* Natasha Taylor

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

The Gift of Star Words

◇ Hymn 150 *As with Gladness Men of Old*
*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 with joyful steps they sped, Savior, to thy lowly bed,
there to bend the knee before thee, whom heaven and earth adore;
so may we with willing feet ever seek thy mercy seat.*

*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.*

*Holy Jesus, every day keep us in the narrow way;
and when earthly things are past, bring our ransomed souls at last
where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glory hide.*

◇ Affirmation of Faith from *The Nicene Creed*

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

... forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors ...

Presentation of Offerings

Gifts, tithes, and offerings may be placed in the plates at the Sanctuary entrance. We also give thanks to God for offerings given via mail and online at fredericksburgpc.org/give.

◇ Song of Praise (Hymn 151, verse 5 and refrain)

Glorious now behold him arise, King and God and Sacrifice:

Alleluia! Alleluia! sounds through the earth and skies.

O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright,

Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!

◇ Prayer of Dedication

SENDING

◇ Hymn 666

O Splendor of God's Glory Bright

O splendor of God's glory bright, from light eternal bringing light;

O Light of Light, light's living spring, true Day, all days illumining:

*Come, Holy Sun of heavenly love, rain down your radiance from above,
and to our inward hearts convey the Holy Spirit's cloudless ray.*

*O joyful be the passing day with thoughts as clear as morning's ray,
with faith like noontide shining bright, our souls unshadowed by the night.*

*O Lord, with each returning morn, your image to our hearts is born;
O may we ever clearly view our Savior and our God in you.*

◇ Charge and Benediction

◇ Postlude

I Saw Three Ships

Additional star words are available on the table on the porch as you exit.



Serving in Worship Today:

Choirmasters: Mary Ann & Larry Casey

Organist: Amy Shirk

Ushers: George Cralle, Steve Davis

Elevator Assistant: Bryan Eland

Sanctuary Guild: Gaye and John Copley

Videographers: Kristen Betsill

Liturgy by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org.

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We Three Kings of Orient Are—Text: John Henry Hopkins Jr. 1857; Public Domain

O Splendor of God's Glory Bright – Text: Ambrose of Milan, c. 374; trans. composite; Music: Trier ms., 15th cent. Adapt. Michael Praetorius,

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