

AN ORDER OF CELEBRATION FOR THE GATHERED COMMUNITY

Woodridge United Methodist Church

Sunday, January 5th, 2025

Epiphany Sunday

Music to Prepare Our Hearts

"One King"

Worship Band

Lighting of the Altar Candles

Welcome and Announcements

***Call to Worship**

Wally Jeske: Children of God, we enter the New Year as we ended the last: gathered together for worship!

Many Voices: We gather to seek, find, and follow the Light.

Wally Jeske: The prophet Isaiah calls to us from deep in the past: "Arise, shine; for your light has come."

Many Voices: We gather to seek, find, and follow the Light.

Wally Jeske: The magi followed a star to find a small child who is the Light of the world.

Many Voices: We gather to seek, find, and follow the Light.

Wally Jeske: We begin this New Year turning our faces to God whose glory shows up among us as a vulnerable child, a poor carpenter, and a foot-washing servant who is the salvation of the world.

Many Voices: We gather to seek, find, and follow the Light today and every day. Amen.

Opening Hymn

"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"

UMH #206

Passing the Peace

Wally Jeske: May peace prosper among us until the moon is no more. May we share signs of peace and love to sustain us in this New Year.

Opening Prayer

Wally Jeske: Gracious God, we come into your presence with joy and praise, grateful for the gift of Christ Jesus in our lives. As we celebrate this gift in our service of worship, fill our hearts with Christmas joy and our spirits with the gift of your Holy Spirit. With joy and gratitude, we pray.

All: Amen!

Invitation to the Offering

Wally Jeske: Bring your gifts and bring your love to honor the King of love.

Many Voices: Bring your worship and bring your praise to pay homage to Christ Jesus, our King.

Blessing our Gifts with Music

"Here I Am to Worship"

Worship Band

*Doxology

*Offering Prayer

All: Generous God, thank you for the gift of Jesus. Thank you for the gifts of Christmas. Thank you for inviting us to bring gifts to your world. Bless the gifts we bring, that they may become vessels of Christ's light and love in the world.

Amen.

Scripture Reading

Gospel Lesson

John 1:1-18 (*NRSVue*)

Wally Jeske: The Word of God for the People of God.

Many Voices: Thanks be to God.

Responsive Song

"Mighty to Save"

Worship Band

Proclaiming

"God Started This"

Rev. Linda Misewicz-Perconte

Joys and Concerns

Prayers for the People

Lord's Prayer

***Closing Hymn**

"God Rest Ye/We Three Kings"

Worship Band

Dismissal with Blessing

Pastor Linda: Arise; shine!

Many Voices: The world needs our light.

Pastor Linda: Go forth with grace and love.

Many Voices: Every person needs our grace and love.

Pastor Linda: Go forth with the gift of Christ's presence.

Many Voices: Christ's presence will save us all.

Going Forth to the World "God Rest Ye/We Three Kings"

Worship Band