



# first community

January 4, 2026  
9 am NORTH

GREETING – John

SONGS – Common Grace

*You Give Me A New Song*

*Be Our Vision Now*

WELCOME – Mary Kate

PRAYER SONG- Common Grace  
*Goodness of God*

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE  
LORD'S PRAYER – Mary Kate

INVITATION TO DREAM – Mary  
Kate

## OFFERTORY – Common Grace

*Glory in the Darkest Place*

## PRAYER OF THANKS – Mary Kate

### GOSPEL LESSON–Deacon

Matthew 2:1-12

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, magi 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 in the east 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<sup>[c]</sup> 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 magi 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 in the east, 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.

## SERMON – John

*Messy Lives and Extravagant Gifts*

### COMMUNION

Invitation to Communion – Mary Kate  
Receiving Communion  
Prayer of Thanksgiving – Mary Kate

### CLOSING SONG – Common Grace

*Goodness of God*

### CLOSING WORDS – Mary Kate