



SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

January 5, 2025

2nd Sunday after Christmas/
Epiphany

9:30 a.m.

Liturgist: Faye Gardner

Welcome!

*We're glad you are here to worship with us,
whether in-person or virtually on Zoom or YouTube.*

Gathering the People of God

WELCOME

The Rev. Shelly Moe

- *Please register your attendance with your mobile device by scanning the QR code to the right or by going to www.upctempe.org/fellowship, and completing the form.*
- *If you prefer to use the fellowship pads in the pews, please tear out the sheet and place it on the pew when you leave for the ushers to pick up.*
- *You can also get to the online fellowship pad by going to www.upctempe.org/fellowship.*
- *If you are on any social media, you are encouraged to check in at UPC this morning. Let others know that you are here in hopes that they might receive that as an invitation to become part of our community of faith and be encouraged in their journeys of faith.*
- *After checking in, please make sure your phone is muted so as not to disturb you or those around from the presence of God with us.*



The love of God be with you!

⌘ **And also with you!**

PRAYER REQUESTS

(480) 256-8216

*Prayers may be texted to the above number,
or call and leave a message.*

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

***CALL TO WORSHIP¹**

We gather together, wanting to know,
where will we find the Christ who has come for us?

⌘ **We will find our Hope**
where fear is overwhelmed by grace,
where hatred is overwhelmed by love,
where all people are overwhelmed by joy.

PROCESSIONAL

"We Three Kings"
ARR. PAUL MANZ

Jon Sywassink,
Organist

We use this time to center our spirits, bring our attention to God within our breath, and remember that we are connected to all things through the Body of Christ.

Candles remind us of the light of God's love that exists within each human being and every created thing. The candles on the communion table represent the light of community. The single candle near the pulpit is the paschal candle, the light of Christ that shines on and in the world, and the darkness cannot overcome it.

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 2: 1-2, 10-11

RESPONSE

Word of Light, Word of Life
⌘ **Thanks be to God!**

***HYMN**

"As with Gladness"

#150

***PASSING THE PEACE**

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

PRAYER OF CONFESSION¹

⌘ **We search for your light, Creator of the Stars,**
but too often we end up settling for the dimness of temptation.
Our motives for seeking to find Christ are not always pure, for we expect him to
fulfill our desires, rather than your hopes for us.
We want the gifts of wealth, health, success, and fulfillment, rather than those of
servanthood, compassion, and peace.
Forgive us, for we are so foolish that we put our needs ahead of your grace.
Help us to be like those wise people of so long ago, who found hope, instead of a
destination; who found salvation, instead of a sign.
As we journey with your Son, Jesus, fill us with the light of your joy and love.

Moment for silent reflection and confession.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

This is the good news of Epiphany. Grace has surrounded us, love has flooded our souls, the light of hope shines in us.

⌘ **This is the light which has come to all, the light we will carry
and give to everyone we meet. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

Listening for God's Word

MOMENT FOR THE CHILDREN

Faye Gardner

Children are always welcome in worship. We know they'll make some noise during the service—we understand and welcome their participation in their own way.

Parents, if needed, at any time during the service you may take your children into the narthex to stretch their legs or to our special children's corner in the rear of the sanctuary.

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING¹

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 60:1-6
Matthew 2:1-12

OT pg. 690
NT pg. 2

Word of wisdom,
word of grace.

⌘ **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

"It All Began with a Star"

Reverend Shelly Moe

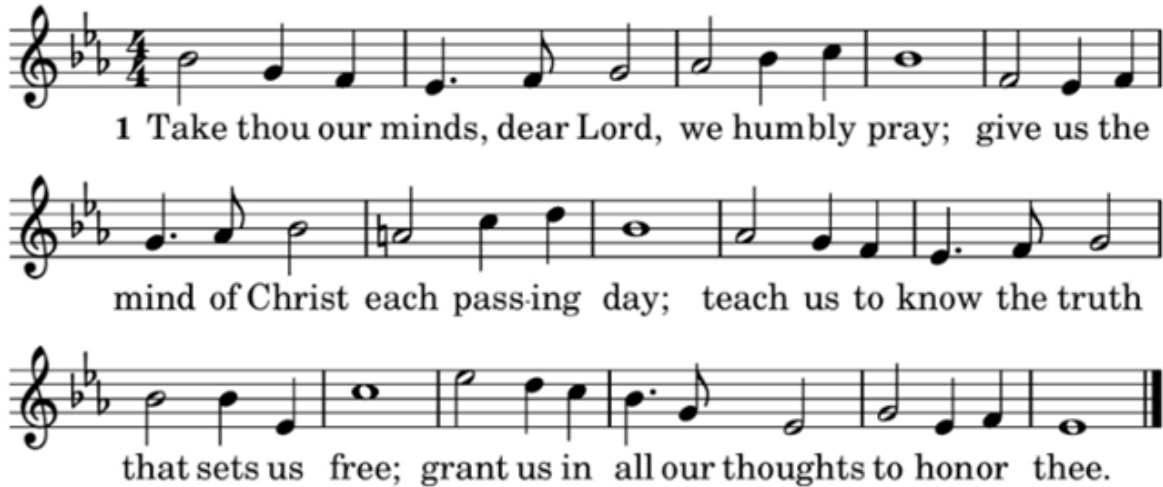
Responding to God's Word

***RESPONSE**

"Take Thou Our Minds, Dear Lord"

#707

(v. 1)



1 Take thou our minds, dear Lord, we humbly pray; give us the
mind of Christ each pass-ing day; teach us to know the truth
that sets us free; grant us in all our thoughts to honor thee.

Glory to God 707

TEXT: William H. Foulkes, stanzas 1-3, 1918; stanza 4, c. 1920
MUSIC (HALL 10.10.10.10): Calvin Weiss Laufer, 1918

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING¹

Offerings may be given through the offering plate as it is passed, mailed to or dropped off at the church office, or given through our website at www.upctempe.org/donate (scan QR code).

OFFERTORY

"Brightest and Best of Stars"

BY JAMES P. HARDING

Ted Gibson,

Pianist

PRAYER OF DEDICATION¹

The Lord's Supper

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

If you are joining us from your home, you are invited and encouraged to have some bread or something to eat and something to drink as we celebrate the Eucharist.

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & WORDS OF INSTITUTION

God be with you!

⌘ **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

⌘ **We lift them to our Creator.**

Let us give thanks to God.

⌘ **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

O God of life and light...

... With all of creation, with people of every time and place, we join in the everlasting chorus of praise:

***SANCTUS**

"Holy, Holy, Holy"

#572



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and
might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-
san-na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Glory to God 572

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text

MUSIC (SANCTUS (Pavlechko)): Thomas Pavlechko, 2006, © 2006 Augsburg Fortress

Here, at this table, we remember, O Creator...

...Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, we pray the prayer that Jesus taught us:

PRAYER OF JESUS (Modern)

⌘ **Our Creator in Heaven,**

hallowed be your name.

Your kin-dom come,

your will be done

on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our debts,

as we forgive our debtors.

**Keep us from temptation,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kin-dom, the power,
and the glory, are yours
now and forever. Amen.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

***COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE**

You may come forward when invited by an usher. Receive the piece of bread as a gift from God. Receive the cup as a reminder of our common bond. Place your used communion cup on the basket provided.

If you have brought your own elements or are celebrating communion at home, you may receive God's gifts when you are ready.

Online Worshippers: Please receive the elements as you feel led and share in God's meal of abundance shared with us through Christ.

***COMMUNION HYMN**

"Taste and See"

#520

Psalm 34

All
Taste and see, taste and see the good-ness
of the Lord. O taste and see, taste and
see the good-ness of the Lord, of the Lord.

Glory to God 520
TEXT: James E. Moore Jr., 1983; © 1983 GIA Publications, Inc.
MUSIC (TASTE AND SEE, Irregular): James E. Moore Jr., 1983; © 1983 GIA Publications, Inc.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Sent Out in Jesus' Name

INVITATION TO COMMUNITY

***HYMN**

“What Star is This?”

#152

***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

***POSTLUDE**

“Star of Wonder”

ARR. PAGE C. LONG

Jon Sywassink,

Organist

*The postlude is a time of reflection
on how God has been present to us during worship,
and is present to us in our daily lives.*

*Remember you are the light of the world!
Let your light shine!*

**Sign up for our Weekly Update email at
www.upctempe.org/email.**

Today’s Worship Leaders

Head Usher	Tom Sevlie
Ushers	Wendy Sevlie, Chet Henry, Patty Griffiths
Worship Techs	Jim Niemann, Chris Trella
Trustee on Duty	Cheri Hardy
Deacon of the Month	Sara Hershauer
Sanctuary Readiness	Larry Seubert

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¹ Adapted from *Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year B, Volume 2* (Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 2015), 216ff.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

WHITE ROSES: A white rose on the communion table is offered in memory of Yvonne Calahan, the mother of Rev. Vonna Thomas who passed away earlier this week.

A second white rose on the communion table is offered in memory of Mary Ellen Koutsoumpas, Sue Coleman’s sister

DEACON HONORARY PLANT: *None given this day.*

MEMORIAL BOOK: *To the Glory of God and in remembrance of George Mayer, a memorial perpetuated in Organ Fund by Chet & Bonny Henry, June 1986.*

The World: Prayers for peace around the world, especially in places of war, famine, strife.

All elected leaders: The President of the United States, members of the U.S. Congress and Senate, governors, county officials, mayors, and city council members, that they may all work toward peace for our cities, nation, and world.

Continued Prayers: John Griffin; Dennis Gilliland; Betsy Youngs; Barbara Smith; Bev Phillips; Jim Phillips; Rob, Chet Henry's brother; Beckie Burke; Diane Watkins, Gary Anderson

Homebound: Joanna Fancher, Helen Alderson

Birthdays this coming week: Joe Simmons

*If your birthday is missing, please contact the church office
to let us know the date so we can celebrate with you!*

Elders: Jim Hershauer, Faye Gardner, Sue Schnebel

Deacons: Sue Coleman, Sara Hershauer, Diane Hillyard, Bianca Osorio

Trustees: Steve White, Laura Knorr, Reza Foladi-Nejad

Presbytery: Evangelical Arabic, Phoenix, their pastor: Rev. Estawri Haroutiounian

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

CHILDREN'S BIBLE TIME (Sundays, 10:00 am - 10:45 am, Rm 2): Welcome all children grades K-5! Join us in developing a Christian foundation through Bible stories, discussions, music, and hands-on activities. Children are encouraged to participate in Communion, so Bible Time meets immediately after the Children's Moment on all Sundays except for the first Sunday of each month (and occasional holidays.)

YOUTH GROUP (Sundays, 11:00 am - 12:00 pm, Rm 9): All Youth are invited. Fellowship, games, and snacks will be involved! For more information you may contact Ted Gibson tedgibson@upctempe.org.

ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION (Sundays, 11:00 am - 12:00 pm, Sanctuary):

- **Jan 5** - No Class - Everyone is invited to help remove the Christmas decorations from the sanctuary.
- **Jan 12** - John Orłowski will join Holly Herman for an overview and update on Centro de Esperanza, the refugee shelter in Sonoyta, Mexico. John is co-Director on the board of Shelters for Hope, the nonprofit who started and manages the shelter. John lives in Ajo and is our main contact for needs and supplies. John will give a brief history of the shelter and its current status. Then we will show LOTS of pictures and videos that we have not been able to share on our Refugee Updates. Because of potential dangers to the residents, we can never show faces on material that is sent online. But, this setting will allow us to bring out the eyes and smiles of these courageous folks. Please join us.

LECTIO DIVINA BIBLE STUDY (Wednesdays, 9:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m., Zoom): Join us as we read, reflect upon, and study the scripture readings for each upcoming Sunday in the Revised Common Lectionary. With Advent we begin a new liturgical year – Year B of the Revised Common Lectionary. A list is available for download: List Form (www.upctempe.org/rcl).

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you have an announcement for our weekly emails and bulletin, submit it to the church office no later than Wednesday of each week. Send it to upc@upctempe.org.

Note: All Zoom meetings may be accessed online via the links provided, or by calling (602) 753-0140 and entering the Meeting ID (the numbers in the weblinks below) and the password, "139." Long distance rates may apply.

RISE SHINE BREAD: We have delivered 10,294 mini-loaves and 5,720 full-sized loaves of bread to those in need. Thanks to the UPC bakers and please invite your friends to become a baker. The project has about 45 bakers, including 15 who regularly bake. Please contact Andrea White at info@riseshinebread.org or (480) 580-3021. Here is a link to a video you can view! <https://youtu.be/Go5llLlJTuw>.

SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP PAD (www.upctempe.org/fellowship, or scan the QR code):

If you are attending worship either on Zoom or YouTube, remember to complete the online Fellowship Pad and include your prayer requests. Also, if you have new contact info (phone, email, etc.), include that info as well and check the "New contact info" box. **If your contact info has not changed, you do not need to include your address or phone number.**



UPC WEEKLY CALENDAR

Find Zoom links and calendar updates at www.upctempe.org/events.

Subscribe to the Weekly Update for Zoom links: www.upctempe.org/email

Sun., Jan 5

7:00 am	I-HELP Overnight (FH)
9:30 am	Worship Service (S, Z, YouTube)
10:45 am	Take down Christmas decorations (S)

Mon., Jan 6

Day of Epiphany

4:30 pm	Adult Christian Education Team (Z)
7:00 pm	Administration Committee (Z)
8:30 pm	AA Meeting (Rm 7)

Tue., Jan 7

1:00 pm	Feminine Hygiene Kit Workday (MR)
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Wed., Jan 8

9:00 am	Lectio Divina Bible Study (Z)
10:15 am	Office Calendaring Meeting (CR)
3:45 pm	Worship Planning Meeting (Z)

Thu., Jan 9

8:00 am TOPS (MR, Rm 7)
7:00 pm MSJP Committee (Z)

Fri., Jan 10

3:00 pm I-HELP –Meal: Quakers (FH, K)
8:30 pm A.A. Meeting (Rm 7)

Sat., Jan 11

7:00 am I-HELP guests depart
8:00 am Men’s Breakfast (MR)
9:00 am Choir Retreat (CH)

Sun., Jan 12

9:30 am Worship Service (S, Z, YouTube)
10:00 am Children’s Bible Study (Rm 2)
11:00 am Youth Fellowship (Rm 9)
11:00 am Adult Christian Education (S, Z)

Location/Room References:

(CH)-Choir Room (CR)-Conference Room/Office (COR/Rm7)-Community Room
(FH)-Fellowship Hall (MG) Memorial Garden (HSR)-High School Room
(MSR)-Middle School Room (K)-Fellowship Hall Kitchen
(L)-Lounge (MR)-Meeting Room (PO)-Pastor’s Office
(Rm#)-Room Number Indicated (S)-Sanctuary
(Z)-On Zoom (See Weekly Update or UPC Calendar for links)



Open and Affirming to All, Glorifying God, Growing in Love

139 E. Alameda Dr. • Tempe, AZ 85282 • 480.966.6267

www.upctempe.org • e-mail: upc@upctempe.org

Office Hours: Tue-Fri, 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Ministers	All Members
Temporary Pastors	Reverends Ken & Shelly Moe
Clerk of Session	Brigitta Kuiper
Director of Music & Christian Education	Ted Gibson
Organist	Jon Sywassink
Administrative Assistant	Lori Saager
Treasurer/Bookkeeper	Andrea White
Attendance Secretaries	Sharlan Pierce, Jeanette Miller
Custodian	Carrie Miter