



Central College
Presbyterian Church

December 30, 2018
8:00, 9:30 & 11:00am



Would You be Wise?

We welcome you to worship this morning!

The † indicates everyone standing, when possible.

Call to Worship

Leader:

Cici Johnson

The prelude is an arrangement by American composer Dale Wood (1938-2003) of the traditional English carol "I Saw Three Ships." It is often sung during Epiphany because it refers to the three ships used by the Magi. Because Bethlehem is near no large body of water, it is thought that the "ships" refer to camels, the "ships of the desert."

Please sign the attendance pad in the pocket on each pew. (In the balcony, pass it across both aisles.) The ushers will collect the pages with the offering.
Thank you.

Gathering in Shared Worship

Prelude

I Saw Three Ships | arr. Dale Wood
Mark Meuser, organist

Welcome and Announcements

† Responsive Call to Worship

Leader: The wise men waited and watched, knowing something wondrous would be happening.

People: We waited for the birth of Jesus; now something wondrous is about to take root.

Leader: The darkness that invaded all lives was banished by the light of that star.

People: The darkness what surrounds us is gone!

Leader: Let us celebrate the bright shining of God's love in our lives.

People: Let us become those who will bring the light of God's love to others!

† Hymn

We Three Kings of Orient Are | 66

We three kings of Orient are, Bearing gifts we traverse afar,
Field and fountain, moor and mountain, Following yonder star.

Refrain:

**O star of wonder, star of night,
Star with royal beauty bright;
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to thy perfect light!**

Born a King on Bethlehem's plain, Gold I bring to crown Him again,
King for ever, ceasing never Over us all to reign.

Frankincense to offer have I: Incense owns a Deity nigh;
Prayer and praising we are raising, Worshiping God Most High.

Refrain

Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume Breathes a life of gathering gloom;
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying, Sealed in the stone-cold tomb.

Glorious now behold Him arise, King and God and Sacrifice;
Alleluia, Alleluia Sounds through the earth and skies.

Refrain

Humbly Bowing Before God

Unison and Silent Prayers of Preparation

The story is out! Jesus Christ, Light of the World has been born to dispel the darkness that covers its people. God's glory appears in human form. Life on earth will never be the same again!

Father God, the star that led the Magi to the stable announced to the world that its Savior was born. Today we live in a world that is still covered by darkness, and still needing to make that journey to the stable door. May our lives reflect your light day by day, as we seek to serve where you have placed us. That we might be the means through which others can encounter Jesus Christ. Amen.

Congregational Response

As with Gladness Men of Old | 63 vs. 1, 2, 4

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 To that lowly manger bed,
There to bend the knee before Him whom heaven and earth adore;
So may we with willing feet Ever seek Thy mercy seat.

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.

Presentation of God's Tithes and Our Offerings

† **Doxology** Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

Offering

Star in the Desert | arr. J. Paul Williams
Chancel Choir

**Call to
Confession:**
Luke 2:10-11

**Affirmation of
Grace:**
Psalm 139:11-12
Isaiah 60:1



QR code for online giving.

Give by Text:
Text any dollar amount (min \$5) to 216-350-0417

Scripture Response:

Leader: This is the
Word of the Lord

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

Scripture Readers:

8:00-Tracey Jolly

9:30-Lori Morrow

11:00-Debby Shaw

Hearing and Proclaiming God's Word

Scripture Lesson | Matthew 2:1-12

Message

Would You be Wise? | Pastor David Redding

Responding with Thanksgiving in Mission

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Our Father Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

† Closing Hymn

Brightest and Best of the Stars of the Morning | 67, vs. 1, 3, 4

Brightest and best of the stars of the morning,
Dawn on our darkness and lend us thine aid;
Star of the east, the horizon adorning,
Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.

Shall we then yield Him, in costly devotion,
Odors of Edom and offerings divine,
Gems of the mountain and pearls of the ocean,
Myrrh from the forest, or gold from the mine?

Vainly we offer each ample oblation,
Vainly with gifts would His favor secure;
Richer by far is the heart's adoration,
Dearer to God are the prayers of the poor.

† Benediction

† Postlude

The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns

| arr. David N. Johnson

Interested members of the congregation are welcomed to the organ console during the postlude.

As we leave our
worship today,
be sure to send
others on their
way with a smile
and a kind word!



Worship Service Times Today

8:00am, 9:30am, 11:00am & 5:00pm

Pastor David Redding - leading all three services

Pastor Ronald Lokhorst - assisting at 9:30 and 11:00

Pastor Malcolm Davis - away from services

Pastor Jim Zippay - away from services

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Contemporary Service at CCPC

The Contemporary Services that met on Sunday and Saturday evenings throughout 2018 are moving to one Contemporary service on Sunday mornings in 2019! This new service will meet **beginning January 6 at 9:30am in Kirk Hall**, and Nursery & Children's Ministry will be provided.

New Year's Eve with "Rev"

Join Reverend Dr. Richard D. Ellsworth ("Rev") for a gathering with family and friends for music, sharing, gratitude for God's blessings and hope for the future. Please come and be a part of this special New Years Eve gathering.

December 31, 7pm in the Sanctuary.

SERMON NOTES

12/30/2018 | 8:00, 9:30 & 11:00

Would You be Wise?: Matthew 2:1-12

If the Lord Jesus Christ is becoming more real to you today, or if you would like to make a commitment to Him or reaffirm your relationship to Him, please speak to one of our Pastors.

If you're visiting, we welcome you, and hope to see you again soon. We invite you to find out how you can be involved here, too! Please stop at our Welcome Center, visit our website, or call the church office for more information about Central College Presbyterian Church.

WORSHIP SERVICES

Saturday Evening

6:00 Sanctuary

Sunday Morning

8:00, 9:30 & 11:00

Sunday Evening

5:00 Chapel

CCPC PASTORS

- Malcolm S. Davis
- David M. Redding
- Ronald D. Lokhorst
- Jim Zippay
- Richard D. Ellsworth,
"Rev," *Pastor Emeritus*

If you have any questions about today's service or about the info in this bulletin, please call the church office.

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Social Media!**



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