

# COMMUNITY OF FAITH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1400 Highland Pike, Covington, Kentucky, 41011

(859) 331-3238

Sunday, January 1, 2017

Worship 11:00am

## New Year's Day

*+ All who are able may stand*

*Regular type, one speaks; **bold type, everyone speaks.***

### Preparing Ourselves

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Christ Candle

**+Call to Worship**      *Read with men's and women's voices alternating.*

W: Praise the Lord! Let all the angels praise the Lord.

**M: Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, shining stars; praise him, highest heavens.**

W: Let them all praise the name of the Lord!

**M: God commanded, and the universe was created, fixed in place forever.**

W: Praise God, Kings and all peoples, princes and all other rulers, girls and young men, old people and children too.

**M: Let us all praise the name of the Lord, and worship the Prince of Peace.**

***All (sung): This, this is Christ the king, whom shepherds guard and angels sing; haste, haste to bring him laud the babe the son of Mary.***

**+Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray: **God of hope and light, your good news has been emblazoned across the skies, the great starry night of Jesus' birth, sung by angels, celebrated by shepherds, witnessed by animals. You have given to us a new chance, a reminder of your continual love for us. Be with us in this worship, we pray. Guide our thoughts, our lives, our spirits. Heal and restore us through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

First Reading

Matthew 2:1-12

**+Hymn of Praise**

*As With Gladness Men of Old*

#63

## Call to Reconciliation

We are but imperfect human beings, created by God as good but fallen short of God's intention for our existence. Let us admit our errors and seek God's grace; let us pray:

## Prayer of Confession

**Gracious and loving God, on this first day of the new year, let us begin anew by confessing our errors and faults and seeking your forgiveness. We acknowledge that we have fallen short of your desire for our lives. We confess that we find it easier to judge than feel compassion and to strike out in fear instead of seeking justice. Have mercy upon us and help us to live out your purposes in the year to come. (moment of silence.)**

## Assurance of Forgiveness

The good news is for the here, the now and the always. The grace of Christ abounds—we may rejoice in his forgiveness! Thanks be to God. Amen. Please turn to someone near you and share the forgiveness of Christ.

## Response of Praise

*Angels We Have Heard on High v.3*

#23

## Passing of the Peace

L: By offering the peace of Christ to one another, we recognize each other's place in the family of God. May the peace of Christ be with you all.

**P: And also with you.**

*Please greet one another with a handshake and/ or the exchange of the peace.*

## Anthem

## Hearing God's Word

### Prayer for Illumination

**Merciful God, in Christ you have come among us and we rejoice; yet still the world groans in hope of redemption. Open our hearts to hear you speaking today in and through some difficult text. By your Spirit give us grace so that we deny neither the sufferings that remain nor the hope that you give us; through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## Second Reading

Matthew 2:13-23

Sermon

Rev. Sharon Carter

Hymn

*Angels, from the Realms of Glory*

#22

## **Responding With Thanks and Praise**

Affirmation of Faith      from *A Brief Statement of Faith, PC (USA)*

**We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life...In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us the courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom and peace.**

The Service of Giving      **Prayer of Dedication**

**Musical Offering**

**+Response of Praise**

*Joy to the World! v.1*

#40

Celebration of Holy Communion

**Great Prayer of Thanksgiving and Lord's Prayer**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**Holy holy holy is the Lord of hosts (2x)**

**The whole world is full of his glory (3x)**

**Holy is the Lord!**

Great is the mystery of faith: **Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

**Breaking of the Bread, Communion of the People**

**Prayer after Communion**

## **Going Forth to Love and Serve**

**+Sending Hymn**

*Star Child*

STF2095

**+The Charge and Benediction**

**+ The Postlude**