

Welcome and Announcements

Land Acknowledgement

Lighting the Christ Candle

Call to Worship

L: We gather wondering “Where will we find the Babe who was born in Bethlehem?”

P: And we recall that the Wise Men followed a star which led them to him.

L: We gather wondering “Where will we find the Child of Christmas?”

P: And we wonder if a star still shines to lead us to him.

L: We gather wanting to know “Where will we find the Christ who has come?”

P: And then we lift our heads and raise our eyes and see the Star-bright Light of His Love shining all around us.

L: And then we do as the Wise Men did – we kneel in worship and praise

P: Bringing the only, and most precious gift we have – ourselves.

Opening Hymn # 136 – The First Nowell

Prayers of Approach, Confession and The Lord’s Prayer

Words of Assurance

L: Rejoice and be glad! Grace has been poured into our hearts, and the Light of Christ shines in us.

P: Thanks be to God for such priceless gifts.

Music Ministry

Family Focus/Children’s Time

Hymn: Do you hear what I hear?

Responsive Psalm 72: 1-7

L: Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to a king’s son.

P: May he judge your people with righteousness, and your poor with justice.

L: May the mountains yield prosperity for the people, and the hills, in righteousness.

P: May he defend the cause of the poor of the people, give deliverance to the needy, and crush the oppressor.

L: May he live while the sun endures, and as long as the moon, throughout all generations.

P: May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth.

All: In his days may righteousness flourish and peace abound, until the moon is no more.

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 60: 1-6 (NRSV)

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. ²For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. ³Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. ⁴Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses’ arms. ⁵Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. ⁶A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 2: 1-12 (NRSV)

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men^[a] from the East came to Jerusalem, ² asking, ‘Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we

observed his star at its rising,^[b] and have come to pay him homage.’³ When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah^[c] was to be born. ⁵They told him, ‘In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: ⁶“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^[d] my people Israel.”’ ⁷Then Herod secretly called for the wise men^[e] and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then 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.’ ⁹When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising,^[f] until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped,^[g] they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On 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. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Message: The Christmas Star

Hymn #173: We Three Kings

Mission Moment

Doxology #79: Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow

Offertory Prayer

Prayers of the People

Hymn #172: As with gladness, men of old

Benediction & Benediction song: Go Now In Peace

Welcome To Lucknow Presbyterian Church **January 7, 2024**



Worship Leader: Rev. Kathy Fraser

Announcements

- Welcome to all who are worshipping with us. Thanks to Rev. Kathy for leading the service this morning.
- Family Faith continues from 9:30-10:30 every Sunday
- Pinecrest Service today at 2:00pm – all welcome
- All groups to please prepare their reports for the Annual Report – preparation to be discussed at next Board of Managers meeting on Wednesday January 17 at 7:15pm
- Session meeting Wednesday January 10 at 7:15pm
- Messy Church Camp Day fundraiser Soup & Bun lunch on Wednesday January 10 from 11:30-1:00pm
- Wednesday January 17 9:30-12:30: Let's Cook

Upcoming Services:

- Jan 14, 21, 28: Rev. Kathy Fraser

Land Acknowledgment

We acknowledge with gratitude and respect that we are gathering on the traditional territory of the Saugeen First Nation. Treaty forty-five and a half of 1836 covers this area.