the best time for
NEW
beginnings
is now!

First United Methodist Church
11:00 AM Service of Worship
January 5, 2020

EPIPHANY SUNDAY

GATHERING

Before the Service Begins

Please write your praises or prayer concerns and either give them to the ushers or bring them to the Lay Leader during the Passing of the Peace. Prayer request slips are available in the Registration Pads in each pew and on the table in front of the Church Office.

WELCOME, REGISTRATION OF ATTENDANCE, ANNOUNCEMENTS. . . . . .Rev. Melissa Traver
(Please sign and pass the attendance pad down your pew.
Guests: please include your phone number and complete address.)

PRELUDE. . . . . "Prelude for the Introit of Epiphany" . . . . . Maurice Duruflé (1902-1986)

*CALL TO WORSHIP . . . . . Steve Reynolds

Leader: Come, join the search for all God will reveal.
We are the church, committed to an encounter with mystery.
People: **God has sent light to dispel our fears.**
The glory of God has risen upon us.
Leader: The gospel of Christ reveals God's grace.
We share in the promise of Jesus Christ.
People: **We gather together and lift up our eyes.**
Our hearts thrill to the sight and our lips rejoice.
Leader: Through us, the wisdom of God will be made known.
There is rich variety to meet each one where we are.
People: **The radiance of truth surrounds us.**
Boldly and confidently, we approach our God.

--*Led By Love,* pg. 30

*HYMN # 158 . . . . . "Come, Christians, Join to Sing"

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH # 881. . . . . "The Apostles' Creed"

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ his only son our Lord:
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried;
the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

*RESPONSE # 70 . . . . . "Glory Be to the Father"

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

CALL TO PRAYER # 578. . . . . "God of Love and God of Power". . . . . Chancel Choir
THE MORNING PRAYER

*HYMN # 254 . . . . . "We Three Kings"

OFFERTORY PRAYER . . . . . Steve Reynolds
OFFERTORY . . . . . "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring". . . . . J. S. Bach . . . . . Chancel Choir
*PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS # 95 . . . . . "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"

CHILDREN'S MOMENT. . . . . Ida Cooksey
(Children, Kindergarten and younger, are invited to leave the Sanctuary for age-appropriate learning activities.)

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

SCRIPTURE . . . . . Matthew 2:1-12 . . . . . .Rev. Melissa Traver
SERMON . . . . . Rev. Melissa Traver

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Christ invites to this table … all who are willing to let go of the pain that's gone.

[sung by all]

This is a day of new beginnings,
time to remember and move on,
time to believe what love is bringing,
laying to rest the pain that's gone…

… All are invited to this meal, for all are forgiven their past regrets And invited into God's grace-filled future!

Praise to the Living God!

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts in this new day.
We lift them up to God.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

… And so, we come to your table again to praise you and taste yet again what your steadfast love can do …

[sung by all]

In faith we'll gather round the table
to taste and share what love can do.
This is a day of new beginnings;
our God is making all things new…

… Through him, faith and hope were born again for so many …

[sung by all]

For by the life and death of Jesus,
God's mighty Spirit, now as then,
can make for us a world of difference,
as faith and hope are born again …

… As followers of Christ, we proclaim and live out this holy mystery:

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

[sung by all]

Then let us, with the Spirit's daring,
step from the past and leave behind
our disappointment , guilt, and grieving,
seeking new paths, and sure to find…

… all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever!

[sung by all]

Christ is alive, and goes before us
to show and share what love can do.
This is a day of new beginnings;
our God is making all things new!

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION . . . . . Variation on "Adeste Fideles" . . . . . andante . . . . . Marcel Dupré

***HYMN # 249** . . . . . "There's a Song in the Air"

SENDING FORTH

***BENEDICTION**
***RESPONSE # 670** . . . . . "Go Forth for God" . . . . . .Chancel Choir
POSTLUDE . . . . . "O Come All Ye Faithful", Reconstruction of Improvisation . . . . . Marcel Dupré (1886-1971)

*****PLEASE STAND (AS ABLE)

Bulletin Baskets: are found at the back of the Sanctuary for your convenience to discard your bulletins.

Reminder to parents: Safe Sanctuary Policy – "No child is left unsupervised for any reason at any time." Parents are encouraged to take their children to the restroom before any worship service begins. If a child needs to go to the restroom during worship, an adult or buddy needs to go with him/her.

Hearing Assistive Devices are available on the back table or ask an usher for help.

Sermon Copies Available: If you need a copy of the sermon due to difficulty hearing during worship, please let Pastor Melissa know. She will have copies available for you on Sunday morning.

Members Who Minister

Senior Pastor: Rev. Melissa Traver **Director of Music Ministries**: Yuliia Billa
Children's Director: Ida Cooksey **Organ**: Dr. Doug West **Piano:** Matthew DeJong
Ushers for January 2020: Johnny Reynolds, David Holt, Kevin Lewis, Jim Rentz
Greeters for January 5, 2020: 11:00 AM Yarbrough Family
Crucifer and Communion Server for January 5, 2020: Lanie Brantley
Acolyte and Communion Server for January 5, 2020: Marissa Brantley
Traditional Worship Lay Liturgist for January 5, 2020: Steve Reynolds

Prelude Note: This is from Gregorian Plainchant. This was sung in the 9th and 10th centuries, unaccompanied, and in Latin. This is one of only a few organ compositions by Maurice Duruflé (1902-1986). Many of his compositions were discarded by him.

Pastor Melissa on Vacation

Pastor Melissa will be on vacation from this evening until Saturday, January 11, 2020. Rev. Stephen Webb will be available to assist you should any pastoral needs arrive during Pastor Melissa's time away.

Children and Youth Fellowship Bowling

Our long break is over and Children and Youth Fellowship will begin our new year on January 12. Youth will have Youth Choir at 4:30 p.m. Children's Fellowship will have Snack Supper at 5:00 p.m., and then go to the bowling alley. Youth Fellowship will have Snack Supper at 5:30 p.m., and then join the kids at the bowling alley. The Church will provide transportation to the bowling alley. Each child will need $5.00 for shoe rental and two games of bowling. There is a snack bar, and a few arcade games and pool tables. Please send extra money if your child(ren) is/are interested in these. Please pick up your children/youth at 7:00 p.m. from the Langston Gray Bowling Alley, 1812 E. Shotwell Street, Bainbridge.