

Welcome and Announcements:

Prelude: Suz Eberle

\*Hymn: "Surely the Presence"

UMH pg 328

\*Epiphany – Call to Worship

**L: Lord, this year, we will follow the Star of Bethlehem.**

**C: Too long we've gone the wrong way; followed the wrong stars!**

**L: We went South following movie stars, greed, and lust.**

**C: Star of Wonder...**

**L: We went East following stars of militarism, nationalism, and war.**

**C: Star of Light...**

**L: We even went North following our own visions, our own intuition, and our own way.**

**C: Star with Royal Beauty Bright...**

**L: Lord, this year, we will follow the Star of Bethlehem.**

**C: The Star of Hope and Joy.**

**L: The Star of Peace and Love.**

**All: The Star that is You.**

**Special Music:**

"Star of Bethlehem"

Invocation:

**Light of God, illumine the path that leads us to healing, hope and salvation.**

**Glory of God, fill this sanctuary and expose the darkness that stalks our souls.**

**Light of God, shine with such brightness that we marvel in awe.**

**Glory of God, fill each temple of the Holy Spirit present today.**

**Light of God, Glory of God, we welcome you in this place.**

Children's Message:

Sharing of Joys, Concerns and God Moments

Silent Prayer Our 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen**

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6;

\*Hymn: "We Three Kings"

UMH pg. 254

Gospel Reading: Matthew 2:1-12

Special Music:

"Mary, Did You Know?"

Message: "The Journey to Bethlehem"

\*Affirmation of Faith for Epiphany

**We believe in God, the creator of all things, the giver of life and breath.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ, born Emmanuel, God with us, baptized and revealed the most beloved Son of God; he sought to heal humanity by taking our brokenness upon himself, suffering for us, dying for us and being raised from the dead for our sake and for the sake of all the world. We believe that he will come again.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, continually poured out refreshing our lives, leading us into a new day, ever-birthing the church, the body of Christ in the world. This Spirit is our soul companion and counselor of truth reminding us of the gift of faith, the ever presence of God and the promise of eternal life. Thanks be to God! Amen.**

Message from Lay Leader: Paula Ruesink

Offertory: \*Doxology - "Give Thanks"

TFWS #2036

**Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One, give thanks, because God's given Jesus Christ, the Son. And now, let the weak say, "I am strong"; Let the poor say, "I am rich because of what the Lord has done for us." Give thanks!**

Prayer of Dedication

**O God of the stars of night, accept the thanksgiving we offer this morning. You are the one who fills our hunger with your word of truth and summons all who thirst to the banquet of your love. And so we join the wise men from the East and humbly offer gifts at the feet of Jesus. Accept, O Lord, all that we offer, we ask it in his name. Amen.**

\*Hymn: "We Are Called"

TFWS #2712

Benediction:

**THANK YOU** to our Lay Speakers Paula Ruesink and Barb Paul for assisting with the service today.

#### **THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE**

- 1/6 6:00 pm Parish Council at Cherry Grove UMC
- 1/7 9:00 am Lay Visitation Meeting  
7:00 pm Worship Committee Meeting
- 1/10 7:45 am Vocal Choir Rehearsal  
9:00 am Worship  
10:00 am Sunday School  
10:00 am Coffee & Fellowship
- 1/11 6:30 pm Hand Bell Choir Rehearsal

#### **FAITH FAMILY FINANCES**

|                          |              |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| 2016 Church Budget       | \$199,564.44 |
| Amount needed each week  | \$3,837.78   |
| Amount received 12/27/15 | \$2,888.45   |
| Attendance 12/27/15      | 46           |

#### **COWBOY CHURCH**

Please join us at Cowboy Church at 6:00 pm tonight at the Cherry Grove United Methodist Church.

#### **STEWARDSHIP**

On the first three Sundays in January we will have members speaking about what FUMC has meant to them and Sunday January 17 will be our Stewardship Commitment Sunday.

## **FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH JANUARY 3, 2016 EPIPHANY SUNDAY**

