

You are invited to share your joys and concerns with the congregation. Please place them in the prayer basket at the back of the sanctuary (prayer request sheets are in the basket), or if online use Zoom Chat or Facebook Comments. Please indicate if the request is not public (i.e., for the pastor alone). Your financial offerings can be placed in the offering box at the back of the sanctuary. Restrooms are found near the kitchen, to the left as you exit the sanctuary.



## Mid-Coast Presbyterian Church

Pastor – Rev. Diane Hoppe Hugo

*The mission of Mid-Coast Presbyterian Church is to be in partnership with God to transform ourselves, our communities, and our world.*

## Service for the Lord's Day ~ January 4, 2026 Celebrating the Epiphany

### Welcome

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

### Lighting of the Christ Candle & A Time of Silence

*We invite you to a time of silent meditation and companionship with God.*

### Prelude

### Call to Worship (responsive)

O come, let us worship the Lord and consider what wondrous things God has done:

**Like a bright star in the night sky, the life of Christ lights up the whole world.**

O come, let us worship the Lord and consider what wondrous things God has done:

**The light of Christ shows us who we are and what we can be,**

**where we have been and where we should go.**

O come, let us worship the Lord,

**for God has done wondrous things!**

### Invitation to a Time of Confession

We have opened our hearts to welcome Christ, who is the bringer of all peace and yet, we still live in a world gone wrong. We cannot put ourselves right, let alone the world right, without God. Let us confess the ways in which we block the peace of Christ in our lives.

### Prayer of Personal and Communal Confession (unison)

**O God, our guide, who once used a star to lead people to Christ, we confess our poor sense of direction. We let ourselves become confused, easily distracted and lose our way. Too often we forget to include you in our thoughts and decisions. We forget you have a plan for us and we fail to follow the signs You provide.**

**Bring us, bright God, from yesterday into today and tomorrow.**

**Cheer us with courage. Disturb us with justice. Forgive our waywardness, O God and lead us back. Lead us back to the Christ so that we may find our way to You.**

*(Silence is kept)*

### Affirmation of Forgiveness

God's light is present in this world. Present in the Christ child, born to lead us out of darkness. Present in the star, in all that guides us to love. God's light is in the world, and the darkness did not overcome it. God's grace is in the world, and our mis-steps will not overcome it.

Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel

**All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!**

**Hymn #66 (please rise)**

*We Three Kings of Orient Are*

**Prayer for Illumination (unison)**

God of light and life, open our eyes as well as our ears, so that we may not only hear your Word preached today but then see your Word lived out in our lives and in your world, through Christ, our Lord, the light of the world. Amen.

**Scripture Lessons**

**Matthew 2:1-12 and Isaiah 60:1-6**

Come Holy Spirit (*silence is kept for reflection*). This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon**

**20+C+M+B+26 is a Blessing**

**Hymn (please rise) 34**

*In Bethlehem a Babe Was Born*

**Sharing Joys & Concerns**

*(Prayers of the People will be offered during Communion)*

**A Time of Offering**

**Offerings Prayer (unison)**

Christ Comes! Our hearts are full, our joy is boundless.

May this offering be a living message of peace, love, spirit, joy, and hope to this church, to this community, to this nation and the world. Amen

**Invitation to and Gathering Around the Lord's Table**

**Invitation to the Lord's Table**

*Brothers and sisters in Christ, the gospel tells us that God, by the leading of a star, manifested the Savior to the peoples of the earth and we are invited to be part of the celebration – Come then, let us prepare our hearts to receive the joyful feast of the Lord and be transformed as we join in the prayer our Lord taught us as we pray:*

**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.**

**Great Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Minister: As we celebrate the Epiphany of Christ, may God be with you!

**People: And also with you!**

Minister: As we wait for Christ's return, let us lift our hearts.

**People: We lift them to God who comes to us in every time and every place.**

Minister: Let us give thanks to the God of revelation and stars.

**People: Joy is the gift of our hearts, praise is the song on our lips.**

Minister: We give you thanks, O God, ... and with all people to praise your holy name:

**Holy Lord, God of endless love,**

**heaven and earth are surely full of your glory.**

**The angels sang of it—we have been lavished with it.**

**Blessed is he who was born that we might have life.**

**Glory to God and on earth peace to all people.**

Holy are You, Promise-keeping God, and blessed is Jesus Christ, ...  
... Therefore we proclaim our faith as signed and sealed in this sacrament:

**Christ was promised. Christ was born. Christ has died.**  
**Christ is risen. Christ will come again**

### **Prayers of the People**

#### **Words of Institution and Prayer of Consecration**

Holy God, ..... This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen

### **Sharing the Bread and Cup**

*The bread and cup will be brought to each worshipper. The bread is gluten free and only juice is served.  
Please hold the elements and we will all partake together at the direction of the Pastor.*

*[as the bread is shared]*

The body of Christ, the bread of heaven.

**Thanks be to God.**

*[as the cup is shared]*

The blood of Christ, the cup of salvation.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Blessing After Communion**

Minister: Christ is the light of our souls:

**Congregation: We rejoice in this light, great source of truth.**

Minister: Christ is the light of our homes:

**Congregation: We rejoice in this light, great source of peace.**

Minister: Christ is the light of the world:

**Congregation: We rejoice in this light, great source of hope.**

**Hymn #56 (please rise)**

***The First Nowell***

### **Charge to the Congregation & Benediction**

God is Good—All the Time.      All the Time—**God is Good.**

### **Postlude**

*Please join us for refreshments right here in Fellowship Hall,  
We are an Earth Care church: if you don't take your bulletin with you,  
please recycle it in the basket at the back of the sanctuary. Thank you!*

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