

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

January 15, 2023

9:30 a.m.

“How can God be all-powerful, and allow innocent suffering?”

WE GATHER AROUND GOD’S WORD

PRELUDE Bobbi Hunter
Angels, from the Realms of Glory... Ronald Arnatt
(Please use this time to prepare your heart for worship.)

CALL TO WORSHIP Lou Pennebaker

* HYMN OF PRAISE No. 22
Angels, from the Realms of Glory

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

Loving God, as we remember Christ’s birth and early years, we know that the conditions He faced were less than ideal. You provided a place for His parents to flee with Him, but His safety was only temporary. Forgive us, Lord, when we idealize Jesus’ birth, and forget how great His sacrifice would be later in His life. Help us to look to Him as our Savior and Redeemer. Hear us now as we silently confess our sins.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON
Leader: Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel.
People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

* GLORIA PATRI No. 579

* PASSING OF THE PEACE
Leader: The peace of the Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.

* Those who wish may stand.

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINUTE FOR MISSION Michele Johnson

WE PROCLAIM GOD’S WORD

FIRST GOSPEL READING Toni DiCapua
Matthew 2:13-18 pg. 1498

ANTHEM Chancel Choir
I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light... Thomerson
Richard Dinwiddie, director; Mollie Wakeman, accompanist
(CCLI #20405356)

SECOND GOSPEL READING
Matthew 2:19-23 pg. 1497

MINISTRY OF THE WORD Rev. Anne Swanson
“A Story of Innocent Suffering”

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

* HYMN OF RESPONSE No. 35
In Bethlehem a Newborn Boy

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

* CLOSING HYMN No. 28
Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

* BENEDICTION

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE Inside Cover of Hymnal
Go Now in Peace

POSTLUDE
Good Christian Men, Rejoice... James Pethel

* Those who wish may stand.