

Truckee Lutheran Presbyterian Church

On a journey with God to Reach, Grow, and Serve

TLPC is a congregation of both the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). We began in 1992 with a vision for a new expression of the ELCA in Truckee and later joined with the PC (U.S.A.) to be the liturgical, eucharistic expression of Christ's church in Truckee, California. We welcome everyone to worship and grow with us as we live in God's amazing grace!

To our visitors and guests: Welcome! Please join us for fellowship and refreshments after the service, and let us know how we may serve you.

Sheet music and large print bulletins are available at the entrance.

Assistive listening devices may be obtained from the person at the soundboard (rear of worship space).

Supervised childcare for infants is available in the nursery.

Sunday School is offered for children age 3 through grade 8 following the opening liturgy. They will re-join us in worship for communion.

Restrooms are located past the front entrance, down the hall to the right.

Fair trade coffee and chocolate are available at cost after the service.

This Week at TLPC (*See www.tlpc.org for complete calendar of events.*)

Monday

6:00-9:00pm Council Session Meeting at Erin Ellis' Home

Wednesday

5:00pm Bible Study at Senior Center

Thursday

8:00-9:00

Ladies Breakfast at Smokey's

Kitchen

Friday

9:00am Hike/Snowshoe

Pastor

Rev. Edward Hilton

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CELEBRATION OF EPIPHANY

January 8, 2012

The pastor or worship leader will read the regular print text.

The congregation will read the **bold** text.

Please stand, as you are able, for sections marked with an asterisk *.

PREPARING TO ENCOUNTER GOD IN WORSHIP

We invite you to sing or listen as we quiet our minds to hear God's voice and open our hearts to feel his presence.

♪ "I Want to Walk As a Child of the Light"

♪ "Open the Eyes of My Heart"

WELCOME

INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

* GATHERING SONG

♪ "Songs of Thankfulness and Praise" – vs. 1-3

* GREETING

Today Christ is born!

Alleluia, alleluia!

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Jesus, the bright Morning Star, shines light in the world.

By day and night he shines for all to see.

Jesus was born in the midst of injustice and poverty
that the world may see the justice and richness of God.

God so loved the world that God sent Jesus,
so that all who believe in him may not perish but have eternal life.

Jesus is the light of the world.

Jesus is the light of our lives.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty and ever-living God,

you revealed the incarnation of your Son

by the brilliant shining of a star.

Shine the light of your justice always in our hearts and over all lands,

**and accept our lives as the treasure we offer
in your praise and for your service,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.**

Amen.

*** CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism,
as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
the Maker of heaven and earth,
the Word made flesh,
the Lord and giver of life.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of glory, God of peace,
**we confess that we have shunned the light
that reveals the truth about us.
We cling to worldly things
rather than sharing the gifts of this earth.
We trust ourselves above all.
Save your people, O God;
sustain the rivers and trees that sing your praise;
and free us to live boldly in the light and truth of Jesus, our Savior.**

Amen.

The grace of God shines upon us,
bringing salvation to the whole world.
We are saved, our sins are washed away,
not because of anything we have done,
but according to God's mercy in + Jesus Christ.
Renewed by the Holy Spirit, let us live in hope and joy.

Amen.

*** SHARING THE LORD'S PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

All are invited to share a handshake or a hug as a sign of reconciliation and peace, saying "Peace be with you."

FIRST READING

Isaiah 60:1–6

Arise, shine; for your light has come,
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.
For darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples;
but the LORD will arise upon you,
and his glory will appear over you.
Nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.
Lift 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.
Then 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.
A 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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalms 72:1–7, 10–14

Give the king your justice, O God,
and your righteousness to the king's son;
**that he may rule your people righteously
and the poor with justice;**
that the mountains may bring prosperity to the people,
and the hills, in righteousness.
Let him defend the needy among the people,

rescue the poor, and crush the oppressor.

May he live as long as the sun and moon endure,
from one generation to another.

**Let him come down like rain upon the mown field,
like showers that water the earth.**

In his time may the righteous flourish;
and let there be an abundance of peace
till the moon shall be no more.

**May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles pay tribute,
and the kings of Sheba and Seba offer gifts.**

May all kings bow down before him,
and all the nations do him service.

**For the king delivers the poor who cry out in distress,
the oppressed, and those who have no helper.**

He has compassion on the lowly and poor,
and preserves the lives of the needy.

**From oppression and violence he redeems their lives,
and precious is their blood in his sight.**

SECOND READING

Ephesians 3:1–12

This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles — for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*** PREPARING TO HEAR THE GOOD NEWS**

♪ “We Have Seen the Lord”

*** GOSPEL READING**

Matthew 2:1–12

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: '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 my people Israel.'"

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then 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." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On 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. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON – “In the Light” (Isaiah 60:1–6)

SONG IN RESPONSE TO GOD’S WORD

♪ “Shine, Jesus, Shine”

*** PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

GATHERING OF GIFTS

In recognition that all that we have and all that we are come from God, we return a portion of our wealth for the Lord's work here and around the world, we offer our talents that he may use them for his purpose, and we dedicate our lives to serve God and our neighbors.

*** PRESENTATION OF GIFTS, SONG OF THANKS**

♪ **"Bring We the Frankincense"**

*** PRAYER OF THANKS**

Good and loving God,
we rejoice in the birth of Jesus,
who came among the poor to bring the riches of your grace.
As you have blessed us with your gifts,
let them be blessing for others.
With the trees of the field, with all earth and heaven,
we shout for joy at the coming of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

*** GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.
The pastor continues with the Eucharistic prayer, concluding:
Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup
we remember your Word dwelling among us,
full of grace and truth.
We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.
We look with hope for his coming.
Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit.
May your Word take flesh in us.
Awaken your people.; fill us with your light.
Bring the gift of peace on earth.

Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours,
Holy One of Israel,
Word of God incarnate,
Power of the Most High,
one God, now and forever.
Amen.

*** LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever.
Amen.**

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

We invite all members and visitors to share in Holy Communion, also known as the Lord's Supper, the Sacrament of the Altar, or the Eucharist. We believe that Jesus Christ is present in and with the bread and wine. We receive this sacrament in remembrance of what God has done for us through the death and resurrection of Jesus. You may either eat the bread and drink from the common cup of wine (first chalice) or hold the bread and dip it in the grape juice (second chalice). Children who do not yet receive communion are invited to come forward for a blessing.

Some people wish to receive communion every week, others less often. Please do what is meaningful and comfortable for you. If you prefer to receive communion while seated, please indicate this to an usher.

COMMUNION SONGS

♪ "We Three Kings"

♪ "Magnificat"

*** PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Great and saving God,
you have gathered your scattered people
around gifts of grain and wine,
the body and blood of our Savior Christ.
As we, like the shepherds, return on our way,
may we proclaim all we have heard and seen,
praising you in word and loving deed
for the gift of Jesus, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

*** SENDING SONG**

♪ “Light Dawns on a Weary World”

PREPARING FOR OUR MISSION IN THE WORLD

We are called to make Christ known by our words and actions - in our church family, in our local community and throughout the world.

*** BENEDICTION AND SENDING**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow!
Praise God, all creatures here below!
You are the shepherds telling the story.
We tell it in the streets and across the land.
You are the wise ones worshiping with thanksgiving.
We worship with gifts of song and service, talents and treasures.
You are the angels announcing peace.
We live with joy and go now in peace.
Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless us now and forever.
Amen.

*** POSTLUDE**

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VISION:**Grow :**

- in faith
- in spiritual maturity
- in discipleship

Reach :

- out to neighbors
- out to visitors
- out to the world

MISSION:**Serve :**

- by helping those in need in our community and the world.
- by advocating for social justice.
- by caring for God's creation
- by supporting one another in our community of faith.

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