

Hurley Reformed Church
Second Sunday after Christmas
January 2, 2022, 10:00 a.m.

Rev. William Appleyard-Pekich, Pastor
Jane Barsumian, Organist and Choir Director

MORNING WORSHIP

OUR APPROACH TO GOD

PRELUDE

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS/GREETING ONE ANOTHER

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: God of Light, Star of stars, Promise of Hope

All: We, like the magi come from afar.

Leader: We praise you for the Christmas season ending,

All: We praise you for this time of Epiphany.

Leader: We thank you, God, for a new year!

All: Thank you for showing us angels among us,

Leader: Who speak softly, sing lightly, laugh gaily,

All: Teaching us always to follow the light of your Son

Leader: Let us worship God.

*HYMN OF APPROACH: #202, "We Three Kings"

CALL TO CONFESSION

Why do we huddle in the shadowed corners of life, rather than running to the Light of life? Why do we love the wrong we do rather than grasping the good news offered to us? As we struggle with such questions, let us speak to God of all we have failed to do, seeking hope and grace as we pray,

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We search for your light, Star Caster, but too often end up settling for the dimness of temptation. Our motives for seeking to find Christ are not always pure, for we expect him to fulfill our desires, rather than your hopes for us. We want the gifts of wealth, health, success, fulfillment, rather than those of servanthood, of compassion, of peace.

Forgive us, Shaper of our lives, that we are so foolish to put our needs ahead of your grace. Help us to be like those wise people of so long ago, who found hope, instead of a destination; who found grace, instead of gratitude; who found salvation, instead of a sign. As we journey with your Son, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, fill us with the light of your joy and love.

KYRIE ELEISON [Words and music found on the inside cover of hymnal.]

**Please stand if you are able*

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: Up, on your feet! Grace has been poured into our hearts, love has flooded our souls, the light of hope shines in us.

All: This is the light which has come to all, the light we will carry and give to everyone we meet. Thanks be to God. Amen.

*GLORIA PATRI [Words and music found on inside cover of hymnal.]

*LITANY

Leader: Although the beckoning star heeded by wise travelers no longer leads the way,

All: The manger-born Christ is still to be found and followed.

Leader: We are not brought to our knees in surprise as were those journeyers of old,

All: Yet our desire to worship can be as deep as theirs.

Leader: And though we do not bear gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh,

All: We offer ourselves and what we have.

Leader: The story continues. The good news abounds. There is a living Christ to discover and worship and serve.

All: We will rejoice and be glad!

THE WORD OF GOD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION (Unison)

Guiding God, bless us on the road we have chosen to seek your star. Light-shedding God, light up our minds with your truth that lets us keep on going toward that certain glow in the sky of our lives. Beckoning God, help us to bring gifts worthy of the Christ. Then, we too shall be known by you as wise women and men. Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSONS (NRSV):

Old Testament: Isaiah 60:1-6 (pg.1155)

New Testament: Matthew 2:1-12 (pg. 1497)

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON:

"Seeing the Light Through Others"

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

OFFERING

*DOXOLOGY [Words and music found on inside cover of hymnal.]

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

O God of hope, you came into our world with the gift of abundant life. Like the kings of old, we bring now our gifts to lay before you. Bless and use these offerings to spread your gift of life to a world where bodies and souls are dying. Amen.

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER (Epiphany)

THE INVITATION

Friends, this is the joyful feast of the people of God.

**Women and men will come from east and west,
from north and south, to sit at the table in the kingdom of God.**

THE THANKSGIVING

People of Advent: the Lord be with you!

And also with you!

People of Christmas, lift up your hearts.

We lift our hearts overwhelmed with grace to the One who was born for us.

People of the Star, offer your songs of joy and thanksgiving to God.

We will sing our praises to the One who has revealed glory and hope in the Babe of Bethlehem.

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE SERVING OF THE SUPPER

THE UNISON PRAYER

Gracious God, you have sent Christ to be Light for the world; in him you revealed your glory to the nations. You sent a star to guide seekers of wisdom to his side, that they might worship the Christ in humility and in hope. In this meal, you have fed us with the bread of life. May your bread so enrich us and fill us with your grace, that we might also become a light to others as we seek to live in the name and for the sake of your Son, who taught us to pray, saying,

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.

*HYMN OF CONSECRATION: #200, "As with Gladness Men of Old"

*BENEDICTION and CHARGE (Responsive)

Go forth in the light of God's star.

We will go forth and let the star guide us.

Go forth committed to a journey of faith and courage.

We will share with others the journey of life.

Go forth to give the precious gift of your life to Christ.

We will praise God, for the gift we have received is beyond measure – Jesus the Christ.

*POSTLUDE

Announcements- January 2, 2022

Thank you, Rev. Ruth Kent, for leading us in worship today.

Today's Litany, Prayer for Illumination, and Benediction are adapted from *Touch Holiness: Resources for Worship*. Ruth C. Duck, Maren C. Tirabassi, Eds. United Church Press. 1990.

Today's confession cycle and the opening of the Great Thanksgiving prayer are from Thom Shuman

<http://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com/>

Come and Join the new Sit to Stand Class! Monday's at 1pm

\$15/class, contact Ruth Beyl (845 688 2516) with any questions.

Prayer Squares-Prayer squares are available in a basket in the

Narthex. Please take one if you know of someone in need of prayer. You may also carry one in your pocket as a reminder to pray for someone, you think needs prayer. The knitter has pray fully knitted it for you.

We are looking for volunteers to help some of our members who aren't able to drive anymore get to worship. If you are willing to assist, not every week but on occasion, please let Rev Bill know.

Welcome to Hurley Reformed Church!

With joy we welcome your presence among us today. Let the words of the psalmist set the tone of our worship: "Sing praises to the LORD, O you faithful ones, and give thanks to his holy name--joy comes with the morning" (Psalm 30:4-5 NSRV)

In Person and Zoom Worship happens at 10am!

Ushers assisting in the service are Glenn Decker and Bill Baldinger.

Please join us in Schadewald Hall after worship for refreshments! Thank you to The Kent Family for providing them this week!

Mission of the month- Angel Food East

Reach out to those who need your support in their day to day needs:

Judy Bell (Terry Gaffken's mom) needs prayers; Shirley Ruth is in Golden Hill; Bev Roosa is at the Terraces at Brookmeade; Fred Horvers is at TenBroeck; Lori Pinkham is in Wingate at Ulster; Anthony DiPietro (son of MaryAnn DiPietro); Marie Dressel; Muriel Ferraro is in Ivy Lodge.

Audio recordings of the weekly sermon are available on our website, HurleyReformedChurch.org.



Hurley Reformed Church

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Staff

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Hours: T,W,TH,F, 9-2

Treasurer - Arlene Cotich

Organist/Choir Director -
Jane Barsumian, M.Ed.

Consistory 2022

Elders

Dennis Crosswell
Christopher Decker, *Information Technology*
Glenn Decker, *Finance*
Lisa Longto
Linda Moon
Bill Baldinger

Deacons

Allan Dumas
Lee Gable
Jeanne Quenzer
David Kent, *Worship*
Dino Sumerano
Robert Kindt

Rev. Charles E. Stickley, *Pastor Emeritus*

Stickley Gardens Columbarium . . . A sacred place of beauty and contemplation. (Located on the south lawn of the church.) The lone candle on the chancel is our Peace Candle. It represents this church's support for the men and women in military service, and our prayer that one day we will live in a world where their sacrifice is no longer needed.

Hurley Reformed Church Hurley, New York

The Rev. William Appleyard-Pekich
Minister of Word and Sacrament

Welcome

*May the doors of this church be wide enough
to receive all who need human love and fellowship, and a Father's care;
and narrow enough to shut out all envy and hate.*

Enter to Worship

Depart to Serve

#202 We Three Kings

We three Kings of Orient are:
Bearing gifts we traverse afar
Field and fountain, moor and mountain
Following yonder star

Refrain

Oh, star of wonder, star of night
Star with royal beauty bright
Westward leading, still proceeding
Guide us to thy perfect light

Born a king on Bethlehem's plain
Gold I bring to crown Him again
King forever, ceasing never
Over us all to reign

Refrain

Oh, star of wonder, star of night
Star with royal beauty bright
Westward leading, still proceeding
Guide us to thy perfect light

Frankincense to offer have I; Incense
Owns a Deity nigh. Prayer and praising,
All men raising-Worship Him, God on high.

Refrain

Oh, star of wonder, star of night
Star with royal beauty bright
Westward leading, still proceeding
Guide us to thy perfect light

Myrrh is mine, it's bitter perfume
Breaths a life of gathering gloom
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding dying
Sealed in the stone-cold tomb

Refrain

Oh, star of wonder, star of night
Star with royal beauty bright
Westward leading, still proceeding
Guide us to thy perfect light

Glorious now behold Him arise

King and God and Sacrifice.
Alleluia, alleluia! Earth to heaven replies.

Refrain

Oh, star of wonder, star of night
Star with royal beauty bright
Westward leading, still proceeding
Guide us to thy perfect light

#200 As with Gladness Men of Old

1. As with gladness men of old
Did the guiding star behold,
As with joy they hailed its light,
Leading onward, beaming bright;
So, most gracious Lord, may we
Evermore be led to Thee.
2. As with joyful steps they sped
To that lowly infant bed,
There to bend the knee before
Him whom heav'n and earth adore;
So may we, with willing feet,
Ever seek Thy mercy seat.
3. As they offered gifts most rare
In that dwelling rude and bare;
So may we with holy joy,
Pure and free from sin's alloy,
All our costliest treasures bring,
Christ, to Thee, our heav'nly King.
4. Holy Jesus, every day
Keep us in the narrow way;
And, when earthly things are past,
Bring our ransomed souls at last
Where they need no star to guide,
Where no clouds Thy glory hide.

