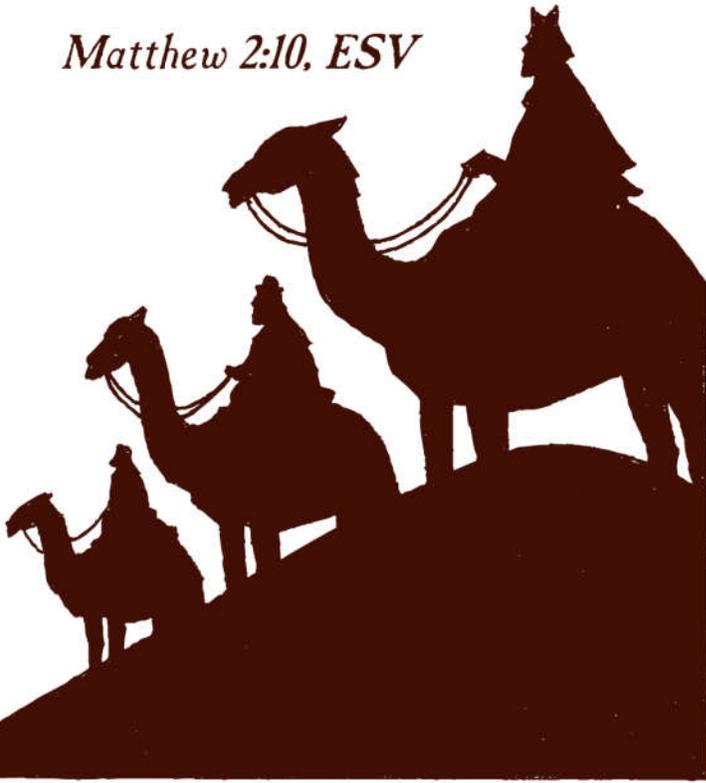


*When they
saw the star,
they rejoiced
exceedingly
with great joy.*

Matthew 2:10, ESV



Fairfield
Presbyterian Church
Belong / Grow / Serve

As a Christian community,
together we BELONG to God,
GROW in Christ and SERVE led by the Spirit

FAIRFIELD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

December 29, 2019

1st Sunday of Christmas

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

Prelude

The Wexford Carol

arr. Hayes

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome & Announcements

Introit

Sing and Be Joyful the Savior is Born

Call to Worship

Leader: Hope has come -

People: awakening us to new possibilities.

Leader: Peace has come -

People: inviting us to be agents of reconciliation.

Leader: Joy has come -

People: turning our hearts from fear to wonder.

Leader: Love has come -

People: transforming our lives, transforming our world.

Leader: We have come -

People: amazed and humbled by God's grace, to worship the newborn king!

WE PRAISE GOD TOGETHER

***Hymn # 229**

The First Noel

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, you are the Light of the World. Yet, too often, we shroud your light with our indifference. There is much we must confess: When we turn a blind eye to suffering, forgive us. When we are silent in the face of injustice, forgive us. When we choose comfort over compassion, forgive us. When we neglect to offer grace and love, forgive us.

Gracious God, you entered into our broken world and made a home among the

desperate and despairing. Give us eyes to see you in the faces of those whose vulnerability frightens us. Give us the will to care for our neighbors in need. Illumine the shadows of our lives with your light - which the most persistent darkness cannot overcome - and open our hearts to receive your grace. Amen.
(Silent prayer and reflection)

Words of Assurance

Leader: Friends, in Jesus Christ our sins are forgiven!

People: **Thanks be to God!**

***Gloria Patri #734**

"Glory Be to the Father"

Psalter Reading

Psalm 148

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

Time with the Children

Darlene Shegogue

(* After the Children's Message, children ages 4 through 2nd grade are welcome to go to our Infant/Toddler Nursery.)

Anthem

Mary Did You Know?

Lowry

Tracy Green, soloist

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Scripture Lesson

Matthew 2: 1-12

Pew Bible p. 2 New Testament

Message

In Joy, Going Home Another Way

Rev. Darren Utley

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Reception of New Members

***Hymn of Response # 232**

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

*** Affirmation of Faith** (back of bulletin)

Offering

(Please sign and pass the Friendship Pads during this time)

Offertory

A Peace Carol

Beers

Randy Green, Tracy Green and A. T. Scruggs

***The Doxology #44**

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

***Prayer of Dedication**

***Closing Hymn # 231**

Arise, Your Light Is Come!

***Benediction**

***Postlude**

Angels, From the Realms of Glory

arr. Alexander

* Those who are able, please stand.

Hearing assistance devices are available for anyone who needs them.

Affirmation of Faith

Out of Israel, God in due time raised up Jesus.
His faith and obedience were the response
of the perfect child of God.
He was the fulfillment
of God's promise to Israel,
the beginning of the new creation,
and the pioneer of the new humanity.
He gave history its meaning and direction
and called the church to be his servant
for the reconciliation of the world.

Adapted from the Confession of 1967