

WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT MCFARLAND UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST!

January 9, 2022 ☩ Sunday Morning Online Worship

**Indicates please rise, in body or spirit.*

OPENING WORDS OF WELCOME

Whoever you are, wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here! McFarland UCC is Open and Affirming to people of all ages, races, physical and mental abilities, economic positions, religious backgrounds, sexual orientations and gender identities. We celebrate and share God's unconditional love by offering the opportunity for membership, fellowship and leadership to everyone.

***OPENING SONG**

"We Three Kings"

*We three kings of Orient are;
Bearing gifts, we traverse afar
Field and fountain, moor and mountain,
Following yonder star.*

***O 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.*

***O 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 are raising,
Worship the One most high.*

***O star of wonder, star of night,
Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading still proceeding,
Guide us to Thy perfect light.***

A READING FROM THE PROPHET ISAIAH: 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.*

A TIME FOR ALL AGES

TIME FOR PRAYER & THE PRAYER OF JESUS *(Traditional & Aramaic Translation)*

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 sins, as we forgive those who sin
against us. And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory forever and ever.
Amen.

The Prayer of Jesus translated from Aramaic

Translated by Dr. Neil Douglas-Klotz

O Birther! Father-Mother of the Cosmos
you create all that moves in light.
Focus your light within us—make it useful:
as the rays of a beacon show the way.

Create your reign of unity now—
through our fiery hearts and willing hands.
Your one desire then acts with ours,
as in all light so in all forms.

Grant what we need each day in bread and insight;
subsistence for the call of growing life.
Loose the cords of mistakes binding us,
as we release the strands we hold of others' guilt.

Don't let us enter forgetfulness
But break the hold of unripeness
From you is born all ruling will,
the power and the life to do, the song that beautifies all,
from age to age it renews.

Truly—power to these statements—
may they be the source from which all my actions grow.
Sealed in trust and faith. Amen.

OFFERTORY & DOXOLOGY

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise God all Creatures here below
Praise God above ye heavenly host
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost*

A MESSAGE THROUGH SCRIPTURE AND SPOKEN WORD

CLOSING SONG

"I Am The Light Of The World" #584 NCH

Music & lyrics by Jim Strathdee in response to a Christmas poem by Howard Thurman

***I am the Light of the World
You people come and follow me.
If you follow and love, You'll learn the mystery
Of what you were meant to do and be.***

*When the song of the angels is stilled.
When the star in the sky is gone.
When the kings and the shepherds have found their way home.
The work of Christmas is begun!*

***I am the Light of the World
You people come and follow me
If you follow and love, You'll learn the mystery
Of what you were meant to do and be.***

*To find the lost and lonely one,
To heal that broken soul with love,
To feed the hungry children with warmth and good food,
To feel the earth below the sky above!*

***I am the Light of the World
You people come and follow me.
If you follow and love, You'll learn the mystery
Of what you were meant to do and be.***

*To free the prisoner from all chains,
To make the powerful care,
To rebuild the nations with strength and goodwill,
To see all God's children everywhere.*

***I am the Light of the World
You people come and follow me.
If you follow and love, You'll learn the mystery
Of what you were meant to do and be.***

*To bring hope to every task you do,
To dance at a baby's new birth,
To make music in an old person's heart,
And sing to the colors of the earth!*

***I am the Light of the World
You people come and follow me.
If you follow and love, You'll learn the mystery
Of what you were meant to do and be.***

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**