

HEALTH CONCERNS

Members:

Rita Barger (health issues)
Lucy Dillon (health issues)
Faye Hodges (chemotherapy treatment)
Bernie Krecklow (health issues)
Hamp Langdon (health issues)
Bob Myers (heart issues)

Norman Self (Kernersville Medical Center—pneumonia)

Shirley Smith (broken pelvis)
Millie Vernon (health issues)
Rodgers White (health issues)

Friends & Family:

Barger **Jaxson Bright** (grandson—diagnosed with COVID19)
Bolen Cindy Smith (stroke); Bill Martin (hospitalized with COVID19); Catherine West-
moreland (infection from dog bite); Faye Dean Watson (cancer treatment);
Amy Ikerd; Cindy Strickland (diabetes & health issues); Carol Carroll (health
issues)
Briggs Rebecca Huminski (daughter—health issues)
Myers Keith Downs (Bob’s nephew—cancer)
M. Newton Mike Lucire (Marcia’s 41 yr. old son-in-law—stroke and Aortic leak)
Nicholson Steve Webb (son of dear friend—pancreatic cancer has returned)
Polinsky Chad Amond (nephew—health issues)
Pruitt Julian & Doris Pruitt (Rev. Pruitt’s parents—diagnosed with COVID19)
S. Sharp Fran Tilley (airport co-worker—hospitalized recovering from a cancer procedure);
Dick Pauley (Ambassador at PTI—ICU with health issues)

PRAYER OF PRAISE

Rosalie Nicholson (completed radiation therapy)

SPECIAL CONCERNS

Bolen Catherine Bolen
Foster Lorna Foster (prayers for continued healing)
Nicholson Diane Nichols (son’s pancreatic cancer has returned)

SYMPATHIES EXTENDED TO

Foster **The family of Winnie Theobald** (who passed away 12/26)



First Presbyterian Church

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Rev. John Pruitt, Pastor

Jane Johnson, Secretary

Nancy Bolen, Choir Director

January 3, 2021 — Epiphany of the Lord

SERVICE FOR THE LORD’S DAY

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE “We Three Kings” Matthew Allen Edwards (1995)

GATHERING

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Come, join the search for all God will reveal. We are the church, committed to an encounter with mystery.

People: God has sent light to dispel our fears. The glory of God has risen upon us.

Leader: The gospel of Christ reveals God’s grace. We share in the promise of Jesus Christ.

People: We gather together and lift up our eyes. Our hearts thrill to the sight and our lips rejoice.

Leader: Through us, the wisdom of God will be made known. There is a rich variety to meet each one where we are.

People: The radiance of truth surrounds us. Boldly and confidently, we approach our God.

All: Let us worship God!

***HYMN NO. 150** “As with Gladness Men of Old” DIX

*Those who are able, please stand.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of sovereigns and commoners, we confess that we are often more impressed with famous people than we are with your amazing glory. The rulers of this earth are more real to us than the one who reigns over time and eternity. Your priorities are not foremost in our lives. We reach for power and popularity more than for justice for the poor. We are more focused on prosperity than on relief for the oppressed. Our pursuits do not satisfy; save us from their fragmenting grip in our lives. Cause a new epiphany among us, we pray. Amen.

(The prayer continues in a time of silent, personal confession)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: God will judge us with righteousness and deliver us from the oppressive greed to which we have succumbed. The showers of God's blessings will fall on us like rain on new-mown grass. Peace will abound in the hearts of those who give help to the poor and needy. God commissions us, as fellow heirs with Christ, to fulfill the mission given to the saints. Friends, believe the good news...

People: *In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.*

*GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO

Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

(Please share a sign of peace with others.)

ANTHEM

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Isaiah 60:1-6

Matthew 2:1-12

SERMON

"Seeking Wisdom"

Rev. John Pruitt

SENDING

***HYMN NO. 152** "What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright" PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** "The Apostles' Creed"

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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. Amen.

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY "The Old Year Has Now Passed Away" J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

***HYMN NO. 151** "We Three Kings of Orient Are" KINGS OF ORIENT

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "In Dir Ist Freude (In Thee is Gladness)" J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

*Those who are able, please stand.

*Those who are able, please stand.