

Prospect Street United Methodist Church  
185 S. Prospect Street, Marion, OH 43302  
740-382-6069  
Pastor, Joshua Freshour

**Sunday, January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
10:30 a.m.**



Mission Statement:

**“We are united to love God,  
to grow in our commitment to Christ,  
to serve others, and welcome all people.”**

# Epiphany Sunday

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Joshua Freshour, Pastor

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\*Please stand if you are able

Please silence electronic devices

WELCOME

Rev. Brooke Hilliard

CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT

**“We are united to love God,  
to grow in our commitment to Christ,  
to serve others, and welcome all people.”**

OPENING PRAISE SONG

**“I Will Call Upon the Lord”  
I will call upon the Lord.  
*I will call upon the Lord.*  
Who is worthy to be praised.  
*Who is worthy to be praised.*  
So shall I be saved from my enemies.  
*So shall I be saved from my enemies.*  
I will call upon the Lord.  
The Lord liveth,  
and blessed be the Rock;  
and let the God  
of my salvation be exalted.  
The Lord liveth,  
and blessed be the Rock;  
and let the God  
of my salvation be exalted.  
I will call upon the Lord.  
*I will call upon the Lord.*  
Who is worthy to be praised.  
*Who is worthy to be praised.*  
So shall I be saved from my enemies.  
*So shall I be saved from my enemies.*  
I will call upon the Lord.**

PRELUDE

Allan Lust

Lighting of the Altar Candles

*Use this time to prepare your heart for worship*

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Jesus is more than we ever hoped for.

**People: We should be in awe of Him daily.**

Leader: And because of this, we should be ready to give Him our all.

**People:** Not just the things we can afford to give up.  
**Leader:** But everything, including our dearest treasures.  
**People:** Because nothing can settle, repay, or replace the gift He is to us.

\*OPENING HYMN

#254

“We Three Kings”  
**1. 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 light,  
star with royal beauty bright,  
westward leading,  
still proceeding,  
guide us to thy perfect light.**  
**2. 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 light,  
star with royal beauty bright,  
westward leading,  
still proceeding,  
guide us to thy perfect light.**  
**3. Frankincense  
to offer have I;  
incense owns  
a Deity nigh;  
prayer and praising,  
voices raising,  
worshiping God on high.  
O star of wonder,  
star of light,  
star with royal beauty bright,  
westward leading,  
still proceeding,  
guide us to thy perfect light.**  
**4. Myrrh is mine;  
its bitter perfume  
breathes a life  
of gathering gloom;  
sorrowing, sighing,  
bleeding, dying,  
sealed in the stone-cold tomb.  
O star of wonder,  
star of light,  
star with royal beauty bright,**

westward leading,  
still proceeding,  
guide us to thy perfect light.  
5. Glorious now  
behold him arise;  
King and God  
and sacrifice:  
Alleluia, Alleluia,  
sounds through  
the earth and skies.  
O star of wonder,  
star of light,  
star with royal beauty bright,  
westward leading,  
still proceeding,  
guide us to thy perfect light.

**\*INVOCATION**

**Jesus Christ, living Word, come to us today and speak to our hearts and souls. Be active in our flesh and bones. May Your breath and voice cause in us such a stirring that we find ourselves doing things that we never thought we could. Taking chances, making sacrifices, changing hearts. Help us to listen to You and not be tempted to shut you out even when Your words, though transforming, are tough to swallow. Give us the courage so that when You speak, we shut out the world, move in close to You, and respond with “Yes Lord!” Amen.**

**WITNESS IN MUSIC**

**“Joyful Medley”**

**Adult Choir**

**OFFERING**

Offertory

\*Doxology

\*Prayer of Thanksgiving

**“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”**

**#95**

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

**“Jesus Loves Me” vs. 1**

Children under age four may go to the Nursery

Children ages four through 5<sup>th</sup> Grade are dismissed for Junior Worship

**SCRIPTURE READING**

**Matthew 2:1-12**

<sup>1</sup> In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup> 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.” <sup>3</sup> When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; <sup>4</sup> and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. <sup>5</sup> They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: <sup>6</sup> ‘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.’” <sup>7</sup> Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup> 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.” <sup>9</sup> 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. <sup>10</sup> When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. <sup>11</sup> 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. <sup>12</sup> And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

**This is the Word of God for the People of God.**

Thanks be to God!

MESSAGE

***“Treasures”***

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

HOLY COMMUNION

PASTORAL PRAYER

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 trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass 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. Amen.**

\*CLOSING HYMN

**“Joy to the World”**

**#246**

**1. Joy to the world,  
the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive her King;  
let every heart  
prepare him room,  
and heaven and nature sing,  
(and heaven and nature sing,)  
and heaven and nature sing,  
(and heaven and nature sing,)  
and heaven, and heaven,  
and nature sing.  
2. Joy to the world,  
the Savior reigns!  
Let all their songs employ;  
while fields and floods,  
rocks, hills and plains  
repeat the sounding joy,  
(repeat the sounding joy,)  
repeat the sounding joy,  
(repeat the sounding joy,)  
repeat, repeat  
the sounding joy.  
3. No more let sins  
and sorrows grow,  
nor thorns  
infest the ground;  
he comes to make  
his blessings flow  
far as the curse is found,  
(far as the curse is found,)  
far as the curse is found,**

(far as the curse is found,)  
**far as, far as  
the curse is found.**  
**4. He rules the world  
with truth and grace,  
and makes  
the nations prove  
the glories of  
his righteousness,  
and wonders of his love,**  
(and wonders of his love,)  
**and wonders of his love,**  
(and wonders of his love,)  
**and wonders, wonders  
of his love.**

\*BENEDICTION

\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

“God Be With You”  
**God be with you till we meet again;  
by his counsels guide, uphold you,  
with his sheep securely fold you;  
God be with you till we meet again.**  
**Till we meet, till we meet, till we meet at Jesus’ feet;  
till we meet, till we meet, God be with you till we meet again.**

POSTLUDE

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Liturgist: Sara McKenney  
Greeter/Acolyte: Shawn Hastings

Next week’s Scripture: John 1:43-52 and Sermon Title: **“Don’t hit the showers yet”**

*The clear candle burning on our altar signifies our appreciation for the men and women serving our country during this time of national concern.*

**Altar Flowers** are placed in loving memory of my sister, Kim Gamble Mathews. Kim has been in her heavenly home for 22 years. Missed by all. Mike & Linda mills

The **Sacrament of Holy Communion** will be served during both worship services **today**.

The **Prayer Team** will meet this **afternoon** at 2 p.m.

The **Crosswood UM Men** meet every second Monday (**tomorrow**) at 8:30 a.m. at Perkins Restaurant.

The **Staff-Pastor-Parish-Relations Team** will meet **tomorrow** at 6 p.m. in the Upper Room.

**Carlton Louis Mumford**, a former member of Wesley UMC, went to be with the Lord on Monday, January 1. Visitation will be Monday, January 8, at Snyder Funeral Homes, Denzer Chapel, 360 East Center St., Marion from 5 – 7 p.m.; funeral service will be Tuesday at the funeral home at 2 p.m.

The **Guiding Light Circle** will meet on **Tuesday, January 9**, at 1:30 p.m.

The **Finance Team** will meet on **Thursday, January 11**, at 7 p.m. in the Upper Room.

The **S.K.I. Group** will meet on **Tuesday, January 16**, at 6:30 p.m.

The **Leadership Team** will meet on **Thursday, January 18**, at 5 p.m. in the Upper Room.

**Human Relations Day Offering – Sunday, January 14.**

**Neighborhood Supper** will be **Friday, January 19**, from 5 – 6 p.m. as a Carry-Out Meal.

**Newsletter Deadline** will be **Friday, January 19**, for our February 2024 Tower Notes!

**Men's Prayer Breakfast** will be held on **Saturday, January 20**, at 8 a.m. There will be good food, devotions and fellowship! Please join this amazing group of men!

**SUPER BOWL SUB SALE** - The Volunteers in Mission Team will be taking orders for subs again starting **January 21 and will end on January 28**. These subs will be ready just in time for the Game, February 11. The cost of the subs will be \$5.00 each.

The **Monday Morning Bible Study** will not meet again until Monday, January 22.

**Card Shower for Louis Hughes** – Louis will be celebrating his 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday on January 23. Please send cards to Louis Hughes, Kingston Residence, 464 James Way, Marion.

**Upper Rooms** Devotional Booklets for January/February 2024 are on the table inside the main entrance to the sanctuary. Small - \$1.00 Large - \$1.50

The **2024 Flower Calendar** is hanging up in the hallway. The price for fresh flowers is \$46.95. Silk flowers are \$5.00. Select your date to remember a loved one or to honor a family member or friend. Let the office know if you order your own flowers.

**Stained Glass Window Maintenance Fund** – We completed and paid for the East and South side. We still need to complete the North side, which will cost a total of \$30,304 if we don't have any extra expenses. We currently have \$16,750.47. Keep your eyes on our Fundraiser Thermometer throughout the church for the progress on completing the goal. If you would like to donate to this project, please mark your envelope.

The **Book of Revelation Study** will meet for the last time this morning at 9:30 a.m. in the Gathering Place.

The **New Beginnings Sunday School Class** is studying the Book of Acts the First Quarter of the New Year. We welcome you to join us, especially if you're not currently in a Sunday School class. This class tries to provide good exposure to Scripture. We also do a quick review of the prior week's material each week so that those who weren't there have a good understanding of what we're covering and don't feel lost. The Class meets on the Basement Floor, right off the elevator and is led by Dave McCartney.

**Peanut Butter and Jelly Food Drive** - If you would like to continue supporting this mission, please drop off your donations in the Church kitchen.

**E-Tithing** is an automatic withdrawal from your checking account and is remitted automatically to the church. Contact the church office for more information!

**Watch our services on YouTube!** Just go to our website and click the YouTube link. Our website address is: [www.prospectstreetumc.com](http://www.prospectstreetumc.com).

**Service DVD's for Shut-Ins!** We have DVD's available of our 10:30 a.m. worship service for anyone who would like to borrow or have a copy. We are delivering DVD Players and the DVD's on Monday mornings! Call Erika in the office for information.

**Kroger Community Rewards** – Please enroll in the Kroger Community Program. Go to [www.krogercommunityrewards.com](http://www.krogercommunityrewards.com) and all the details on creating an online account are there. Under Community Rewards make sure you search and select "Prospect St. United Meth. Chur" our Organization number is VF478. Thank you! If you have any questions, please call Erika.

**Attendance December 31, 2023:** Sunday School - 23      Worship Services – 30/73

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