



United Presbyterian Church
1701 E. Second St.
Bloomington, IN 47401

January 4, 2026 Worship Guide
Second Sunday of Christmas



Welcome The Reverend Carol Barrett

Prelude Benjamin Watkins, piano

Call to Worship

Deacon Michelle Heitink, liturgist

Liturgist: Arise! shine, for your light has come!

People: Darkness covers our world, but the light of the Christ Child has risen upon us!

Liturgist: Your light, O God, led the wise men from the east, bringing precious gifts.

People: Now we bring to You our gifts of worship and praise.

***Hymn of Praise** *L We Three Kings of Orient Are* #66

Prayer of Confession (in unison with Liturgist)

Lord God, before following paths You have shown us, we ask for more light into the future. Forgive us for seeing without acting. Forgive our unwillingness to “go the distance”. Forgive us when our fears about the future, hold us back from Your vision for us for today. Hear now our silent confessions.....

Declaration of Forgiveness Rev. Carol Barrett

***Gloria Patri** #579



Passing of the Peace

Liturgist: God sends this message of joy to all people, preaching peace by Jesus Christ, the Lord of all. The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also, with you.

Liturgist: Let us share Christ’s peace with one another

Music for Meditation

Prayer for Illumination (Liturgist)

Gracious God, illumine these words by your Spirit, that we might hear what you would have us hear and be who you would have us be, for the sake of Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. Amen.



The Old Testament Lesson *Isaiah 60: 1 - 6* – Liturgist Heitink

The New Testament Lesson *Mathew 2: 1 - 12* – Pastor

Pastor: The word of the Lord **People: Thanks be to God**

Sermon *See, Ask, Go* Rev. Barrett

***Sermon Hymn:** *As with Gladness Men of Old* #63

Affirmation of Faith— From *The Scots Confession* led by Reverend Barrett

We affirm that.....When the fullness of time came, God sent his Son, his eternal wisdom, the substance of his own glory, into this world, who took the nature of humanity from the substance of a woman, a virgin, by means of the Holy Ghost. And so was born the “just seed of David,” the “Angel of the great counsel of God,” the very Messiah promised, whom we confess and acknowledge to be Emmanuel, true God and true man, two perfect natures united and joined in one person.

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation to the Lord's Table and Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also, with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise

"Blessed are You, Lord God.....and so, with the company of all believers and those around
the throne of God we sing....

Holy, holy, holy Lord God Almighty!

Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee.

Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty.

God in three persons, blessed Trinity! (#138)

Pastor: We give you thanks for the Word made flesh in Jesus of Nazareth...Great is the
mystery of faith.

People: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again

The Words of Institution

The Distribution of the Elements

The congregation is invited to come forward.

Prayer after Communion

Prayers of the People – Rev. Carol Barrett

The Lord's Prayer

Call for the Offering

Offertory

**Doxology #592*

Prayer of Dedication

***Closing Hymn:** *Be Thou My Vision* #339

Charge and Benediction Reverend Carol Barrett

Postlude Benjamin Watkins, piano

*Please stand if you are able

UPC Prayer List - Email requests to: upcbloomington@gmail.com

Our congregation as we've closed 2025 and look forward to 2026 in the service of our Lord

Kevin Jones Roby Lorimer Virginia McCartney Kathleen Olds Anita Steverson

His Eyes Mission in Honduras led by Valerie and Felipe Colby

Nyaka Global in Uganda led by Jackson Kaguri

The food pantries of Monroe County as they struggle with increased demand

The people of Georgia, Nigeria, Middle East and Ukraine

The first responders of Monroe County

The homeless of Monroe County

Those dear ones we've lost over the past year



Church Leaders: Annual Reports Due

The UPC 2026 Annual Report covering 2025 is being assembled for presentation at the UPC Annual Meeting. Email your report to upcbloomington@gmail.com no later than Friday, January 30, 2026. See Elder Stephanie Worden if you have questions.

2026 UPC Annual Meeting to Report on 2025

The Annual Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, February 22, 2026, immediately after morning worship. Please get this important event on your calendar now.



Wednesday Morning Bible and Book Study

As we await the return of Lay Minister Alejandra Haddad, UPC's Wednesday mornings Bible and Book Study is beginning a new video/discussion course in the Anderson Parlor. Jim Haverstock will lead the study. The first study begins next Wednesday, January 7. It's six sessions, each on Wednesday from 10-11:30 a.m. No book or other material to purchase.

This exciting study is designed to use Scripture and God's commands in our everyday decision-making, avoiding mistakes and temptations that lead to regrets and disappointments.

The video course is titled *Guardrails*, and was developed by Andy Stanley (the son of the well-known minister, Dr. Charles Stanley). It has been used by a men's group which meets at our facility and is heartily recommended to us by all of their members. All are invited to join the study to begin 2026 by looking to God for guidance and direction.



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