

"Mission Impossible: Magi Edition"  
Rev. Zhenya Gurina-Rodriguez  
Matthew 2:1-12

Traditional Worship  
11:00 am  
January 6, 2019

## WE GATHER

Prelude — *Caroling, Caroling*  
Diane Bish, arranger

Welcome

Choral Call to Worship

### \*Call to Worship

Leader: O come, let us worship the Lord  
and consider what wondrous things God has done:

**People: The Magi who study the heavens follow a guiding star!**

O come, let us worship the Lord  
and consider what wondrous things God has done:

**The peoples who live in the shadows see a glorious light!**

O come, let us worship the Lord  
and consider what wondrous things God has done:

**The Christ who embodies the Word unveils the hidden plan, making  
us joint heirs of the promise of salvation through the gospel!**

O come, let us worship the Lord,  
**for God has done wondrous things!**

### \*Hymn 220 — *Angels From the Realms of Glory*

**Angels from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
ye who sang creation's story now proclaim Messiah's birth:**

**Refrain — Come and worship, come and worship,  
worship Christ, the newborn king.**

**Shepherds, in the field abiding, watching o'er your flocks by night,  
God with us is now residing; yonder shines the infant light:**

Refrain

**Sages, leave your contemplations, brighter visions beam afar;  
seek the great Desire of nations; ye have seen his natal star:**

Refrain

Word of the Day:  
Grace

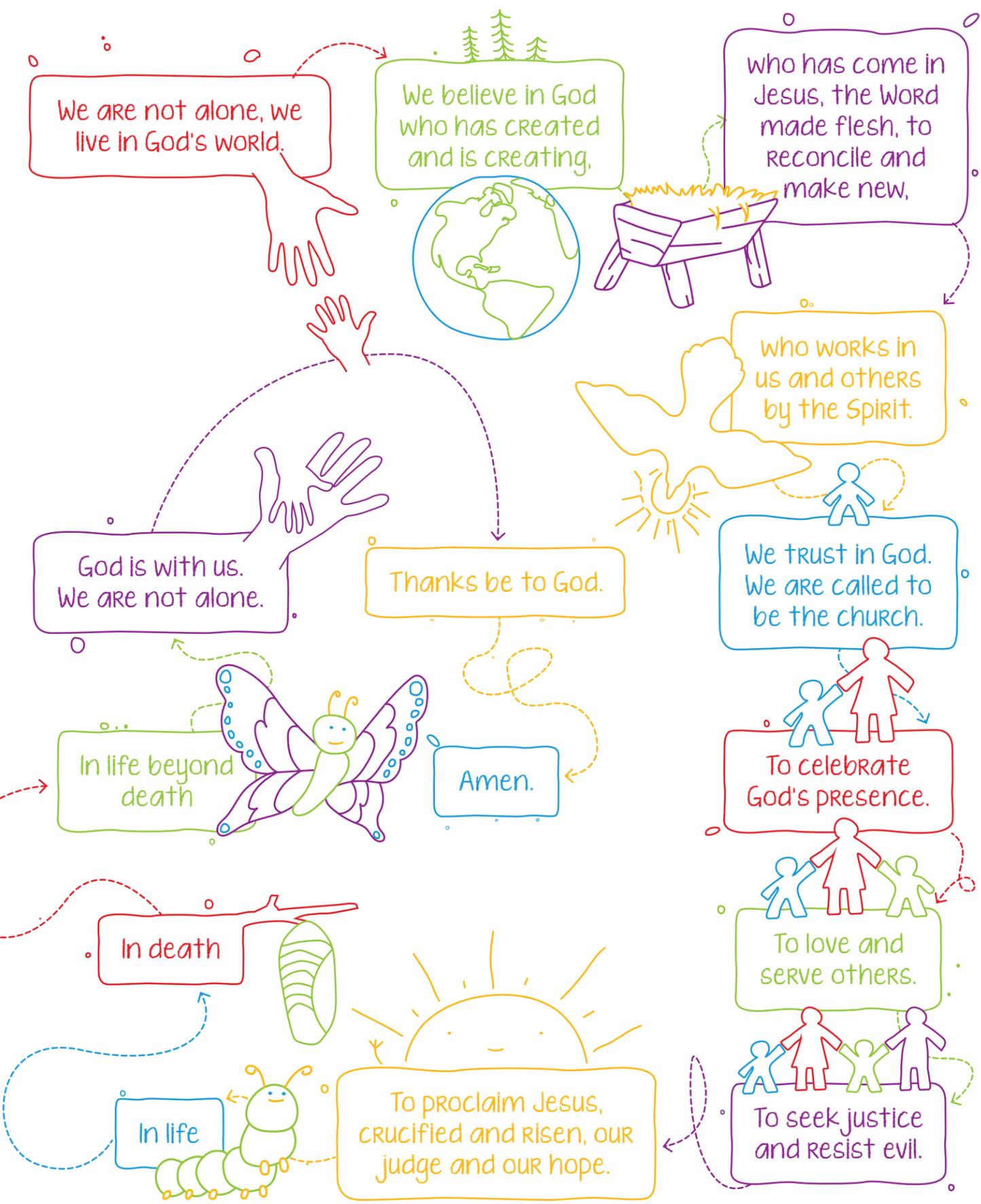
Memory Verse:  
...they went back  
to their own  
country by  
another route.

— Matthew 2:12

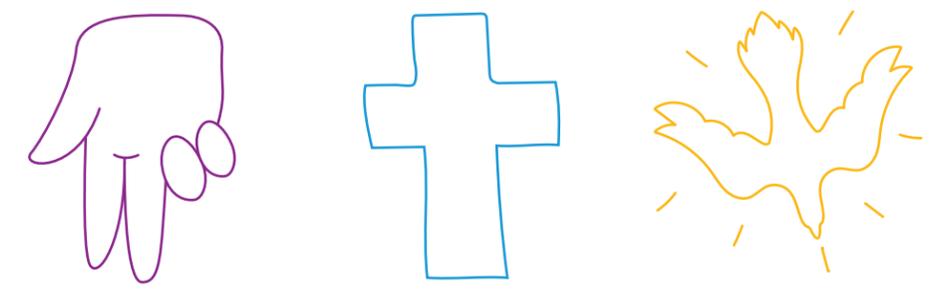


A sage is an old  
word meaning a  
very wise person.

# \*Affirmation of Faith



\*Gloria Patri  
 Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;



Gloria Patri means "Glory to the Father." This short hymn of praise has been sung by Christians for many centuries.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

Please be seated. Ushers will assist in seating at this time.

## WE PROCLAIM

Special Music – When Mary Hugged Her Newborn Son  
 Faith Like a Child

\*Passing the Peace

Scripture – Matt. 2: 1-12  
 God speaks to us through the reading of scripture.  
 Thanks be to God.

\*Hymn 254 – We Three Kings

We three kings of Orient are; bearing gifts we traverse afar, field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.

Refrain – O star of wonder, star of light, 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.

Refrain

Frankincense to offer have I; incense owns a Deity nigh; prayer and praising, voices raising, worshipping God on high.

Refrain

Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume breathes a life of gathering gloom; sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying, sealed in the stone-cold tomb.

Refrain

Glorious now behold him arise; King and God and sacrifice: Alleluia, Alleluia, sounds through the earth and skies.

Refrain

Scripture: Each week we read from the Bible – the book of God's love. Its words can inspire you, comfort you, teach you, and challenge you to be your best self – a true servant of God.

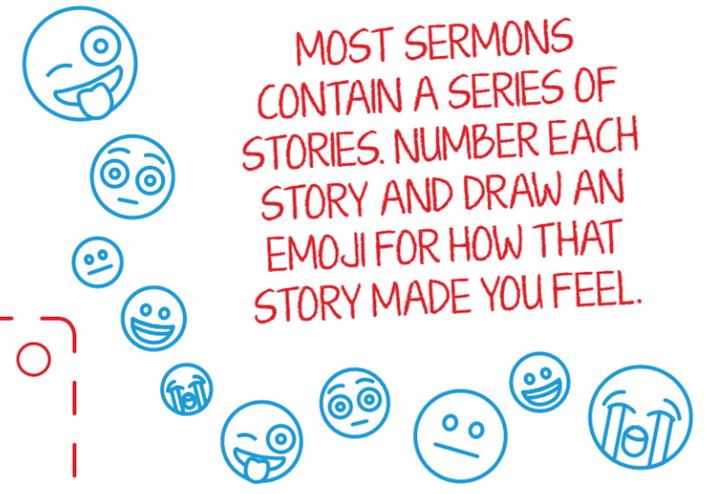
You can listen as the scripture is read, or... Find a Bible nearby, look up the scripture, and follow along.

Sermon Snips:  
You don't have to "just sit there." Choose one of the sermon snips and let it guide you as you take your relationship with God to the next level.



# Mission Impossible: Magi Edition

MOST SERMONS CONTAIN A SERIES OF STORIES. NUMBER EACH STORY AND DRAW AN EMOJI FOR HOW THAT STORY MADE YOU FEEL.



If the sermon is about a Bible hero, think of the person in your life who is most like that hero. Write about that person, or make an illustration.

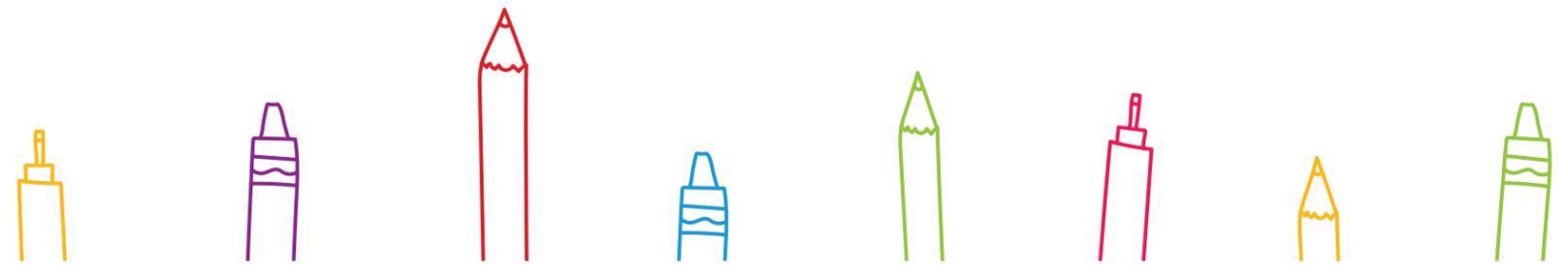


Did you just hear something you disagree with? Argue about it.



Listen. What is something you hear that gives you a sense of wonder? Of peace? Of hope?

Did the sermon remind you of a story from your life? Write about that story... or illustrate it.



# WE RESPOND

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.

Many years  
after Jesus went  
to heaven, the  
early church  
added this part  
of the prayer.  
Hold the prayer  
cross close to  
your heart as  
you say this part.

A Time of Giving

Offertory – We Walk By Faith

Mary McDonald, arranger

Find the offering envelope in your worship kit. Write your first and last name on the envelope, then put in the money you plan to give to the church. Place the **envelope** in the offering plate. Every dollar makes a difference!

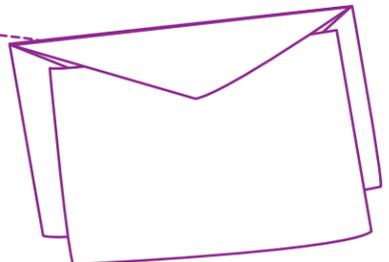
\*Doxology 95

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

\*Invitation to Christian Discipleship

\*Hymn 247 – O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright

O Morning Star, how fair and bright  
thou beamest forth in truth and light,  
O Sovereign meek and lowly!  
Thou Root of Jesse, David's Son,  
my Lord and Master, thou has won  
my heart to serve thee solely!  
Thou art holy,  
fair and glorious, all-victorious,  
rich in blessing,  
rule and might o'er all possessing.



Thou heavenly Brightness! Light divine!  
O deep within my heart now shine,  
and make thee there an altar!  
Fill me with joy and strength to be  
thy member, ever joined to thee  
in love that cannot falter;  
toward thee longing  
doth possess me; turn and bless me;  
here in sadness  
eye and heart long for thy gladness!

What joy to know, when life is past,  
the Lord we love is first and last,  
the end and the beginning!  
He will one day, O glorious grace,  
transport us to that happy place  
beyond all tears and sinning!  
Amen! Amen!  
Come, Lord Jesus! Crown of gladness,  
we are yearning  
for the day of your returning.

\*Benediction

Our gathering will soon be ended, where will we go, and what will we do?  
**We will go out to be God's people in the world.**  
May grace, peace, hope, love, and joy forever accompany you. Amen.

\*Congregational Closing – Let There Be Peace on Earth

Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.  
Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.  
With God our Creator, children all are we.  
Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me, let this be the moment now,  
With every breath I take let this be my solemn vow:  
To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally.  
Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.

\*Postlude – Once in Royal David's City

Victor C. Johnson, arranger

The poinsettias and decorations in the Sanctuary are given in loving memory of Mr. and Mrs. A.J. Broderick and Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Smith.

Worship Leaders:

Sermon, Rev. Zhenya Gurina-Rodriguez, Associate Pastor

Liturgists: Dr. Tim Bruster, Dr. Mike Marshall

Faith Like a Child: Mister Mark, Jackson McCollum, helper

Choir: Choral Union

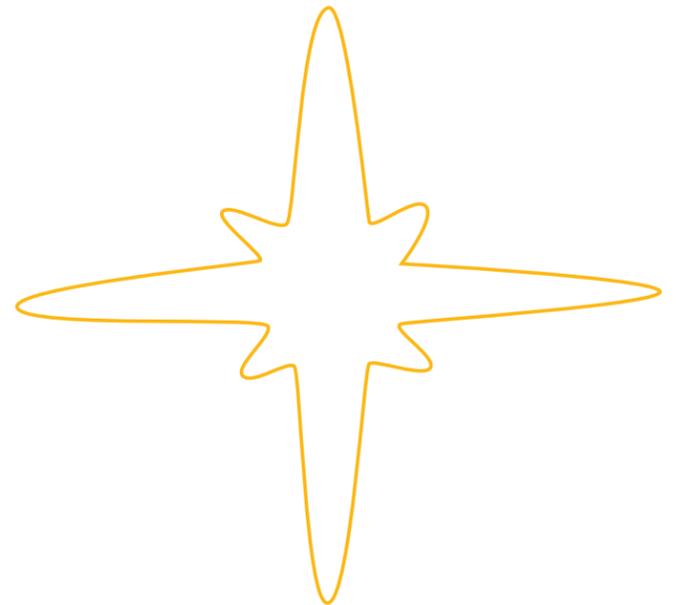
Mr. Robert Stovall, Director of Music and Worship Arts

Mrs. Peggy Graff, Organist/Associate Director of Music and Worship Arts

Soloist: Mrs. Mary Grim, alto

Instrumentalist: Mr. Arthur Busby, violin

\*Please stand as you are able.



How are you going  
to be one of God's  
people in the world  
this week?

# WORSHIP KIT

↪ INSIDE YOU WILL FIND ↪

## TREASURES OF NATURE BOX

One of the best ways we can experience God's power and love is by cherishing God's handiwork in the wonders of nature. Carefully open the box and discover what treasures wait inside.

## BLANK CARD

You can use the pencil and crayons to make a *Thank You* note for someone in the Sanctuary who helped make worship feel special to you. It could be a parent, a minister, a choir member, an usher, or someone in the next pew who gave you a friendly wave. After the service, ask your parents to take you to hand-deliver the card.

## ANOINTING BALM

Use the anointing balm to bless a friend or family member sitting next to you. Rub a tiny bit of the balm on your thumb and trace the sign of the cross on your neighbor's forehead or back of the hand (whichever they prefer). As you do this, say a simple blessing, such as "God bless you." (It's not just for sneezes.) Or, for a longer blessing, you could say:

*You are a special person.  
God loves you, and so do I.  
Bless you.*

And don't forget to allow your neighbor the privilege of getting to bless you.

## PIPE STEMS

There are so many things you can do with pipe stems. You could:

- Listen to the sermon and sculpt an object you hear mentioned.
- Shape them in the initials of someone you'd like to pray for.
- Look around the Sanctuary and sculpt something you see.
- Sculpt a flower and give it to a family member.
- Make a friendship bracelet and give it to a friend, or to a new member.

## PRAYER CROSS

The cross is such a powerful symbol of God's love and hope. Anytime is a good time to hold on to the cross. See inside the bulletin for how to use the prayer cross during the Lord's Prayer.

## TANGLE

Listen to a piece of music or a Bible story and mold the tangle to show how it makes you feel.

Does it make you feel:

- Open and ready for God's presence?
- Tangled and confused?
- Wrapped snugly and securely?
- Calm like a gentle stream?
- Not sure?

## PENCIL AND CRAYONS

Use these to write notes in your bulletin, draw a prayer, illustrate a story you hear in the sermon, or even ask hard questions.

## CLOTH FIGURE

Here are just a few things you can do with the cloth figure:

- Have it act out the events in the Bible story.
- Help it read the bulletin.
- Gently hold it the way God is holding you right now.

## EYE SPY CARD AND TELESCOPE

Use the Eye Spy card to identify some of the many meaningful objects and symbols in our Sanctuary. Use the telescope to help you explore.

