

FIRST COMMUNITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
MEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS
SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP
AT 10:30 a.m. (online)

January 10, 2021

Epiphany/Baptism of the Lord

join us at:

<http://meet.google.com/vbn-wdjp-msm>

*Whoever you are, and wherever you are on your journey of faith,
you are welcome at First Community UMC.*

**As an inclusive community, we invite you to sing & confess your faith in the language that you feel comfortable.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Please join us for today's **Virtual Coffee Hour**. To participate, stay in the meeting room after the service and when instructed to do so, unmute your microphone.
- The **Merry-Go-Round Preschool** staff would like to "Thank you for providing gifts under the tree and scholarship tuition to their family in need this Christmas. We truly appreciate your generosity!"
- We have updated our website to make it more useful to you, our congregation. Please take a moment to visit at www.firstcommunitymedford.org, then Bookmark it or add it to Favorites in your web browser. Announcement, calendar and event information is now located on the front page and more accessible to our community.
- Our **Annual Charge Conference** will be held Saturday, January 23 at 10 a.m. All are welcome to attend.
- **Contacting Pastor De La Rosa:** Please feel free to call, text or email Pastor De La Rosa to plan a meeting with her *or* for any pastoral emergencies.
- **Serve-One-Another Ministry:** If you need help because you are unable to leave your home *or* if you are healthy and willing to help others, please email us.

During the week ahead, please pray for these friends:

January 10 – Tom & Peggy Kirkpatrick
January 11 – Eleanor & Paul Kulakowski
January 12 – Terran & Susan Rati Lane
January 13 – Autumn Lane & Daniel Laskey
January 14 – Donna & Fred Laskey
January 15 – Matthew Laskey & Geoffrey Laskey
January 16 – Lauren Laskey & Richard Laskey
January 17 – Charlotte Luscombe & Frank Casseterri

Church Staff

Pastor: Cristian De La Rosa
Hours: Mon & Fri 10:00-2:00
Options to Meet: in Church Parlor, by phone or via Zoom
Cell: 540-550-9251 | Email: cdlrosa@bu.edu
Lay Leader: Stephanie Finley
Music Director: Luci Rexroad

Office Manager: Kathy Aluia
Hours: Mon & Thurs 9:30-12; Fri 8:00-1:00
Office: 781-396-5436 | Email: fcumc02155@yahoo.com
Website: www.FirstCommunityMedford.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/firstcommunityumc/



PRELUDE

“Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light”

-Johann Schop
-arr. Victor Labenske

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Susan Rati Lane, Worship Leader

CALL TO WORSHIP 2

Leader: Today we celebrate a special baptism;
the baptism of Jesus of Nazareth.

God says:

Look! See my chosen servant,
the One in whom I utterly delight;

**All: I have placed my Spirit on him,
he will bring true justice to the nations.**

Leader: When Jesus was baptized, the heavens opened up,
and Spirit came down like a dove;
and there was a voice from heaven saying:

**All: “This is my dearly loved Son,
with whom I am delighted.”**

Leader: The joy of the Lord be with you all.

All: And also with you.

COMMUNAL PRAYER 3 (*in unison*)

Most wonderful God,
foolish and flawed though we are,
we too delight in your beloved Son.

As in his name we gather in the house of many praises,
may the heavens be opened for us,
that we may catch a glimpse
of that Light and Love
that transforms our common days
with a beauty not of our making.

Through Christ Jesus our Lord. **Amen!**

CHILDREN’S MOMENT

Pastor De La Rosa

HYMN UMH 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. (R)

3. Frankincense to offer have I;
incense owns a Deity nigh;
prayer and praising, voices raising,
worshiping God on high. (R)

Refrain:

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. (R)

5. Born a King on Bethlehem's plain,
gold I bring to crown him again,
King forever, ceasing never,
over us all to reign. (R)

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

READING FROM THE HEBREW BIBLE:

Genesis 1:1-5

Susan Rati Lane

The word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

READING FROM THE GOSPELS:

Matthew 2:1-12

Pastor De La Rosa

For the word of God in scripture,
for the word of God among us,
for the word of God within us,
thanks be to God!

SERMON

“Renewing our Relationship with God...
through Our Hopes of a Better Future”

Pastor De La Rosa

HYMN UMH⁴ 605

“Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughter”

1. Wash, O God, our sons and daughters,
where your cleansing waters flow.
Number them among your people;
bless as Christ blessed long ago.
Weave them garments bright and sparkling;
compass them with love and light.
Fill, anoint them; send your Spirit,
holy dove and heart’s delight.

2. We who bring them long for nurture;
by your milk may we be fed.
Let us join your feast, partaking
cup of blessing, living bread.
God, renew us, guide our footsteps;
Free from sin and all its snares,
one with Christ in living, dying,
By your Spirit, children, heirs.

3. O how deep your holy wisdom!
Unimagined, all your ways!
To your name be glory, honor!

(Hymn continued next page)

With our lives we worship, praise!
We your people stand before you,
Water-washed and Spirit-born.
By your grace, our lives we offer.
Recreate us: God, transform!

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS & PASTORAL PRAYER

Gracious God, **hear our prayers.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father [God/Creator], who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom [kin-dom], 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 [kin-dom],
and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

OFFERTORY

“All Creatures of Our God and King”
(LASST UNS ERFREUEN)

-Geistliche Kirchengesänge

DOXOLOGY

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

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Pastor De La Rosa

HYMN *UMH 256*

“We Would See Jesus”

Versus 1 and 2

1. We would see Jesus, for the shadows lengthen
Across this little landscape of our life;
We would see Jesus, our weak faith to strengthen
For the last weariness, the final strife.
2. We would see Jesus, the great rock foundation
Whereon our feet were set with sov' reign grace;
Nor life nor death, with all their agitation,
Can thence remove us, if we see His face.

BENEDICTION

Pastor De La Rosa

**POSTLUDE & ONE LICENSE
MESSAGE**

“Go, Tell It on the Mountain”

-African American Spiritual
-arr. Victor Labenske



¹ Photo Epiphany visit of Three Kings by Jorisvo @Shutterstock.com

^{2,3} Written by Bruce Prewer and posted on <http://www.bruceprewer.com/DocA/10BAPTIS.htm>. Reposted: <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2014/01/call-to-worship-prayer-baptism-of-jesus.html>

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