

**THE WORSHIP OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD
AT SWIFT CHURCH**

*Second Sunday of Christmas
Celebration of the Epiphany*

GATHERING

Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed/A Sanctified Art
LLC/sanctifiedart.org

WELCOME

PRELUDE

“Go, Tell It on the Mountain”

BRINGING IN THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Chuck Carneal

Leader: How did we get here?

**People: I walked, eyes looking up, following the star.
I ran lunging for a love that is bigger than me.
I tumbled and fell, tender step after tender step.
I ambled like a river, caught up in God’s flow.
I crawled, kissing the earth below me.**

Leader: Tell me again. How did you get here?

People: I am here by God’s grace and love’s pull.

Leader: Welcome home. This is God’s house.
There is room for you here.

People: Let us worship our gracious God.

***HYMN**

“We Three Kings” #166

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Silent Prayer “Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy”

**God of new beginnings,
We admit that we often follow the well-worn path,
simply because others have been there before.
Sometimes this is holy and humble, but there are
days when a new path needs to be tread. On the
new-beginning days,**

**O God, give us the courage to follow your star.
Give us the courage to go home by another way.
Give us the courage to kick up some dust and walk in
a new direction for the sake of justice, love,
and neighbor.
For when you are doing a new thing, we want
to have the courage to follow.
With hope in our hearts we wander, we travel. Amen.**

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Leader: ... Dear travelers,
No matter the roads you’ve taken, the steps you’ve made,
or the paths you’ve traveled, there is nowhere you could go
that would land you outside of God’s love.
Hear and believe the good news of the Gospel:
**People: Regardless of the path we travel,
Of how lost we may get,
Or the twists and turns along the way,
We do not walk alone.
We are loved.
We are forgiven.
We have every chance to begin again.
Thanks be to God for a love like that!**

***PASSING THE PEACE**

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you all.
People: And also with you.

***RESPONSE**

“Gloria Patri” (#623)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the
Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever
shall be, world without end, Amen, Amen.

**please stand as you are able*

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Isaiah 43:16–21

SECOND READING

Matthew 2:1–12

RESPONSE

Leader: This is the word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“The Road Isn’t Straight”
Reverend Alexandra Hutson

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

***HYMN**

“As with Gladness Men of Old” #163

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

The Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of
heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe
in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally
begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being
with the Father; through him all things were made. For us
and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was
incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and
became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under
Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the
third day he rose again in accordance with Scriptures; he
ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the
Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and
the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in
the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds
from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the
Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the
prophets.**

**We believe in the one holy catholic and apostolic
Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness**

of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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.

OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory "Precious Lord, Take My Hand"

*RESPONSE "Doxology" (#625)

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 AND DEDICATION OF THE OFFERING

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

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

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

"One Bread, One Body"

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

SENDING

***HYMN** "Joy to the World" #125

***TAKING THE LIGHT INTO THE WORLD**

***CHARGE**

Leader: Good people of Swift Church, who are you?

People: Striving to bring God joy, we proclaim Christ's love and Grace through serving and nurturing body, mind, and soul.

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE** "Lord of the Dance"

Music is licensed through CCLI.



Please join us in the fellowship hall for refreshments immediately following worship!

Welcome to Swift Church

January 5, 2025

Striving to bring God joy!



We proclaim Christ's love and
grace through serving and nurturing
body, mind, and soul.

Swift Presbyterian Church
23208 Swift Church Road
Foley, AL 36535

swiftpc@gulftel.com

(251) 943-8367

www.swiftchurch.org