

SUNDAY, JANUARY 5

10:00 AM—Worship Service
11:00 AM—Faith Formation
5:00 PM—FLY Epiphany Party
7:00 PM—B365 Bowman (Zoom)

TUESDAY, JANUARY 7

7:30 AM—Men’s Breakfast (FH)
7:30 AM—Personnel Ministry (E205)
9:00 AM—Yoga (Parlor)
10:30 AM—Staff Meeting (E102)
10:30 AM—H3 Hunter (S211)
1:00 PM—B365 Black (E205)
4:00 PM—Education Ministry (E205)
5:30 PM—Worship Ministry (S211)
5:30 PM—Service & Benevolence (E205)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8

10:00 AM—B365 Roberts (S211)
4:00 PM—Book Discussion (E201)
6:00 PM—B365 Skidmore (E211)
6:15 PM—Handbell Choir
7:00 PM—Chancel Choir

THURSDAY, JANUARY 9

9:00 AM—Yoga (Parlor)
10:00 AM— B365 Collins (S211)
12:00 PM—B365 Black (E205)
6:30 PM— Deacons (E205)

FRIDAY & SATURDAY
JANUARY 10 & 11

Created by God (Parlor)

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12

10:00 AM—Worship Service
11:00 AM—Congregational Meeting
11:30 AM— Covered Dish Luncheon
Created by God (Parlor)
4:00— Confirmation
5:15— FLY (FH)
7:30 PM—B365 Dahlin (Zoom)

MONDAY, JANUARY 13

8:15 AM—Personnel Ministry (E205)
10:00 AM—Circle 3
11:00 AM—Circle 2 (S211)
5:30 PM—Session Council (E205)
6:00 PM—Care & Connections (S211)

TUESDAY, JANUARY 14

7:30 AM—Men’s Breakfast (FH)
9:00 AM—Yoga (Parlor)
10:00 AM—Circle 1
10:30 AM—Staff Meeting (E102)
10:30 AM—H3 Hunter (S211)
1:00 PM—B365 Black (E205)
6:00 PM—Circle 4

2025 FLPC Session

Frank DiSilvestro, Beth Elliott, Jamie George, Stuart Hunter, William Hunter, Ginny Hutchison, Steve Hyman, Tom Leclair, Pete Pigeon, Jane Shear, Rebecca Timmons, Tommy Stallings

Worship Notes

***PLEASE BE AWARE** we live stream our worship and our services are video-recorded.

***LARGE PRINT HYMNALS AND BIBLES ARE AVAILABLE.** Please ask an usher if you would like to use one during our service.

***CHILDCARE** is provided for all infants and children 6 yrs and younger.

***HEARING SYSTEM** available for those who are hearing impaired. Please ask an usher.

****PLEASE REMEMBER TO SILENCE YOUR CELL PHONE****

Office Hours are Monday– Thursday 8:30–4:30

6500 N. Trenholm Road Columbia, SC 29206
www.flpc.org 803-787-5672

JANUARY 5, 2025 | EPIPHANY OF THE LORD SUNDAY AND ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

WE GATHER TO PRAISE GOD

WELCOME

Rev. Ed Black

PRELUDE

“How Brightly Shines the Morning Star”
Max Drischner

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

When the Wise Men from the East visited the newborn Jesus, they brought gifts fit for a king because they understood something of the nature of this baby. Reveal yourself to us in this hour of worship, so that we may know you, love you and honor you!

**May we be people for whom your coming is Good News!
Let us praise the Lord!**

***HYMN NO. 151**

“We Three Kings of Orient Are”

*(Congregation please sing verses 1 and 5 and the refrain each time.
Choir will sing verses 2, 3 & 4)*

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

All-knowing God, the Wise Men traveled from far away, under difficult circumstances, to worship Jesus in Bethlehem. They brought with them precious gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh to honor the Messiah. We have only traveled a few miles and we bring very little of consequence to worship. Forgive our cheap worship and our lukewarm devotion. We have failed to recognize the power and majesty of your gifts to us. We have sacrificed little for you, and spent more time and money glorifying ourselves than we have glorifying you. Our weak discipleship requires little of us. Forgive us O Lord! Fill us with a burning desire to love you and to worship you, so that every portion of our lives might serve your purpose and give you glory. In the name of Jesus the Messiah we pray. Amen.

The liturgical color of white is reserved for the greatest celebrations in the Church’s life – Christmas and Easter. Today is the 2nd Sunday of the Christmas Season and the day before Epiphany, the day when we remember the visit of the Magi to the infant Jesus, and Jesus’ own baptism in the River Jordan. Epiphany means to reveal or to make clear, and the scriptures associated with this season all help us know, more fully, who Jesus is.

*When this symbol * precedes an element of the service, please rise in body or spirit.*

A prayer of confession invites to reflect on God’s purpose for our lives. When we do this, we realize how we have missed the mark. This confession of our failures is not to make us feel bad, but to speak the truth about ourselves. The truth is that we sin. But the greater truth is that when we confess our sin, God’s nature is to forgive so that we are free to try again.

An assurance of pardon is our way of claiming God's free and unmerited grace. Every Sunday we ask for God's forgiveness, and seek again to live in ways that honor God and reflect God's love onto the world.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

By God's Grace we are forgiven of sin and saved.
We are grateful! We will receive God's grace and let it change us.

***HYMN NO. 581 GLORIA PATRI**

*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.*

TO HEAR GOD'S WORD

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

(Children through 1st Grade depart to Room #E-107)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

READING OF THE WORD

Matthew 2:1-12

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"Following Stars"

Dr. Ellen Skidmore

TO RESPOND IN FAITH

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE
AND 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.

The Lord's Prayer offers a good summary of much of Jesus' teachings.

OFFERING OF OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY

"Star Carol"
Robert A. Hobby
Chancel Choir

***THE DOXOLOGY**

*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.*

***THE DEDICATION**

May these gifts, given in gratitude and love,
Change us and the world to serve your purpose!

SERVICE OF ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION

The Offices of Elder and Deacon
Constitutional Questions of Officers Elect
Constitutional Questions to the Congregation (see insert)
Prayer of Ordination and Installaion
Charge to the Officers

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting; Amen.

***HYMN NO. 450** "Be Thou My Vision"

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

SENDING SONG - HYMN NO. 313

"Lord, Make Us More Holy" vs. 1

"Lord, make us more holy; Lord, make us more holy; Lord make us more holy, until we meet again: holy, holy holy, until we meet again."

***POSTLUDE**

"O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright"
Timothy Albrecht

We give to God out of gratitude. And the work of this church depends on your gifts. Offerings may be made online <https://flpc.org/giving/> or use the QR code below.



Ordination and Installation of Officers in Reformed Churches is always an act of the whole congregation. All Ministers, Elders and Deacons who lead in Presbyterian Churches are elected from the congregation by the congregation. Leadership is not assigned by some higher authority, but elected by the body who will be governed. This practice stems from the Protestant Reformation's resistance to the hierarchical structure of the Roman Catholic Church in which an appointed leader (such as a Bishop) appoints the leadership of a congregation with little or no input from the congregation.

Some worshipers find sitting and listening to the musical postlude helps them conclude their worship. Others find joy in greeting others. Choose the response that helps you worship God. And if a fellow worshiper is seated, please allow them time and space to listen and pray.