

SUNDAY WORSHIP
January 04, 2026
EPIPHANY OF THE LORD, YEAR A

Ringling of Outdoor Bell @ 10:00 AM
Rev: Jaime Torres

Liturgist: Martha Gentry
Reader: Judi Harsthorn

Gathering Hymns “Come now is the Time to Worship” “God will make a Way”

Call to Worship

L: We gather as people looking for the star, a sign that God is at work in the world.

P: God, help us find your glory.

L: We gather as people listening to the whispers of the Spirit, hints of the good news in the least likely places.

P: God, help us notice your glory.

L: We gather as people yearning for Love’s presence, the assurance that we are not alone and Love will have the last word.

P: God, help us meet your glory.

L: On this Epiphany Sunday, may the Light of Love shine among us, revealing divine glory through neighbors known and unknown, vulnerable children, and unexpected gifts.

P: God, reveal to us anew the glory of your expansive Love that gathers us together and sustains us in loving service to one another and all creation. Amen.

All: Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, we would like to be among those who saw the coming of the Christ Child, those who dropped all that they were doing and traveled to worship the coming of God's love into this world. We would like to be those who cared for God in infant vulnerability, who tickled and cuddled and comforted the growing child, that he might know love and safety. And yet, merciful God, we must recognize all the times we are more like Herod.

Whenever we, in our actions or in our inactions, find our own need for control more compelling than the needs of others for health and safety.

Whenever we cling to the security of our privilege, rather than standing up for the rights of the oppressed. Whenever we are complicit in the harming of innocents for the sake of profit, or power, or because we fear knowing, and changing, the injustices of this world. Loving God, we confess our sins against you and one another and pray that you will fill us with your light, that we may live our lives as true disciples in your name, without counting the cost. In the name of Christ, the one who showed us the way, we pray. Amen.

Liturgist: Passing the Peace: May the peace of Christ be with you

People: And, with you! (Please be brief as you pass the peace of Christ and greet one another.)

Children's Message

Marcia Heerema

Liturgist: Prayer before the Offering

Radiant God, the light of your wisdom and love shines for all who seek you, guiding us not with force, but with grace. Like the magi, we come bearing gifts, not to earn your favor, but in response to the gift of Christ you’ve given us. Use these offerings to reflect your light into dark places, so that others might be drawn to your love, your justice, and your joy. Keep us faithful in our seeking, generous in our sharing, and willing to be led wherever your star shines next. In Jesus’ name, Amen. ([Matthew 2:1-12](#))

Offertory

Song / Music

Joy Asenas

Doxology:

UMH # 94

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Prayers, Concerns and Celebrations of the week

Pastor: The Lord’s Prayer

UMH # 895

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.

Preparation Hymn “Amazing Grace” **UMH # 378**

Scripture Readings

Old Testament Jeremiah 31: 7-14

New Testament John 1: 1-18

COMMUNION

Message “Seeing the Light”

Rev. Jaime Torres

Hymn of Commitment “Victory in Jesus” **UMH # 370**

Prayer for Going Forth Liturgist and People: Let me be full, let me be empty. Let me have all things, let me have nothing. I freely and heartily yield all things to thy pleasure and disposal. In Jesus’ name. Amen. (J. Wesley, England, 18th Century).

Announcements: Coffee house Fridays 11:30 a.m.; Pastoral Evangelism Thursday’s; Governing board meeting Wednesday January 14, 3:00 p.m.: Food Share will resume January 17th.

Blessings for the people (Pastor)

Lord of Light—shine on us, Lord of Peace—dwell in us, Lord of Mighty—succor us, Lord of Love—enfold us, Lord of Wisdom—enlighten us. Then, Lord, let us go out as your witness, in obedience to your command, to share the Good News of your love for us in the gift of your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Closing song May the God of Peace be with you, holding you in strong fingered hands, and may you be an instrument of God's peace, to those whose hands you hold, and may the blessings of peace, be with you, be with you, be with you. *Please stand as you are able in body or spirit

OUR APPRECIATION TO:

Rev.
Liturgist
Reader
Greeters
Pianist
Children's Sermon
Adult Education Director
Lay Leader
Videographer
Office Admin

Jaime Torres
Martha Gentry
Judi Hartshorn
You
Joy Asenas
Marcia Heerema
Laura Shaw
Susan Johnson
Eric Nelson
Cristina Mendez

Upcoming Events

Bible and Book Studies

"Disciple 2"

Monday's 10:00 – 12:00 Noon
Laura Shaw facilitating on ZOOM

"January Series"

Beginning January 13th
Tuesday's 1:00 – 3:00pm
Laura Shaw facilitating on ZOOM

Our Mission

Bardsdale United Methodist Church is a loving, caring,
Christ centered church,
growing in relationship with God, ourselves, and all others.

Our Vision

With God's help we will
Foster personal growth,
Promote participation by all ages,
Embrace new ideas, and
Be more visible and engaged in our community.

January Birthdays

15th Marcia Heerema
15th Fran Lee

BARDSDALE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH EPIPHANY OF THE LORD, YEAR A

JANUARY 04, 2025

Rev. Jaime Torres M. Div.~ phone: (562) 445-5659



OPEN HEARTS * OPEN MINDS * OPEN DOORS

Church office Hours
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Epiphany is all about light. The star in the sky leads the magi to Jesus, the light of the world, the revelation of divine love who came to dwell among us.

Bishop – Rev. Dr. *Dottie Escobedo-Frank*

North District DS – Rev. *Garth Gilliam*