

✠ ENTRANCE ✠

For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.
(Matthew 18:20, NRSV)

**Light shines in the darkness.
A star guides our way to JESUS CHRIST.
Hope is born again.**

Welcome and Announcements

***Opening prayer**

***Call to Worship**

Arise; shine, for your LIGHT has come!

We are called out of our darkness into LIGHT.

Lift up your eyes and look around.

We rejoice in the gift of LIGHT.

Come let us worship the GOD of LIGHT and joy and peace.

We come to kneel at the cradle of JESUS CHRIST, the LIGHT incarnate.

Ricky Tipps

Phyllis Turner

Pastor

✠ PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD ✠

Scripture Reading John 1:1-14, 16;

Pastor

Concerns and Prayers/Lord's Prayer

Pastor

Special Music "The Gospel of Grace"

David Cost

Sermon John 1:1-14, 16;

Pastor

"From His Fullness We Have All Received"

✠ RESPONSE TO THE WORD ✠

Hymn "We Three Kings of Orient Are" (v. 1 & 2) # 215 BH

***Prayer of Confession** Pastor

Ever patient GOD, we are a people who live in thick darkness. We stumble around, bombarded by news of war and poverty, famine and genocide, injustice and oppression. The turmoil of things and issues and people of the dark, can overwhelm and paralyze us. Help us to be people of the light, shining YOUR light of righteousness, peace, and joy into all the dark places of our lives and world. Let the light break into our lives and our world, and transform us into people of the light. Amen.

***Words of Assurance & Encouragement**

As certain as the dawn follows the night, so is the promise of GOD's forgiveness and love for us all. Arise and Shine. Follow the star. Find the LIGHT of the world born in Bethlehem..., and be transformed from darkness into light. You are forgiven, **and you are forgiven.**

***Affirmation of Faith** Pastor

The Celebration of the Holy Communion Pastor

✠ SENDING FORTH ✠

***Closing Hymn** "O Little Town of Bethlehem" (v. 1 & 4) # 196 BH

If you would like to make a profession of faith, join the church, or simply pray at the altar, you may come during the closing hymn. We welcome you to our fellowship!

***Charge & Benediction** Pastor

**Arise, and go forth to shine for all the world to see. Go now and follow the star that will guide you on your journey this week, this year, and forever. May the blessing of the GOD of light rest upon you and fill you with light.
Amen.**

Postlude

Phyllis Turner

In the Life of our *STONEGATE* Community

Hello, Church Family.

I am grateful to GOD for all of you. After 102 years, we and the world, are experiencing unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic. We are strong in faith, we behave responsibly according to the situation, and we will be back soon to normal. Our hope is unprevailed by this situation. We are trained in patience and experienced in order to overcome temporary restrictions.

My daily devotional and weekly messages are published on our website at www.stonegatecpc.org

January 10, 2021 – Sunday Service at 10:00 a.m.

I assure you that you are in my prayers.

BE STRONG, NEVER GIVE UP..., ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. *(John 1:9-13;)*

For Our Guests

We are so thrilled to have you worship with us today. We truly hope you are encouraged and inspired to grow closer to GOD as we worship the true and living GOD together.



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WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Dr. Mark Marian Sontowski, *Pastor*
Phyllis Turner, *Pianist*
Andy Turner & Pam Brown, *Worship Leaders*
David Cost, *Special Music*
Ricky Tipps, *Welcome and Announcements*

17101 North Western, Edmond, Oklahoma 73012
www.stonegatecpc.org e-mail: stonegatecpc@gmail.com
Office 405-340-7281

THEME IDEAS

In the Northern Hemisphere, we are experiencing the darkness of midwinter. Days are short and nights long. But there are other forms of darkness - poverty, war, injustice, oppression, hatred, prejudice, fear - forms that also affect us just as they did the people of biblical times. But in these passages, light breaks through the darkness: a prophet calls us to arise and see the light of liberation and peace, reconciliation and joy; the Psalmist prays for a ruler who will light the way of his people with righteousness, prosperity, and an end to oppression and injustice. The author of Ephesians lights the way through mystery, with a message of the Good News of CHRIST JESUS; and the Wise Men follow the light of a star, finding more than they were looking for to return home transformed.



STONEGATE CHURCH

CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN

Sunday Worship Service at 10:45 am

Epiphany of the LORD, JANUARY 3, 2021



Experience the Love of CHRIST in Community!