#### INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION & PARDON

Merciful God, We confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Glory to God. Amen.

#### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And also with you. Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

#### COMMUNION LITURGY & RECEIVING OF THE ELEMENTS

#### \*HYMN OF INVITATION

BLESSED ASSURANCE

UMH #369, v 1 & 3

WORDS BY FANNY J. CROSBY

MUSIC BY PHOEBE P. KNAPP

USED BY PERMISSION. CCLI LICENSE #1203752 & 20202614

1.Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! O what a foretaste of glory divine! Heir of salvation, purchase of God, born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.

<u>Refrain</u>: This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long; this is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.

3. Perfect submission, all is at rest; I in my Savior am happy and blest, watching and waiting, looking above, filled with his goodness, lost in his love. [Refrain]

#### \*BENEDICTION

## \*SENDING FORTH STAND UP, STAND UP FOR JESUS UMH #514, v. 1 & 2 WORDS BY GEORGE DUFFIELD, JR

MUSIC BY GEORGE J. WEBB USED BY PERMISSION. CCLI LICENSE #1203752 & 20202614

1.Stand up, stand up for Jesus, ye soldiers of the cross; lift high his royal banner, it must not suffer loss. From victory unto victory his army shall he lead, till every foe is vanguished, and Christ is Lord indeed.

2.Stand up, stand up for Jesus, the trumpet call obey; forth to the mighty conflict, in this his glorious day. Ye that are brave now serve him against unnumbered foes; let courage rise with danger, and strength to strength oppose.

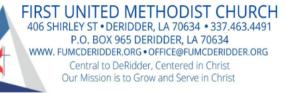
> **POSTLUDE** WE THREE KINGS



"Bread of Life" Matthew 2:1-12



January 7, 2024
Epiphany
Worship Service with Communion
Sanctuary & Online 10:00 AM



#### ORDER OF WORSHIP

**PRELUDE** THE THREE KINGS

#### **WELCOME HOME!** ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### **CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP**

THE FIRST NOWELL
HANDBELL ENSEMBLE
ARRANGED BY JAMES C. SMITH

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Everlasting God, the radiance of faithful souls, vou brought the nations to your light and kings to the brightness of your rising. Fill the world with your glory, and show yourself to all the nations; through him who is the true light and the bright and morning star, Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. Amen.

(LATIN SACRAMENTARY, 5TH-7TH CENT., ALT.)

#### \*HYMN OF PRAISE

THERE'S A SONG IN THE AIR

UMH #249, V. 1 & 4

WORDS BY JOSIAH G. HOLLAND

MUSIC BY KARL P. HARRINGTON

USED BY PERMISSION. CCLI LICENSE #1203752 & 20202614

1. There's a song in the air! There's a star in the sky! There's a mother's deep prayer and a baby's low cry! And the star rains its fire while the beautiful sing, for the manger of Bethlehem cradles a King!

4. We rejoice in the light, and we echo the song that comes down through the night from the heavenly throng. Ay! we shout to the lovely evangel they bring, and we greet in his cradle our Savior and King!

#### \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

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 Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at 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 Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

SHARING OF OUR JOYS & CONCERNS

# CALL TO PRAYER THIS IS A DAY OF NEW BEGINNINGS UMH #383, v. 1 & 3 WORDS BY BRIAN WREN MUSIC BY CARLTON R. YOUNG USED BY PERMISSION. CCLI LICENSE #1203752 & 20202614

1. This is a day of new beginnings, time to remember and move on, time to believe what love is bringing, laying to rest the pain that's gone.

3. Then let us, with the Spirit's daring, step from the past and leave behind our disappointment, guilt, and grieving, seeking new paths, and sure to find.

#### CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER

#### OFFERING PRAYER & RETURN OF GOD'S TITHES & GIFTS

#### \*Doxology

PRAISE GOD, FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW

#94
Words by Thomas Ken
Music from *Geistliche Kirchengesange*Arr. by Ralph Vaughan Williams
Used by Permission. CCLI License #1203752 & 20202614

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!

### HYMN OF FAITH

WE THREE KINGS
UMH #254
WORDS AND MUSIC BY JOHN H. HOPKINS
USED BY PERMISSION. CCLI LICENSE #1203752 & 20202614

1. We three kings of Orient are; bearing gifts we traverse afar, field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.

Refrain: O star of wonder, star of light, star with royal beauty bright, westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.

2.Born a King on Bethlehem's plain, gold I bring to crown him again, King forever, ceasing never, over us all to reign. [Refrain]

3. Frankincense to offer have I; incense owns a Deity nigh; prayer and praising, voices raising, worshiping God on high. [Refrain]

4. Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume breathes a life of gathering gloom; sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying, sealed in the stone-cold tomb. [Refrain]

5. Glorious now behold him arise; King and God and sacrifice: Alleluia, Alleluia, sounds through the earth and skies. [Refrain]

#### **SCRIPTURE READINGS MATTHEW 2:1-12**

**SERMON** "Bread of Life" REV. LARAINE WAUGHTAL

ANTHEM A BLUEGRASS MAGNIFICAT TIM SHARP AND TIMOTHY MICHAEL POWELL