

Community United Methodist Church
First United Methodist Church

WORDS OF WELCOME: Pastor Jeff Holder

OPENING HYMN: *Great and Mighty Is He*

CALL TO WORSHIP: (*read responsively*) Leader – Becky Williams

Leader: Glorious God, grant us the courage to follow Christ’s natal star, wherever your light would lead us.

All: Grant us the wisdom to follow the kings of old, as they left the safety of their homes to find the infant Jesus.

Leader: Grant us the purity of heart,

All: to forsake the glitter of things that do not endure, and embrace the brightness of your glory. Amen.

Leader: Grant us the heart to care for those who have lost sight of the light of hope and struggle through their journeys.

All: May we be grounded in your love through our every act. AMEN.

UNISON PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION: Leader

Leader: Eternal God, following only a star in the sky, kings of old left their families and their lands to find a child whose birth was so profound, it was proclaimed in the heavens above.

All: Though we stay close to home for now, grant it that we soon may be able to clothe our feet of clay in walking shoes, and set out on your course. In this season of light, help us to shine your light in the darkness to honor the Prince of Peace. Open our hearts to those in need, that the gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh might not be the last gifts offered to the one who brings light into our lives. AMEN.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE: Pastor

The Spirit changes our hearts and our lives, blessing us with the assurance that we are God’s Children. As beloved children of God, be assured that we are treasured, loved, and we are forgiven.

All: Thanks be to God.

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST:

Pastor: God surprises us with gifts of power and blessing when we least expect it. Let us virtually share blessings, as we extend the peace and love of Christ to all who worship together with us as we say together:

All: May the peace and love of Christ be with each and every one of you.

SHARING OUR JOYS, CONCERNS & PRAYER REQUESTS: Pastor

SILENT/ COMMUNITY & PASTORAL PRAYERS:
THE LORD’S PRAYER

SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 60:1-6 Leader

Matthew 2:1-12 Pastor

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

All: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSIVE HYMN: *We Three Kings*

MESSAGE: “Diligently Following the Light” Pastor Jeff

OFFERTORY:

DOXOLOGY: UMH #95

COMMUNION:

CLOSING: *This Little Light of Mine*

SENDING FORTH: Pastor

Arise and 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. Go in peace.



Serving you today:



Liturgist:
Pastor:
Doug Kolsters
Jim Austin:
Ann Butler:
Glen Gorman:
Becky Officer
Judy Nikkel:
Judy Bradley:

Becky Williams
Jeff Holder
Praise Team Director
PowerPoints/Praise Team
Praise Team
Praise Team
Alternate Praise Team
Bulletin Editing/Materials Printing
Mailing/Distribution

Small Group Online Study for both Riverbank and Oakdale:

Small group forming for second week of January. Please contact Becky Officer or Pastor Jeff. **PLEASE CONTACT US THIS WEEK**

If you would like to speak with us, if you desire prayer, if you would like to become a member of these churches, if you would like to be baptized, or for any other purpose, please find our website and my contact information below:

<https://cumcoakdale.org> or <https://fumcriverbank.org>

First United Methodist Church Riverbank, PO Box 1091, Riverbank, CA 95367
Community United Methodist Church Oakdale, 1480 Poplar St, Oakdale, CA 95361

Prayers and Litanies: Abingdon Worship Annual 2018 & 2021, Jeff Holder 2021. May be used with permission.
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United Methodist Churches of Oakdale and Riverbank, Online Worship



Diligently Following the Light
Epiphany of the Lord Sunday
 January 3, 2021
 Pastor Jeff Holder

Pastor Jeff Holder 209-840-7939

Vjholder@att.net or Jeffrey.Holder@cnumc.org