

Gathering Music

Praise Band
 Joy to the World/ Unspeakable Joy
 Little Drummer Boy

Ringing of the Bells

Dean Brown
*We would be grateful if you would fill out the pew pad
 (with contact information) and let us know you are here
 this morning. After you have signed in, please pass the pew
 pad down the aisle. We are so glad you are here!*

***Opening Song**

Amazing Grace
 UMH 378

Centering Thought

"What you seek is seeking you." - Rumi.

Prayers of the People

Pastor Jo Ann

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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Children's Time: The Wise People**Ministry News**

Jan Southard

Prayer of Dedication

As long ago travelers laid their gifts before the Christ child, we too bring our gifts with great joy. Use our gifts for justice

and righteousness, that oppression and violence may cease and peace may flourish. May the light of your love shine through our living, that suffering may end, and all may rejoice in your gift of life. Amen.

Offering***Doxology****Scripture: Matthew 2: 1-12**

Tony Siegmund

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him."

When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. "In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied, "for this is what the prophet has written: "But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.

Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him.

After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the

house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

One: The word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

***Hymn of Preparation** This is a Day of New Beginnings
 UMH 383 v1-4

Message: More than 3 "Wise" People

Pastor Jo Ann

Launching Alpha Ministries Megan Schlegel, Mike Loring, Scott Flury

***Closing Song**

We Three Kings
 UMH 254

***Benediction**

**Please stand as you are able*

Ministry News

Wednesday study:

1 pm - Women of the Bible Ch 8 -In the Fireside Room

7 pm - Jesus' Alternative Plan - *Zoom*

Alpha Study - Please sign up on our website at ridgefieldumc.com/events and plan to join us as we kick off this new ministry. Alpha is an opportunity to explore life and the Christian faith in a friendly, open and informal environment. Dinner will be provided. Wednesday evenings beginning **January 18**.

Our Trustees are putting on a Spaghetti Feed **January 22** after worship (note change of date) to raise funds for upcoming building projects. Plan to join us for lunch after worship. More info to come.

Oftentimes things come up between Sundays. If you would like to be added to the prayer chain email, or if you have a prayer concern, please send an email to ridgefieldmethodistprayers@gmail.com

A special Thank You to our:

Musicians: Jennifer Bohn-Hodapp, Bob Southard
Mike Loring, Jon Detchman, and Craig Stockhaus

Children's Ministry Director: Megan Schlegel
Assistant: Dale Castle
Nursery: Katelyn Mathis

AV: Billy Yaddof, Meghan Green

Flower Team: Jan Southard, Carolyn Almond,
Mieko Heriford, Barb Pfeifer, Patti Novak, Cora Brown

All others that help to make Sunday service
a *joyous* experience.

Church Staff

Pastor	Rev. Dr. Jo Ann Schaad pastorjoann2017@gmail.com 509-770-3760
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Office Manager	Megan Schlegel / 360-887-8312 ridgefieldmethodist@gmail.com
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January 1, 2023
Epiphany Sunday
10:00am