Tithes and Offerings







or text <u>GIVE</u> to 717-420-1600





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CHURCH STAFF

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CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE



Order of Worship January 7, 2024 Epiphany Sunday

We Gather to Worship God

Welcome Worship in Song Call to Worship Worship in Song

We Listen to the Word

Prayer

Sermon: "God Broke the Rules"

We Come to the Table

Prayer of Confession and Consecration
The Lord's Prayer
We Eat and Drink Together
We Celebrate the Eucharist in Song
Prayer

We Go to Live in the Reign of God

Community Life/Gossiping the Good Stuff
Doxology
Blessing and Sending

Words to music, responsive readings and The Lord's Prayer will be on the screen





INTERESTED IN BAPTISM?



Baptism is an outward declaration of an inward decision to follow Jesus.

Contact pastorkris@tablelifechurch.org if you desire to be baptized, to re-dedicate your life to Christ, or pursue baptism for your child.

For a complete list of ongoing ministries and upcoming events, please visit <u>tablelifechurch.org</u>.

Doggy Bag-Some questions to chew on:



- 1. What stood out to you from the message and scripture? What did you hear from God?
- 2. Have you ever belonged to an exclusive group? How did that make you feel? How did that impact your relationships with others?
- 3. What difference does it make that God includes everyone? How does this compare to what you or others may have been taught about God?
- 4. What do the magi show us about God's character?
- 5. What would it look like for you to be an includer rather than an excluder?

NEW HERE? NEED PRAYER? Concection Card The first two control of the control of

If you'd like to talk personally and confidentially w/Pastor Kris about your relationship with Christ, please email pastorkris@tablelifechurch.org or call 717-774-6444

"GOD BROKE THE RULES" Pastor Gary Jacabella

I. WE WANT TO BELONG TO EXCLUSIVE GROUPS

II. GOD DECIDED TO INCLUDE EVERYONE

Matthew 2:1-12 After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in the territory of Judea during the rule of King Herod, magi came from the east to Jerusalem. ² They asked, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We've seen his star in the east, and we've come to honor him." 3 When King Herod heard this, he was troubled, and everyone in Jerusalem was troubled with him. 4 He gathered all the chief priests and the legal experts and asked them where the Christ was to be born. ⁵ They said, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for this is what the prophet wrote: 6"You, Bethlehem, land of Judah, by no means are you least among the rulers of Judah, because from you will come one who governs, who will shepherd my people Israel." 7 Then Herod secretly called for the magi and found out from them the time when the star had first appeared. 8 He sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search carefully for the child. When you've found him, report to me so that I too may go and honor him." 9When they heard the king, they went; and look, the star they had seen in the east went ahead of them until it stood over the place where the child was. 10 When they saw the star, they were filled with joy. 11 They entered the house and saw the child with Mary his mother. Falling to their knees, they honored him. Then they opened their treasure chests and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. 12 Because they were warned in a dream not to

return to Herod, they went back to their own country by another route. CEB

Deuteronomy 18:10 "Let no one be found among you who . . . practices divination or sorcery, interprets omens, engages in witchcraft, or casts spells, or who is a medium or spiritist . . . NIV

Isaiah 47:13 "You have worn yourself out, asking for advice from those who study the stars and tell the future month after month. . . . People who trust the stars are as helpless as straw in a flaming fire . . . These are the fortunetellers you have done business with all of your life. But they don't know where they are going, and they can't save you." CEV

Ephesians 3:1-6 I, Paul, am a prisoner of Christ for you Gentiles. ² You've heard, of course, about the responsibility to distribute God's grace, which God gave to me for you, right? ³ God showed me his secret plan in a revelation, as I mentioned briefly before (⁴ when you read this, you'll understand my insight into the secret plan about Christ). ⁵ Earlier generations didn't know this hidden plan that God has now revealed to his holy apostles and prophets through the Spirit. ⁶ This plan is that the Gentiles would be coheirs and parts of the same body, and that they would share with the Jews in the promises of God in Christ Jesus through the gospel. CEB

III. WE ARE FREE TO INCLUDE EVERYONE

Ephesians 3:7-12 ⁷ I became a servant of the gospel because of the grace that God showed me through the exercise of his power. ⁸ God gave his grace to me, the least of all God's people, to preach the good news about the immeasurable riches of Christ to the Gentiles. ⁹ God sent me to reveal the secret plan that

had been hidden since the beginning of time by God, who created everything. ¹⁰ God's purpose is now to show the rulers and powers in the heavens the many different varieties of his wisdom through the church. ¹¹ This was consistent with the plan he had from the beginning of time that he accomplished through Christ Jesus our Lord. ¹² In Christ we have bold and confident access to God through faith in him. CEB

Notes: