



Sunday, January 5, 2024

10:00 a.m.

The Epiphany of Our Lord



The feast of Epiphany (“manifestation”) concludes the Christmas season with a celebration of God’s glory revealed in the person of Jesus Christ. In Isaiah and Ephesians, that glory is proclaimed for all nations and people. Like the light of the star that guided the magi to Jesus, the light of Christ reveals who we are: children of God who are claimed and washed in the waters of baptism. We are sent out to be beacons of the light of Christ, sharing the good news of God’s love to all people.

Prelude

Opening Hymn

“Once In Royal David’s City”

1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
2 Shep - herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your flocks by night,
3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, bright - er vi - sions beam a - far;
4 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God, the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son,

once you sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry, now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:
God with us is now re - sid - ing, yon - der shines the in - fant light.
seek the great de - sire of na - tions, you have seen his na - tal star.
ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing to the e - ter - nal Three in One.

Refrain

Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born king.

The musical score consists of four systems, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The key signature is one flat (B-flat major or D minor) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are printed below the vocal lines.

Welcome and Announcements

Greeting

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray.

Confession & Forgiveness

Pastor: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, whose steadfast love is everlasting. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

(Silence is kept for reflection.)

Pastor: God-with-us,

All: we confess that we have turned away those seeking shelter, claiming there is no room when we have plenty. We have made power and wealth our idols, while you show us true glory: a baby in a manger.

We have overlooked the shepherds, expecting good news in prettier packaging. Too often, we have valued violence instead of your peace. Turn us from our ways to your ways.

Grant us the grace to begin again. Free us from all that keeps us bound, and forgive our sin, through Jesus Christ, who gives himself for us. Amen.

Pastor: Hear the good news and rejoice! You are God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, † forgiven in Christ, and freed to respond in joy. **Amen.**

Holy God Have Mercy On Us

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly God, ho - ly and might - y, ho - ly and im - mor - tal, have mer - cy on us." The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords that support the vocal melody. The first system ends with a double bar line, and the second system continues the melody and accompaniment.

All Glory Be

1 All glo - ry be to God on high and thanks to him for -
ev - er! What - ev - er Sa - tan's host may try, God
foils their dark en - deav - or. He bends his ear to
ev - 'ry call, and of - fers peace, good - will to all, and
calms the trou - bled spir - it. A - - - men



The Prayer of the Day

Pastor: Let us pray,

All: **O God, on this day you revealed your Son to the nations by the leading of a star. Lead us now by faith to know your presence in our lives, and bring us at last to the full vision of your glory, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

The First Reading

Isaiah 60:1-6

Lector: Jerusalem is assured that nations will make a pilgrimage to her because the light of God's presence is in her midst. The bountiful food of the sea and the profits of international trade will come streaming to Jerusalem and thereby declare God's praise.

A reading from the first book of Isaiah.

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice; because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come.

They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14

Lector: Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the king's son;

All: that he may rule your people righteously and the poor with justice;

Lector: that the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, and the hills, in righteousness.

All: Let him defend the needy among the people, rescue the poor, and crush the oppressor.

Lector: May he live as long as the sun and moon endure, from one generation to another.

All: Let him come down like rain upon the mown field, like showers that water the earth.

Lector: In his time may the righteous flourish; and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.

All: May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles pay tribute, and the kings of Sheba and Seba offer gifts.

Lector: May all kings bow down before him, and all the nations do him service.

All: For the king delivers the poor who cry out in distress, the oppressed, and those who have no helper.

Lector: He has compassion on the lowly and poor, and preserves the lives of the needy.

All: From oppression and violence he redeems their lives, and precious is their blood in his sight.

The Second Reading

Ephesians 3:1-12

Lector: What had been hidden from previous generations is now made known through the gospel ministry of Paul and others. In Christ both Jews and Gentiles participate in the richness of God's promised salvation.

A reading from Paul's Letter to the Church of Ephesus.

This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles—for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ.

In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.



The Gospel Acclamation

S 160a

Al-le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Repeat alleluia

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e-ter-nal life.

The Gospel Reading

Matthew 2:1-12

Pastor: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

All: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Pastor: In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.” When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: ‘And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah: for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.’”

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.” When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord. **All:** **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Hymn of the Day

“The First Noel”

3 And by the light of that . . . same star three . . .
 4 This star drew near to the . . . north - west, o'er . . .
 5 Then en - tered in those wise . . . men three, full . . .

wise . . . men came . . . from coun - try far; to seek for a
 Beth - le - hem . . . it took . . . its rest; and there it
 rev - 'rent - ly . . . up - on . . . their knee, and of - fered

wise . . . men came . . . from coun - try far; to seek for a
 Beth - le - hem . . . it took . . . its rest; and there it
 rev - 'rent - ly . . . up - on . . . their knee, and of - fered

king was their . . . in - tent, and to fol - low the
 did both stop . . . and stay right . . . o - ver the
 there in his . . . pres - ence their . . . gold, . . . and

Refrain
 star wher - ev - er it went. No - el, No - el, No -
 place where Je - sus lay,
 myrrh, and frank - in - cense,

el, No - el! Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

The Apostles' Creed

All: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living 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.

Prayers of Intercession

Pastor: Filled with good news of great joy, let us offer our prayers for the church, the earth, and all people. (*Silence is observed.*) Your glory fills the earth. Bridge our differences with a shared mission of revealing your boundless love to the world. God of grace,

All: receive our prayer.

Pastor: Restore the glory of creation. Send rain to water-parched lands. Revive ecosystems and habitats, and protect the peoples and creatures who live in them. God of grace,

All: receive our prayer.

Pastor: Give rulers the strength to put the people for whom they govern first, and to seek peace above greed. God of grace,

All: receive our prayer.

Pastor: Help those who have no helper. Draw near to those who have no one to advocate for them or those who feel forgotten. Deliver those who call to you. Precious are they in your sight. God of grace,

All: receive our prayer.

Pastor: Liberate this congregation from a yearning for the past that forgets the future. Fuel in us a passion for discovery. Give us the boldness to dream and to imagine our ministries in new and different ways. God of grace,

All: receive our prayer.

Pastor: We give thanks for your holy ones who now rest in your radiant glory, especially Charlyne Hickey. Make us, with them, sharers in the boundless riches of Christ, our hope and promise. God of grace,

All: receive our prayer.

Pastor: We commend these prayers to you, O God, trusting your grace made known to all, through the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

All: Amen.

At the Offertory: A Choral Anthem

“Look Again at the Child” by *Suzanne Lord*

Look, look again at the child in a manger.
Open your heart to the love that you see.
Is it only at Christmas you pause to remember?
Is it only at Christmas you wait breathlessly
For the love of the Lord to change gray winter mornings
into sweet times filled with love and with joy?
Look again.

For the gift goes far beyond the season.
It is love form above.
Come and welcome this Child for a glorious reason:
in him is the best of God’s love!
Look, look again at the child in the manger.
Open you heart to the love that you see.
Is it only at Christmas you pause?
Look again.



Offering Prayer

Pastor: God of heaven and earth, from the beginning, you have called forth life, in which you take delight. The trees, the fields, and the seas sing for joy. Bless now these gifts, received from your bounty, that we may join the chorus of creation to tell of your salvation from day to day.

All: Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

All: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Pastor: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son, and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory. And so, with all the choir of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join in their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy

The musical score is written on five staves of music. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are printed below the notes. The first staff contains the lyrics: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,". The second staff contains: "heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -". The third staff contains: "san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est,". The fourth staff contains: "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -". The fifth staff contains: "san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est." The score ends with a double bar line.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est,
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Pastor: Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life: Blessed are you for the birth of creation. Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light. Blessed are you for your promise to your people. Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams. Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will. Blessed are you for your Son Jesus the Word made flesh.

Words of Institution

Pastor: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again after supper he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me,

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is ris - en. Christ will come a-gain.

The musical score consists of a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line is in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note bass line in the left hand and a more active melody in the right hand, primarily using quarter and eighth notes.

Pastor: With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.

All: **Come, Lord Jesus.**

Pastor: Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with you light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.

All: **Come, Lord Jesus.**

Pastor: All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.

All:

A - men, a - men. A - men, a - men.

The musical score consists of a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line is in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note bass line in the left hand and a more active melody in the right hand, primarily using quarter and eighth notes.

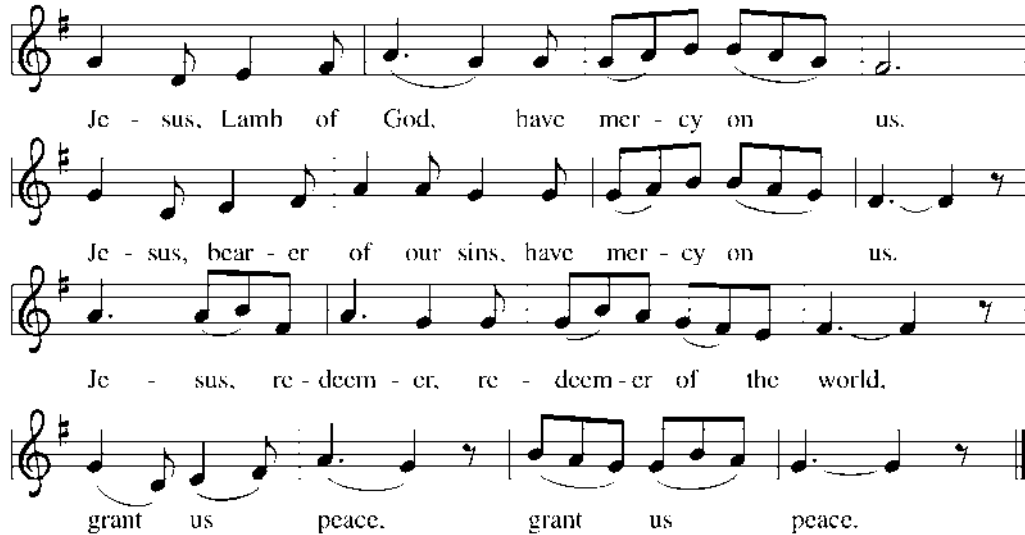
The Lord's Prayer

All: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, they 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; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Invitation to Communion

Pastor: A child has been born for us, a Son given to us. Come, receive the gift of Jesus.

Jesus, Lamb of God



Je - sus, Lamb of God, have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins, have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world,

grant us peace, grant us peace.



Communion Hymn

“As with Gladness Men of Old”



1 As with glad - ness men of old did the guid - ing star be - hold;
2 As with joy - ful steps they sped, Sav - ior, to thy low - ly bed,
3 As they of - fered gifts most rare at thy cra - dle, rude and bare,
4 Ho - ly Je - sus, ev - 'ry day keep us in the nar - row way;
5 In the heav'n - ly coun - try bright need they no cre - a - ted light;



as with joy they hailed its light, lead - ing on - ward, beam - ing bright;
there to bend the knee be - fore thee, whom heav'n and earth a - dore;
so may we with ho - ly joy, pure and free from sin's al - loy,
and when earth - ly things are past, bring our ran - somed souls at last
thou its light, its joy, its crown, thou its sun which goes not down;



so, most gra - cious Lord, may we ev - er - more be led by thee.
so may we with will - ing feet ev - er seek thy mer - cy seat.
all our cost - liest trea - sures bring, Christ, to thee, our heav'n - ly king.
where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glo - ry hide.
there for - ev - er may we sing al - le - lu - ias to our king.



Post Communion Blessing and Prayer

Pastor: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

All: Amen.

Pastor: Merciful God, we thank you for Jesus, who is our heavenly food. Strengthened by this goodness, send us forth to announce your peace, comfort the afflicted, and share the good news of great joy. Amen.

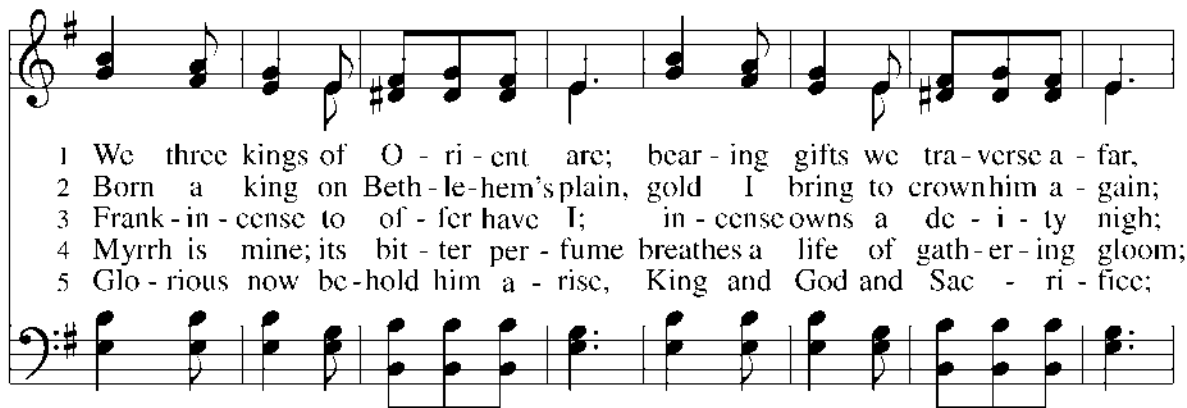
Sending

Pastor: The God of love, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, lavish you with grace, illumine your path, and increase your joy, today and always.

All: Amen.

Closing Hymn

“We Three Kings”

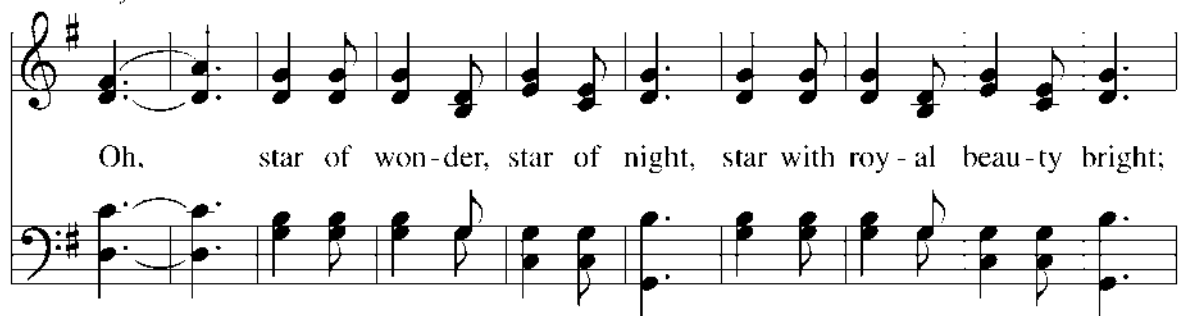


1 We three kings of O - ri - ent are; bear - ing gifts we tra - verse a - far,
2 Born a king on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I bring to crown him a - gain;
3 Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I; in - cense owns a de - i - ty nigh;
4 Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a life of gath - er - ing gloom;
5 Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise, King and God and Sac - ri - fice;

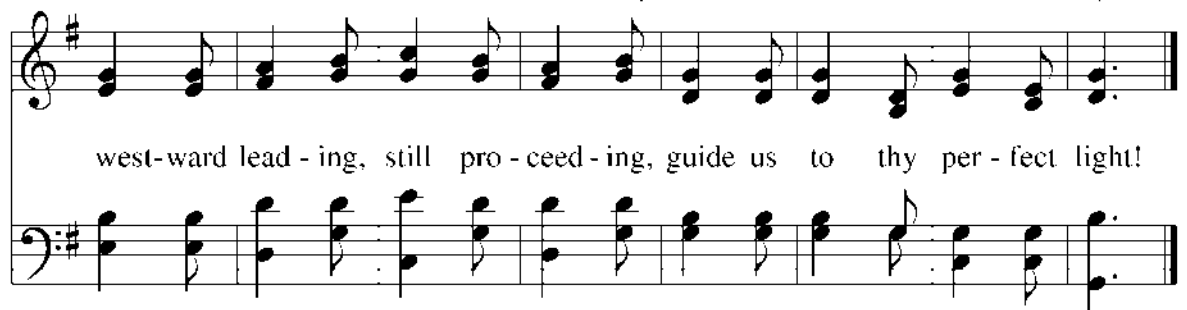


field and foun - tain, moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.
king for - ev - er, ceas - ing nev - er, o - ver us all to reign.
prayer and prais - ing, glad - ly rais - ing, wor - ship - ing God Most High.
sor - rowing, sigh - ing, bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the ston - cold tomb.
heav'n sings al - le - lu - ia: al - le - lu - ia the earth re - plies.

Refrain



Oh, star of won - der, star of night, star with roy - al beau - ty bright;



west - ward lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - fect light!

Dismissal

Pastor: Go in peace. The Word of God dwells in you richly.

All: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

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