

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
January 10, 2021
Epiphany of the Lord
10:30 am via Facebook Live & YouTube Live

GATHERING

OPENING VOLUNTARY

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

CALL TO WORSHIP

A star has risen in the east.

Star of wonder, star of night!

A child is born in Bethlehem.

Hark! The herald angels sing!

Let us follow the star to Bethlehem

and bring our gifts to the newborn Christ.

OPENING PRAYER

God of wondrous grace, we have seen the star of your glory rising in splendor. The radiance of your incarnate Word pierces the night that covers the earth and signals the dawn of justice and peace. May his brightness illumine our lives and beckon all nations to walk as one in your light. We ask this through Jesus Christ your Word made flesh, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, in the splendor of eternal light, God forever and ever. Amen.

HYMN 152

What Star is This, with Beams So Bright

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

*What star is this, with beams so bright, more lovely than the noonday light?
'Tis sent to announce a newborn king, glad tidings of our God to bring.*

*'Tis now fulfilled what God decreed, "From Jacob shall a star proceed";
and lo! the eastern sages stand to read in heaven the Lord's command.*

*While outward signs the star displays, an inward light the Lord conveys
and urges them, with tender might, to seek the giver of the light.*

*O Jesus, while the star of grace impels us on to seek your face,
Let not our slothful hearts refuse the guidance of your light to use.*

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

Like a great light in a land of deep darkness, the mercy of the Lord shines upon us. Trusting in God's grace, let us share where we have lost our way. Let us pray.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of wonder, God of night, you are holy light in dark places; you are holy darkness when all is too bright. Forgive us, O God, when we turn away from your light: when we follow our own ambitions instead of your call, when we respond to your presence with fear rather than joy. Forgive us, O God, when we do not comprehend the depth of your love, the meaning of your powerful story, or the call you place on each of our lives. Forgive us, O God, and by your forgiveness, empower us to follow the star once more.

DECLARATION OF PROMISE AND FORGIVENESS

PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.
And also with you.

SUNG RESPONSE (HYMN 698)

*Take, O take me as I am;
summon out what I shall be;
set your seal upon my heart
and live in me.*

TAKE ME AS I AM

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Holy One, giver of all light, lift up our hearts and minds to Christ, the morning star that never fades. By the light of your Holy Spirit reveal to us your saving Word and lead us to offer our lives to you in service and in love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

READING FROM SCRIPTURE

Matthew 2: 1-12

The Gospel of the Lord. **May Jesus Christ be praised.**

Isaiah 60: 1-6

Here ends the Psalm. **Amen.**

SERMON

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

the Apostles' Creed

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

THE EUCHARIST

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

The Jesus Gift

Gilbert Martin

Callie Barbour, soprano

LITANY FOR EPIPHANY & THE LORD'S PRAYER

All the ends of the earth
Have seen the salvation of our God, Alleluia!

Shout to the Lord, all the earth, Alleluia!

With joy let us pray to our Savior,
the Son of God who became one of us, saying:

The grace of God be with us all.

O Christ,
let your gospel shine in every place
where the Word of life is not yet received.
Draw the whole creation to yourself
that your salvation may be known through all the earth.

The grace of God be with us all.

O Christ, Savior and Lord,
extend your church to every place.
Make it a place of welcome for people of every race and tongue.

The grace of God be with us all.

O Christ, Ruler of rulers,
direct the work and thoughts of the leaders of nations
that they may seek justice,
and further peace and freedom for all.

The grace of God be with us all.

O Christ, Master of all,
support of the weak and comfort of the afflicted,
strengthen the tempted and raise the fallen.

Watch over the lonely and those in danger.
Give hope to the despairing
and sustain the faith of the persecuted.

The grace of God be with us all.

(prayers of intercession named here)

God of majesty and light,
you hold the whole world in your hand.
So we give you our great praise
that in Jesus Christ all people may see your glory.
We thank you for revealing Jesus to be your Son,
and for claiming our lives in baptism
to be his glad disciples.
By your Spirit,
may peace descend upon us
that we may follow him with grateful hearts.
Take us and all we have to be useful in your service,
God of all nations,
in the gracious name of Jesus Christ, your Son,
who taught us to pray together, saying:

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

SENDING

HYMN 744

Arise, Your Light Is Come!

FESTAL SONG

*Arise, your light is come! The Spirit's call obey;
show forth the glory of your God, which shines on you today.*

*Arise, your light is come! Fling wide the prison door;
proclaim the captives' liberty, good tidings to the poor.*

*Arise, your light is come! All you in sorrow born,
bind up the brokenhearted ones and comfort those who mourn.*

*Arise, your light is come! The mountains burst in song!
Rise up like eagles on the wing; God's power will make us strong.*

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CLOSING VOLUNTARY