



Sunday, January 3, 2021

Welcome!

We are thankful that you are worshiping with us today! To learn more about the life of our congregation, join our email list [here](#).

Here are some helpful resources for our younger worshippers:

[This Week's Children's Bulletin](#) | [Worship Worksheet for Kids](#)

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

The Second Sunday of Christmas: Epiphany Sunday
10:30 A.M.

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Arise, shine, for your light has come,
And the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

A star has risen in the east.

**Star of wonder, star of night,
Star with royal beauty bright.**

Let us follow the star to Bethlehem,
And bring our gifts to the newborn King.

*OPENING PRAYER

We come today to offer our thanks and praise for the gifts of hope and peace and joy and love. We come to celebrate the gift of Christ. Help us to come this morning like the Magi to offer our gifts of adoration in return. **Amen.**

*HYMN 151

We Three Kings of Orient Are

KINGS OF ORIENT

1. We three kings of Orient are; bearing gifts we traverse afar,
field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.

Refrain:

**O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!**

2. Born a King on Bethlehem's plain, gold I bring to crown him again,
King forever, ceasing never over us all to reign. [Refrain]
3. Frankincense to offer have I; incense owns a deity nigh;
prayer and praising gladly raising, worshiping God Most High. [Refrain]
4. Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume breathes a life of gathering gloom;
sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying, sealed in the stone-cold tomb. [Refrain]
5. Glorious now behold him arise, King and God and Sacrifice:
Alleluia! Alleluia! sounds through the earth and skies. [Refrain]

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

Leader: May God be with you in worship there.

Congregation: **May God be with you in worship there.**

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

In this season of giving and receiving, sometimes our attentions are drawn away from the source and meaning of our celebrations. Let acknowledge our shortcoming and seek a way to reconnect to the purpose of the gift of Christmas.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of wonder, you are the holy light in dark places;
Forgive us when we turn away from your light.
Forgive us when we do not comprehend the depth of your love.
Forgive us when we ignore the call you place on each of us.
Forgive us and by that forgiveness, empower us to follow the star once more.**

POURING OF THE BAPTISMAL WATERS

Remember your baptism and be thankful!

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. In Christ, we are promised that nothing can separate us from the love of God. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. **Thanks be to God.**

*GLORIA PATRI

GREATOREX

*Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.*

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Since we have been reconciled to God, let us also be reconciled to one another.

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

*SUNG RESPONSE (156)

SALZBURG

Sing of God made manifest in a child robust and blest,
To whose home in Bethlehem where a star had guided them,

Magi came and gifts unbound, signs mysterious and profound:
Myrrh and frankincense and gold, grave and God and king foretold.

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Almighty God, who shows us the meaning of unconditional love by sending us your presence in human form, pour you Spirit onto us this day as we learn of your goodness and light. In your precious name, we pray. Amen.

READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 60: 1-6

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Matthew 2: 1-12

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

SERMON

Dennis Jewett

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

adapted from The Confession of 1967

In Jesus of Nazareth, true humanity was realized once for all. Jesus, a Palestinian Jew, lived among his own people and shared their needs, temptations, joys and sorrow. He expressed the love of God in word and deed and became a brother to all of humanity. His life and teaching judged their goodness, religious aspirations, and national hopes. Many rejected him and demanded his death. In giving himself freely for them, he took upon himself the judgement under which all people stand convicted. God raised him from the dead, vindicating him as Messiah and Lord. The victim of sin became victor, and won the victory over sin and death for all.

THE EUCHARIST

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

MUSIC FOR THE OFFERING *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light*

Mark Hayes

*THE DOXOLOGY (Hymn 606)

OLD HUNDREDTH

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise...

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 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.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD & THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God, we rise from this table once again, grateful for your connection to us. We go out to follow the star and live in your light. Amen

THE SENDING

*HYMN 152

What Star is This With Beams So Bright

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

1. 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.
2. ’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.
3. 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.
4. 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.

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CLOSING VOLUNTARY

**Rise in body or spirit*



LEADING OUR WORSHIP TODAY

PREACHING

Dennis Jewett, Director of Music

PRESIDING AT THE TABLE

Rev. David Madewell, Transitional Ministry Team Member

ASSISTING

Jeff Moles, Director of Christian Education & Mission

Stephanie Dube, Director of Youth Ministries & Weekday School

MUSICIANS

Patrick Ritsch, Organist

Nadia Wilkes

Kerry Showers

Aryanne Brailsford

Shelby Ratliff

Dakota DeGraw