

Epiphany of the Lord 2019

THE GATHERING

Ringing the 1887 Bell

Carillon Processional

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude "As with Gladness Men of Old" setting, John Leavitt

* Call to Worship

One: Arise, shine; for your light has come.

All: **The glory of the Lord has risen upon us.**

One: Come, worship the Lord of glory.

All: **Proclaim God's praise among the nations.**

* Opening Hymn #147 "The First Noel" vs. # 2, 3 & 5

Prayer of the Day (unison)

God, you placed a star in the sky to draw wise folk to the place of Christ's nativity. There you revealed the mystery of your eternal purpose for all humanity: God made flesh, born of Mary, opening to all the world the promise you made to Abraham and Sarah. Empower your church to be as the light of the star, that we may draw the world to the glory of Christ, our Lord, through whom we pray. Amen.

Call to Confession

One: In the light of Christ, we see the shadows of our world and of our hearts.

All: **Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sins before God and one another.**

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Merciful God, you have given light to the world in Jesus Christ, but we have preferred to live in darkness. Your justice protects the weak and the distressed, yet we seek the shelter of privilege and power. Your righteousness redeems the poor and the needy, yet we seek the status of wealth and possessions. Your peace upholds the oppressed and the defenseless, yet we seek the security of weapons and retribution. Forgive us our sins, and lead us to true repentance, that we may trust you in all things; through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

One: This is the good news: Christ is the light of the world, who grants forgiveness and healing of our sins. Thanks be to God.

* Response #126 "Jesus, Jesus, O What a Wonderful Child"

* The Passing of the Peace

One: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.** (Take a moment to greet each other with the peace of Christ)

* Hymn #487 "These Treasured Children" vs. # 1

Time for Young Disciples

Rev. Meggan Farwell

All: **You're beautiful! God loves you! And we love you too!**

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination (unison)

Spirit of God, in the proclamation of your Word, reveal to us the hidden mystery of your love in Christ, and strengthen our faith that we may approach you with boldness. Amen.

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 60:1-6

Pew Bible – OT p.690

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Choir Anthem

"What Shall We Give"

arr. Mack Wilberg

Scripture Reading

Matthew 2:1-12

Pew Bible – NT p.2

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

"A Sky Full of Stars"

Rev. Dr. Luke Farwell

THE RESPONSE TO THE WORD

* Affirmation of Faith "What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright" Hymnal #152
(See projection)

* Hymn #97 "Watchman, Tell Us of the Night"

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving and The Lord's Prayer

The Words of Institution

The Sharing of Bread and Wine (See "Welcome to Worship" card in the pew rack for instructions)

Communion Prayer

Offering

* Please stand as you are able

Bold type indicates text to be spoken or song to be sung by the congregation.

Musical Offertory “O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright”
setting, Franklin D. Ashdown

* Doxology #144 “In the Bleak Midwinter” vs. # 4

* Prayer of Dedication (*unison*)

Glorious God, you led three men of wisdom to seek Jesus, your Holy Child, born of Mary. Overjoyed in the presence of his radiant light, the men knelt down at the infant’s crib and offered him precious gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. We, too, offer our gifts in gratitude, reverence, and thanksgiving for the birth of your child, whom you called to lead the world into fullness of life. Receive and bless this offering as a joyful sign of the boundless love and abundant life we are called to share in Christ. Amen.

THE SENDING OUT

* Closing Hymn #150 “As with Gladness Men of Old”

* Charge & Benediction

* Postlude “The Magi” setting, Kenneth T. Kosche



*Following worship, deacons will be available to pray with you
in the prayer room if needed.*

Our beautiful chancel flowers are given by the Deacons this morning,

Assisting in Worship This Morning

Greeters: Griffin Family

Liturgist: Cole Griffin

Acolytes: Katie & Olivia Bivins

Ushers: Anneliese Waggoner, Sharon Carpiaux, Judy England &
Barb Ryan

Organist: Julie Mackey

Choir Director: Andy Parks

Elder of the Month: Tori England

Deacons of the Month: Dan Hammersky & Betty Pajkos

Tech Crew: Mark Young, Ted Huebbe, Steve Marks, & Joe Williams

Fellowship: Marilyn Heim

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Meet with Pastor by Appointment

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January 6, 2019