

Sharing Epiphany on January 5 for the 6th



Thought: *The magi came to Jesus, honored and worshiped him. Obeying God's direction, they did not go back the same way; they returned in a different direction. Likewise, when people go to church, they should not go out the same way they came in. Christ changes us.*

Preluded – Jill Rimington

Welcome and Announcements

Prayer Concerns

Call to Worship

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

Gathering Hymn – “As with Gladness Men of Old” ELW 302 vss.1-3

Invocation

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

Confession and Forgiveness

P: God of light and love, shine the brightness of your presence upon the darkness of sin and fear in our lives.

A Time for silence and reflection

C: Let your light so shine in us that our sin and fear are overcome and forgiven. May the brightness of your light shine out from us to all those who are yearning for love and forgiveness so that your grace may fill this weary world.

P: God give us all we need. By His grace your sins are forgiven. Shine with God's grace!

C: Amen.

Greeting

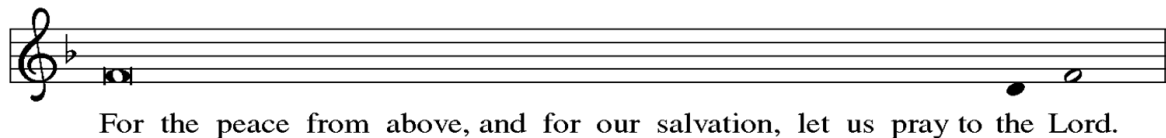
P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

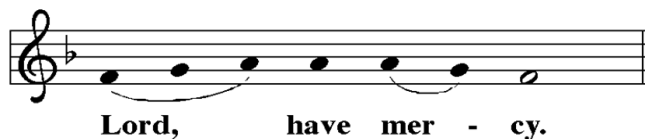
Kyrie



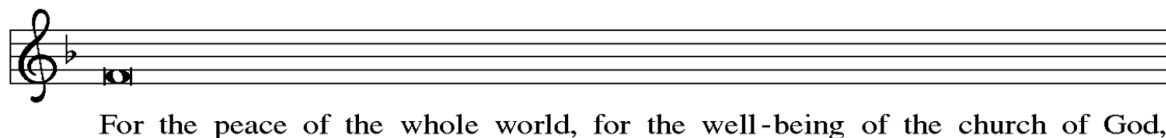
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



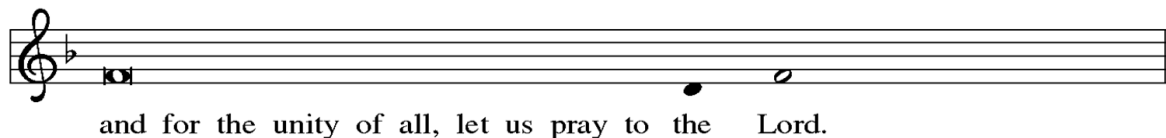
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



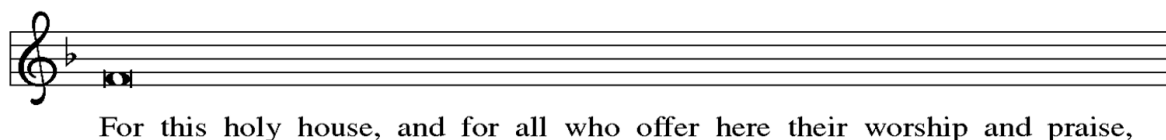
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



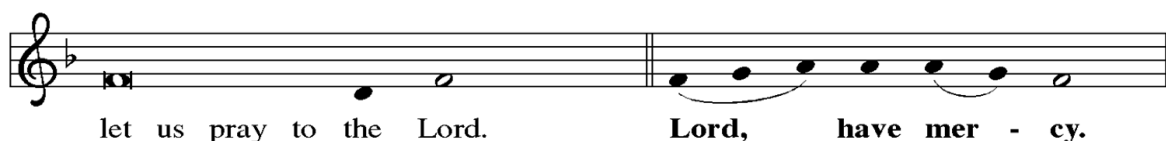
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



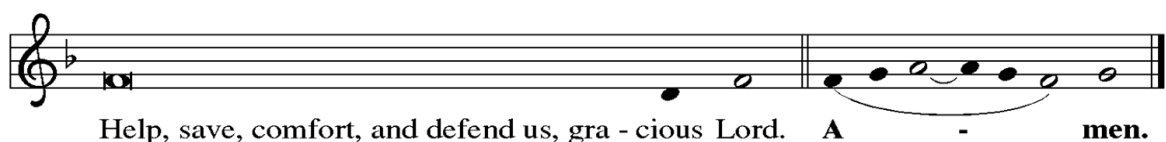
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **A - men.**

Hymn of Praise – “I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light” ELW #815

Prayer of the Day

L: O God, on this day you revealed our Son to the nations by the leading of a star.

C: 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 Word

Old Testament reading – Isaiah 60:1-6

Arise, shine, for your light has come.

¹ Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. ² 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. ³ Nations shall come to your light and kings to the brightness of your dawn. ⁴ 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 in their nurses' arms. ⁵ 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. ⁶ 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.

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

Psalm 72:1-7, 19-14

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

¹ Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the king's son;

² **that he may rule your people righteously and the poor with justice;**

³ that the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, and the hills, in righteousness.

⁴ **Let him defend the needy among the people, rescue the poor, and crush the oppressor.**

⁵ May he live as long as the sun and moon endure, from one generation to another.

⁶ **Let him come down like rain upon the mown field, like showers that water the earth.**

⁷ In his time may the righteous flourish; and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.

¹⁰ **May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles pay tribute, and the kings of Sheba and Seba offer gifts.**

¹¹ May all kings bow down before him, and all the nations do him service.

¹² **For the king delivers the poor who cry out in distress, the oppressed, and those who have no helper.**

¹³ He has compassion on the lowly and poor, and preserves the lives of the needy.

¹⁴ **From oppression and violence he redeems their lives, and precious is their blood in his sight.**

Epistle reading – Ephesians 3:1-12

The Gospel's promise extends to all.

¹ This is the reason that I, Paul, am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you gentiles, ² for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you ³ and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, ⁴ a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. ⁵ 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: ⁶ that is, the gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. ⁷ 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. ⁸ 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 ⁹ and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God, who created all things, ¹⁰ 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. ¹¹ This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹² in whom we have access in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

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

Holy Gospel – Matthew 2:1-12

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you O Lord.**

They left for their own country by another road.

¹ In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, magi from the east came to Jerusalem, ² asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star in the east and have come to pay him homage." ³ When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him, ⁴ and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵ They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it has been written by the prophet: ⁶ '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.’ ” ⁷ Then Herod secretly called for the magi and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸ 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.” ⁹ When they had heard the king, they set out, and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen in the east, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹ 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. ¹² And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you O Christ.**

Children of God Time

Message – “Another Way”

Hymn of the Day – “In the Bleak Midwinter”

ELW #294

Apostles’ Creed

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 to the dead,
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

P: Filled with good news of great joy, let us offer our prayers for the church, the earth, and all people.

A brief silence.

L: Your glory fills the earth. Bless the work of all who engage in dialogue with people of other traditions and faiths (*local interreligious organizations may be named*). Bridge our differences with a shared mission of revealing your boundless love to the world. God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

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

C: receive our prayer.

L: Give the rulers your justice and reveal your righteousness to those who govern. Frustrate the plans of tyrants and oppressors. Encourage the work of community organizers and activists who speak out against injustice (*local organizations may be named*). God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

L: 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 (*especially*). Precious are they in your sight. God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

L: 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,

C: receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

L: We give thanks for (*names of local saints and all*) your holy ones who now rest in your radiant glory. Make us, with them, sharers in the boundless riches of Christ, our hope and promise. God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

P: 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.

Amen.

Offering/Offertory Music – “Shine, Jesus, Shine” ELW #671

Offertory Prayer

L: Father, we, too, come to worship your Son.

C: Accept these gifts, we pray.

L: We lay them before you...

C: with gold, frankincense and myrrh of the magi.

L: And with them we offer up our lives.

C: May we serve you forever as the kings and priests you have made us.

L: Through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

C: Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface

P: 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 your light.
Bring the gift of peace on earth.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

Consecration

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 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.

P: Taste and see that the Lord is good.
All is ready.

Distribution

Communion Music – Jill Rimington

Post Communion Blessing – Pastor

Post Communion Prayer

L: You have led us to your table.

C: You have fed us with yourself.

L: We have bowed in worship,

C: and have received more than we have offered.

L: Guide us as we use the gifts you give us.

C: We offer them back to you in lives of service and worship.

L: You, Lord, are King forevermore.

C: Amen.

Benediction from Numbers 6 – Pastor

Sending Hymn – “The First Noel” ELW #300

Dismissal

L: As light shines in our hearts we leave going a different way sharing our faith.

C: Born unto us, we go to serve and share.

Postlude – Jill Rimmington

