



TO BE HIS LIGHT THAT TRANSFORMS LIVES

*First Sunday after Epiphany*  
January 9, 2022

### Thoughts of Preparation

EPIPHANY (Essential meaning): 1) a Christian festival held on January 6 in honor of the coming of the three kings to the infant Jesus Christ. 2) A moment in which you suddenly see or understand something in a new or very clear way. FULL Definition: an appearance or manifestation especially of a divine being; a usually sudden manifestation or perception of the essential nature or meaning of something (2): an intuitive grasp of reality through something (such as an event) usually simple and striking (3): an illuminating discovery, realization, or disclosure; a revealing scene or moment (Source: [www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary](http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary)). WOW! No wonder Christmas is a SEASON of twelve days, and that Epiphany used to be the MAJOR holiday of the Christmas season...up until the modern commercialization of Christmas.

### Welcome and Announcements

**Prelude**     *“He Leadeth Me! O Blessed Thought”* (Arr. by Mark Hayes)

### Tower Bell

#### **\*Call to Worship**

A Kyrie for Epiphany

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

By the holy mystery of the Word made flesh, let us pray to the Lord.

**Christ, have mercy.**

By the lowly submission of the Maker of the world to Mary and Joseph of Nazareth, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

By the humble nativity of the King of light in the manger of Bethlehem, let us pray to the Lord.

**Christ, have mercy.**

By the splendid manifestation of the King of glory to the shepherds and the magi, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace that His birth brings, for our salvation, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort and defend us, O Incarnate Word, O Desire of Nations!

**Amen**

**\*Unison Prayer of Adoration & Confession**

**O Holy One, we come today to claim our relationship with You. We pray for the commitment to grow together, sharing the gifts You give us with others here and in the wider world.**

**Forgive us for the hurt we have inflicted,  
and help us forgive those who have hurt us.**

**Give us strength and discipline to nurture our relationship with You; to care for every part of Your creation; to foster justice and be in solidarity with those in need; to work to end all war, and violence, and discord; and to respond joyfully when You call, freely giving ourselves as You have shown the way.**

**We open our hearts to You and Your creation in the name of Jesus, who is the Christ. Amen.**

**\*Gloria Patri**

*(Creatorex)*

**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.**

**Scripture Lesson**

From the New Testament Gospels: **Luke 2.21-40**

<sup>21</sup> After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

<sup>22</sup> When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord <sup>23</sup> (as it is written in the law of the Lord, “Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord”), <sup>24</sup> and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.”

<sup>25</sup> Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon;<sup>[a]</sup> this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. <sup>26</sup> It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah.<sup>[b]</sup> <sup>27</sup> Guided by the Spirit, Simeon<sup>[c]</sup> came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, <sup>28</sup> Simeon<sup>[d]</sup> took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

<sup>29</sup> "Master, now you are dismissing your servant<sup>[e]</sup> in peace,  
according to your word;  
<sup>30</sup> for my eyes have seen your salvation,  
<sup>31</sup> which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,  
<sup>32</sup> a light for revelation to the Gentiles  
and for glory to your people Israel."

<sup>33</sup> And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. <sup>34</sup> Then Simeon<sup>[f]</sup> blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed <sup>35</sup> so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too."

<sup>36</sup> There was also a prophet, Anna<sup>[g]</sup> the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, <sup>37</sup> then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. <sup>38</sup> At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child<sup>[h]</sup> to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

<sup>39</sup> When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. <sup>40</sup> The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

## **Anthem**

*“The Journey”*

*(Lloyd Larson)*

Where is He, O where is He? His star blazes in the night;  
as we trace the changing skies, He is hiding from our sight.  
Can you tell us where He lies? We would worship Him tonight,  
We will Journey til we find, and our search is turned to sight.

Your guiding light shows us the way; we see your morning star ascend! To you  
dear Christ, all searches come,  
In you our journey finds its end.

The star beams its golden ray over sleepy Bethlehem,  
where with joy we find the Child, and with gifts we  
Worship Him.

While we thought we came to you in a little starlit place,  
It was You who came to us, Christ the glory of God’s face.

## **Gathering Together in Prayer**

### **Silent Prayer—Pastoral Prayer**

#### **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.*

#### **Offertory Invitation**

Those astronomer/philosophers from the East—they brought gifts that honored the One they were seeking, gifts that lifted up his purpose and his essence. May we bring our gifts that do the same, and for the same purposes!

## Offertory

*“Give me Jesus” (Spiritual /arr. Joel Ross)*

O, when I am alone, O, when I am alone, O, when I am alone, give me Jesus.  
Give me Jesus, give me Jesus, you may have all the rest, give me Jesus.

In the morn-in’ when I rise, in the morn-in’ when I rise,  
in the morn-in’ when I rise, give me Jesus.  
Give me Jesus. Give me Jesus. You may have all the rest, give me Jesus.

O, when I come to die, O, when I come to die, O,  
when I come to die, give me Jesus.  
Give me Jesus, give me Jesus, you may have all the rest, give me Jesus.

## Scripture Lesson From the New Testament Gospels: **Matthew 2.1-12**

**2** In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men<sup>[a]</sup> 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 at its rising,<sup>[b]</sup> 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<sup>[c]</sup> 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<sup>[d]</sup> my people Israel.’”

**7** Then Herod secretly called for the wise men<sup>[e]</sup> 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 at its rising,<sup>[f]</sup> until it stopped over the place where the child was. **10** When they saw that the star had stopped,<sup>[g]</sup> 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.

**Sermon**

“Learning to Dream Again”  
Pastor Barry Bordenkircher

**\*Hymn #231**

“*Arise, Your Light Is Come!*” (Festal Song)  
(see last page)

**\*Benediction**

Brothers and Sisters, like the Magi, let us diligently keep seeking! Let us not stop until we find him—and are found! Let us go out to follow the call of the Holy One, so that, in all that we do or say, we unveil Divine Love. And let us greet all we meet with signs of peace. Amen.

**Postlude**

“*We Three Kings*” (Gordon Young)

**Today’s Worship Leaders:**

Preaching Today: Rev. Barry Bordenkircher

Liturgist: Kyle Taylor

Organist: Michael Sullivan

Choral Director: Dobin Park

Thanks to all the musicians and to Michael Sullivan and Dobin Park for assisting with filming and to Dobin Park for film editing.

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# Arise, Your Light Is Come! 231

1 A - rise, your light is come! The Spir - it's call o - bey; show  
2 A - rise, your light is come! Fling wide the pris - on door; pro -  
3 A - rise, your light is come! All you in sor - row born, bind  
4 A - rise, your light is come! The moun-tains burst in song! Rise

forth the glo - ry of your God which shines on you to - day.  
claim the cap-tive's lib - er - ty, good ti - dings to the poor.  
up the bro - ken - heart - ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.  
up like ea - gles on the wing, God's power will make us strong.

WORDS: Ruth Duck (1947-)  
MUSIC: William H. Walter (1825-1893)  
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FESTAL SONG  
S.M.