

EPIPHANY SUNDAY
January 5th, 2025 – 10 AM

WELCOME



The feast of Epiphany (“manifestation”) concludes the Christmas season with a celebration of God’s glory revealed in the person of Jesus Christ. In Isaiah, that glory is proclaimed for all nations and people. Like the light of the star that guided the magi to Jesus, the light of Christ reveals who we are: children of God who are claimed and washed in the waters of baptism. We are sent out to be beacons of the light of Christ, sharing the good news of God’s love to all people.

- † Preacher – Liz Griswold
- † Officiant – Pr. Brian Griswold
- † Worship Leader – Earl Hem

WORSHIP

HYMN: We Belong to You

Holy and kind, and just with all men
Is the Lord who rules o’er the land
We lift our voices and sing unto Him
Who is holy and kind and just with all men

Chorus

Honor and Glory and blessing and power
Belong to Thee O Lord among gods
Honor and glory and blessing and power
Belong to Thee O Lord among gods

Chorus

We belong to you, Lord; we belong to You
All of our praises, belong to You

Chorus

Gracious Redeemer, merciful friend
Perfect in all that You do
Righteous and mighty before all men
All of our praises belong to You

“Holy and Kind”, Written by Andy Nowlen, Jill Lyle and Robin Lyle; c. 1996 Mercy/Vineyard Publishing, CCLI License # 22085334

HYMN: Jesus, Strong and Kind

Jesus said That if I thirst, I should come to Him.
No one else can satisfy, I should come to Him.
Jesus said if I am weak, I should come to Him.
No one else can be my strength, I should come to Him.

Chorus

Jesus said that if I fear, I should come to Him
No one else can be my shield, I should come to Him.

Chorus

Jesus said if I am lost, He will come to me.
And He showed me on that cross, He will come to me.

Chorus

Chorus

For the Lord is good and faithful,
He will keep us day and night.
We can always run to Jesus,
Jesus, strong and kind.

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Prayer of the Day - Almighty and ever-living God, you revealed the incarnation of your Son by the brilliant shining of a star. Shine the light of your justice always in our hearts and over all lands, and accept our lives as the treasure we offer in your praise and for your service, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

GOD'S HOLY WORD

FIRST READING: Isaiah 60:1-6

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 on 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, 10-14

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.

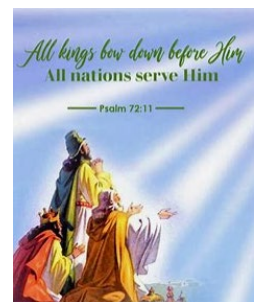
¹⁰ **May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles pay tribute, and the kings of Sheba and Seba offer gifts.**

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.**



HOLY GOSPEL

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of Matthew 2:1 - 12; **Glory to You, O Lord!**

¹In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ²asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." ³When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born.

⁵They 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.'"

⁷Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then 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." ⁹When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was.

¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On 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.

¹²And 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, Lord Jesus Christ!**

SERMON – Liz Griswold

OFFERING

OFFERING HYMN: Take My Life and Let it Be

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Take my life and let it be
Consecrated Lord to Thee
Take my hands and let them move
At the impulse of Thy love
At the impulse of Thy love | 3. Take my lips and let them be
Filled with messages for Thee
Take my silver and my gold
Not a mite would I withhold
Not a mite would I withhold |
| 2. Take my feet and let them be
Swift and beautiful for Thee
Take my Voice and let me sing
Always only for my King
Always Only for my King | 4. Take my love my God I pour
At Thy feet its treasure store
Take myself and I will be
Ever only all for Thee
Ever only all for Thee |

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OFFERING PRAYER

Loving God, we follow the Magi in giving you gifts, praying that as you receive our acts of offering, you would shine the light of Christ in our hearts to lead us in lives which serve you more deeply. **Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

- ✠ We recognize those joining us via FaceBook Live, and give voice to any greetings or prayer requests submitted for our worship.

Filled with good news of great joy, let us offer our prayers for the church, the earth, and all people. *A brief silence.*

Your glory fills the earth. Bless the work of all who engage in dialogue with people of other traditions and faiths. Bridge our differences with a shared mission of revealing your boundless love to the world. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

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, **receive our prayer.**

Give the rulers your justice and reveal your righteousness to those who govern. Frustrate the plans of tyrants and oppressors. Encourage the work of those who speak out against injustice. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

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. Grace those from our families and community in greatest need of our prayers and your blessings. *(Please name silently or out loud).* Precious are they in your sight. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

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, **receive our prayer.**

We give thanks for 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, **receive our prayer.**

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.**

THE LORDS PRAYER

CLOSING HYMN: You Direct My Steps

I will make my plans, Lord,
(But) You direct my steps (**x3**)

I will trust You all the time
In any situation

I will give all my worries to You
I know it will be just fine

No matter what You do

I will be thankful, so very grateful

I will be happy I'm with You

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Dismissal: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **Amen.**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord! **Thanks be to God.**

Notes:
