



JESUS MAFA. *Visit of the Three Wise Men*. 1973.

HOLY EUCHARIST

THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

January 4, 2026 at 9:30 a.m.

ENTRANCE RITE

PRELUDE

At the ringing of the bell, **STAND** as able as the ministers enter during the hymn.

HYMN IN PROCESSION

“Brightest and best of the stars in the morning”

The Hymnal 1982 #118

Unison



1 Bright - est and best of the stars of the morn - ing,
2 Cold on his cra - dle the dew - drops are shin - ing,
3 Shall we then yield him, in cost - ly de - vo - tion,
4 Vain - ly we of - fer each am - ple o - bla - tion,



1 dawn on our dark - ness, and lend us thine aid;
2 low lies his head with the beasts of the stall;
3 o - dors of E - dom, and of ferings di - vine,
4 vain - ly with gifts would his fa - vor se - cure,



1 star of the east, the hor - i - zon a - dorn - ing,
2 an - gels a - dore him in slum - ber re - clin - ing,
3 gems of the moun - tain, and pearls of the o - cean,
4 rich - er by far is the heart's a - dor - a - tion,



1 guide where our in - fant Re - deem - er is laid.
2 Ma - ker and Mon - arch and Sa - vior of all.
3 myrrh from the for - est, and gold from the mine?
4 dear - er to God are the prayers of the poor.

Refrain

Bright - est and best of the stars of the morn - ing,
 dawn on our dark - ness, and lend us thine aid;
 star of the east, the hor - i - - zon a - dorn - ing,
 guide where our in - fant Re - deem - er is laid.

OPENING ACCLAMATION

EOW 50

Celebrant Blessed are you, holy and living One.
 People **You come to your people and set them free.**

SONG OF PRAISE

“Gloria, Gloria”

Take Up The Song #17

Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o!
 Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, in the high - est heav - en!
 Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o!

Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Peace be on earth, peace be on earth, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Luke 2:14. Music: GLORIA, GLORIA, Jacques Berthier, 1979.

Music © 1984 Les Presses de Taizé (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, by the leading of a star you manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: Lead us, who know you now by faith, to your presence, where we may see your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please be SEATED.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE FIRST LESSON

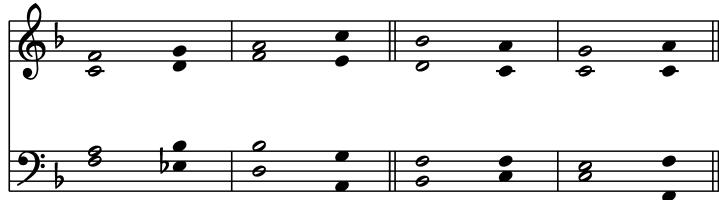
Isaiah 60:1-6

Lector A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. 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. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. 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. 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. 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.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Robert Knox Kennedy
(b. 1945)

© 1979, Robert Knox Kennedy.

- 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 little hills bring | **righteousness**.
- 4 He shall defend the needy among the | **people**; *
he shall rescue the poor and crush the op | **pressor**.
- 5 He shall live as long as the sun and moon en | **dure**, *
from one generation to an | **other**.
- 6 He shall come down like rain upon the mown | **field**, *
like showers that water the | **earth**.
- 7 In his time shall the righteous | **flourish**; *
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no | **more**.
- 10 The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay | **tribute**, *
and the kings of Arabia and Saba offer | **gifts**.
- 11 All kings shall bow down be | **fore him**, *
and all the nations do him | **service**.
- 12 For he shall deliver the poor who cries out in dis | **tress**, *
and the oppressed who has no | **helper**.
- 13 He shall have pity on the lowly and | **poor**; *
he shall preserve the lives of the | **needy**.
- 14 He shall redeem their lives from oppression and | **violence**, *
and dear shall their blood be in his | **sight**.

Lector A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles-- for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. 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: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

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. 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, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; 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. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

All STAND as able.

HYMN AT THE SEQUENCE*Sung by all.**The Hymnal 1982 #490*

I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to fol - low Je - sus.



God set the stars to give light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.



In him there is no dark - ness at all. The night and the day are both a - like.



The Lamb is the light of the ci - ty of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Words: Kathleen Thomerson (1934-2025)

Music: Houston, Kathleen Thomerson (1934-2025)

THE HOLY GOSPEL*Matthew 2:1-12*

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, “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.” When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

‘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.’”

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. 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.” When 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. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. 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. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON

The Very Rev. Bradley A. Linboom
Rector

All STAND as able.

THE NICENE CREED

Said by all.

BCP 358

We believe in one God the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Deacon As we join the Magi from the East and humbly offer gifts at the feet of Jesus, let us offer prayers to God who shows the glory of Christ in all the world.

Intercessor People **Glory and praise to you, O living God.**

Intercessor People For Sean, our Presiding Bishop, for Paula, our bishop, for our parish lay and clergy leaders, for all who minister in Christ, and for all the holy people of God. **Glory and praise to you, O living God.**

Intercessor People For those preparing for Baptism and for all believers who put their trust in the incarnate Son of God. **Glory and praise to you, O living God.**

Intercessor People For the leaders of the nations and all in authority, and for peace and justice. **Glory and praise to you, O living God.**

Intercessor For the sick and the suffering. In this congregation we especially pray for: Elizabeth & Matthew; R and J; Kris; Maria Luz & Eusebio; Shain; Betsy; Judy; Diane; Gloria; John & Pam; Zeke; Gloria; Jim; Marian; Rhyn; Evan; Liz; Payton; Tim; Terry; Sharon; David; Gordon; Elsie; Luis; David; Gilbert; Temple; Fola & Yinka; Marsha; Eduardo, Milagros, Clemente, & “Tia” Maria; Frank; Charlotte; Rachel; Marianne & Peter; Charlotte; Nancy; Margie & Jeff; John & Joyce and those we now name aloud or in the silence of our hearts...

The people are invited to voice additional petitions.

For travelers, for the hungry and the oppressed, for those in prison, and for the dying and dead. We pray especially for Yetunde Grace.

People **Glory and praise to you, O living God.**

Intercessor People For our deliverance from all affliction, strife, and need. **Glory and praise to you, O living God.**

The Celebrant concludes with the following collect.

Celebrant God of the stars of night, accept the prayers we offer on this joyful feast. Fill our hunger with your word of truth and summon all who thirst to the banquet of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

CONFESSiON AND ABSOLUTION

Deacon Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

People **Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Celebrant The Peace of the Lord, be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The people greet one another in the name of the Lord and then are SEATED.

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

The Celebrant begins the Offertory with a sentence of scripture. The people are then SEATED.

THE OFFERTORY

“Rise up Shepherd”

African American Spiritual

During the Offertory, the gifts of bread and wine are brought forward and Deacon prepares the table.

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

“People of God”

Voices Found #109 v.3

The people STAND for the Hymn as the Offering is presented.

3 Bear-ing your gifts, en - ter God's pre - sence; come, let us share in the hea - ven - ly feast. Mend-ing all rifts, heal - ing di - vi - sions, come and from sor - rows and hurts be re - leased.

Refrain

Come, let us join in the hea - ven - ly dance,

prais - ing in joy - ous ce - le - bra - tion.

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Music: *Earth and All Stars*, David N. Johnson © Augsburg Fortress Publishers.
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THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer B

BCP 367

The Celebrant continues

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Creator of heaven and earth.

[Here a Proper Preface is sung or said.]

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

THE SANCTUS

Sung by all.

MHSO #38

Ho - ly ho - ly ho - ly____ God of pow - er and might,____ Hea - ven and earth are
full,____ are full of your glo - ry.____ Ho - san - na! Ho - san - na! Ho - san - na
in the high - est!____ Ho - san - na! Ho - sa - na! Ho - san - na in the high - est!____

Music: John L. Bell (b. 1949) WGRG The Iona Community (Scotland)
(admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)

The Celebrant continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, “Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, “Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

**All We remember his death,
 We proclaim his resurrection,
 We await his coming in glory.**

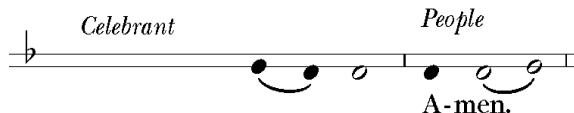
The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.



THE LORD'S PRAYER

Sung by all.

Celebrant As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in
heaven. Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who
sin against us. Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

THE FRACTION

We observe a moment of holy silence as the Celebrant breaks the bread.

THE ANTHEM

Sung by all.

EOM 1 #37



A - le-lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us; there - fore let us

keep the feast. Al - le-lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Setting: Susan Calvin Fletcher, © 2002 Susan Calvin Fletcher.
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THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Celebrant The Gifts of God, for the People of God.

About Receiving Communion

All who seek God and are drawn by Christ are welcome to receive Holy Communion.

Follow the instructions of the clergy and/or ushers.

If for any reason, you do not wish to receive Communion, you are still invited to come forward.

Please cross your arms over your chest for a prayer of blessing to be said over you.

Please inform the minister if you need a gluten-free wafer.



1 We three kings of O - ri - ent are; bear - ing gifts we tra - verse a - far,
 2 Born a King on Beth - le-hem's plain, gold I bring to crown him a - gain,
 3 Frank-in - cense to of - fer have I; in - cense owns a de - i - ty nigh;
 4 Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a life of gath - er-ing gloom;
 5 Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise, King and God and Sac - ri - fice:



field and foun - tain, moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.
 King for - ev - er, ceas - ing nev - er o - ver us all to reign.
 prayer and prais - ing glad - ly rais - ing, wor - ship - ing God Most High.
 sor - rowing, sigh - ing, bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the stone-cold tomb.
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! sounds through the earth and skies.

Refrain



O star of won - der, star of night, star with roy - al beau - ty bright,



west - ward lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - fect light!

Glory to God 151

TEXT: John Henry Hopkins, Jr., 1857, alt.

MUSIC (KINGS OF ORIENT 8.8.8.6 with refrain): John Henry Hopkins, Jr., 1857, alt.

THE SENDING FORTH OF HOME COMMUNION MINISTERS

The Home Communion Ministers come forward at this time to receive Bread and Wine consecrated at today's Eucharist to share with people sick or homebound. All STAND as able.

| | |
|-----------|--|
| Celebrant | In the name of this congregation, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the Communion of Christ's Body and Blood. |
| People | We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup. |

Celebrant Let us pray.

All **Eternal God, heavenly Father,**
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES

THE EPIPHANY BLESSING

BOS 12

Celebrant May Almighty God, who led the Wise Men by the shining of a star to find the Christ, the Light from Light, lead you also, in your pilgrimage, to find the Lord.

People **Amen.**

Celebrant May God, who sent the Holy Spirit to rest upon the Only-begotten at his baptism in the Jordan River, pour out that Spirit on you who have come to the waters of new birth.

People **Amen.**

Celebrant May God, by the power that turned water into wine at the wedding feast at Cana, transform your lives and make glad your hearts. Amen. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever.

People **Amen.**

Celebrant And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever.

People **Amen.**

Unison or harmony

1 What star is this, with beams so bright, more beau - teous
 2 True spake the pro - phet from a - far who told the
 3 The guid - ing star a - bove is bright; with - in them
 4 O Je - sus, while the star of grace im - pels us
 5 To God the Fa - ther, heaven - ly Light, to Christ, re -

1 than the noon - day light? It shines to her - ald
 2 rise of Ja - cob's star; and east - ern sa - ges
 3 shines a clear - er light, and leads them on with
 4 on to seek thy face, let not our sloth - ful
 5 vealed in earth - ly night, to God the Ho - ly

1 forth the King, and Gen - tiles to his crib to bring.
 2 with a - maze up - on the won - drous to - ken gaze.
 3 power be - nign to seek the Giv - er of the sign.
 4 hearts re - fuse the guid - ance of thy light to use.
 5 Ghost we raise our e - qual and un - ceas - ing praise.

Words: Charles Coffin (1676-1749); tr. *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1861, after John Chandler (1807-1876), alt. Music: *Puer nobis*, melody from Trier MS., 15th cent.; adapt. Michael Praetorius (1571-1621); harm. Cowley Carol Book, 1902.

DISMISSAL

The Deacon dismisses the people, the people responding

People Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

VESTRY

CHURCH STAFF

Wardens

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Jesse Wood ('26) - Adult Formation
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To Give

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or Zelle contributions@holynativitych.org



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