

Worship for Epiphany Sunday

January 1, 2017
Ten-thirty O'clock in the Morning

Assemble in God's Name

Greeting

Austin Carty

Organ Voluntary

What Child Is This?

setting by Alice Jordan

*So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh, come peasant, king, to own him;
The Kings of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise the song on high, the virgin sings her lullaby.
Joy, joy for Christ is born, the Babe, the Son of Mary!*

- William Dix, 19th century

Call to Worship

Paul Sims

*Although the beckoning star heeded by wise travelers long ago no longer leads the way,
the manger-born Christ is still to be found and followed.
Although we are not brought to our knees in surprise as were those journeyers of old,
our desire to worship can be as deep as theirs.
And though we do not bear gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh,
we offer ourselves and what we have.
The story continues. The good news abounds. There is a living Christ to worship and serve.
Let us rejoice and be glad!*

+Carol 124

The First Nowell

THE FIRST NOWELL

stanzas 1, 2 and 3

+Prayer of Praise and Adoration

Alex Lockridge

+Act of Praise

THE FIRST NOWELL

*Then let us all with one accord sing praises to our heavenly Lord
Who hath made heaven and earth of naught,
And with his blood humankind hath bought.
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel!*

- Traditional English carol

Proclaim God's Word

The First Lesson

Ephesians 3:1-12

Austin Carty

The word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalm 72

setting by Hal Hopson



We, too, bow down. In one voice we raise, ev - er to sing un - end - ing praise.

All hail to God's anointed, Great David's greater Son!

All hail, in time appointed, Your reign on earth begun!

You come to break oppression, to set the captive free,

*To take away transgression and rule with equity. **REFRAIN***

The rulers bow before You, and gold and incense bring;

All nations shall adore You, Your praise all people sing;

To You shall prayers unceasing and daily vows ascend;

*Your rule is still increasing, Your rule is without end. **REFRAIN***

- James Montgomery, 19th century

The Second Lesson

Matthew 2:1-12

Alex Lockridge

*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.

The Gospel of our Lord
Thanks be to God

+Hymn 151

We Three Kings

KINGS OF ORIENT

Sermon

“The Dazzling Truth”

Austin Carty

Give Thanks to God

+Hymn 159

Fairest Lord Jesus

CRUSADERS' HYMN

The Celebration of Communion

Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

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.

(the Prayer of Thanksgiving continues)

... we join our voices in offering praise to the God of loving power and powerful love:

sung: ***Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!***

... As we come together to eat at Your table, may we offer ourselves to You in praise and thanksgiving for Your mighty acts.

Amen.

Breaking the Bread; Blessing the Cup

The Communion of the People

please come forward by way of a center aisle, receive a piece of bread, dip it in the cup, then partake of the bread and wine; please return to your pew by way of a window aisle and be seated.

music during communion:

Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light

by J. S. Bach

*Break forth, O beauteous heavenly light, and usher in the morning;
Ye shepherds, shrink not with affright, but hear the angel's warning.
This Child now weak in infancy, our confidence and joy shall be,
The power of Satan breaking, our peace eternal making.*

- 17th century German chorale

Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring

by J. S. Bach

The Peace

Paul Sims

*The peace of the Lord be with you.
And also with you.*

+Hymn 150

As with Gladness Men of Old

DIX

stanzas 1, 2, and 3

+Offertory Prayer

Alex Lockridge

Loose change received in January will support the work of CBF Field Personnel Scarlett Jasper,
who works in Southeastern and Southern Kentucky through Olive Branch Ministries and Together for Hope.

Organ Offertory

The Rejoicing

by Charles Callahan

+Response

DIX

*Holy Jesus, every day keep us in the narrow way;
And when earthly things are past, bring our ransomed souls at last
Where they need no star to guide, where no clouds Thy glory hide. Amen.*

Go in God's Name

+Commission

Austin Carty, Alex Lockridge, & Paul Sims

*Go forth in the light of God's star.
Go forth committed to a journey of faith and courage.
Go forth to give the precious gift of your life to Christ.
We will go forth and let the star guide us.
We will share with others the journey of life.
We will praise God, for the gift of Jesus Christ is beyond measure.
Amen.*

Organ Postlude

How Brightly Shines the Morning Star

setting by M. B. Bennett

Gayle Majors, Organist Ann Hacker, Pianist