

**Epiphany of Our Lord**

**Communion Sunday**

**January 3, 2021**

**†Color: White**

*Zoom Worship Bulletin*



**Prelude:**

**Welcome:**

**Greeting:**

Leader: The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

**\*Call to Worship:**

L: Light has broken in on the darkness of the world!

**P: Can you see it? Can you feel it?**

L: Open the eyes of your heart and light the light within.

**P: There is a star beckoning us to follow.**

L: Let's go and see where it leads us today in worship.

**P: Let's see where it leads us tomorrow as we go about our day, our week, and the rest of our lives.**

**Hymn:**

**"The First Noel"**

**#245**

1 The first Noel the angel did say  
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;  
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep,  
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Refrain:

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,  
born is the King of Israel.

2 They looked up and saw a star  
shining in the east, beyond them far;  
and to the earth it gave great light,  
and so it continued both day and night. [Refrain]

3 And by the light of that same star  
three Wise Men came from country far;  
to seek for a king was their intent,  
and to follow the star wherever it went. [Refrain]

4 This star drew nigh to the northwest,  
o'er Bethlehem it took its rest;  
and there it did both stop and stay,  
right over the place where Jesus lay. [Refrain]

5 Then entered in those Wise Men three,  
full reverently upon the knee,  
and offered there, in his presence,  
their gold and myrrh and frankincense. [Refrain]

Opening Prayer: God of promise and light, open our eyes this morning, that we may see your light in the darkness. Open our hearts, that we may perceive your promises of justice and righteousness fulfilled in the babe of Bethlehem. May we, like the Magi, have a star to guide us on our journey quest to find the one who will truly set us free. May this time of worship bring us closer to you, that the good news of the birth of light and love will transform our lives. Amen. (*silent prayer*)

Words of Assurance:

Special Music:

Children's Story:

Sharing Our Joys and Concerns:

Pastoral Prayer

Gospel Reading:

Matthew 2:1-12

L: This is the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

P: Thanks to You Lord Jesus Christ.

Message:

Pastor Geri

Hymn:

"In The Bleak Midwinter"

#221

1 In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan,  
earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;  
snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow,  
in the bleak midwinter, long ago.

2 Our God, heaven cannot hold him, nor earth sustain;  
heaven and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign.  
In the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed  
the Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ.

3 Angels and archangels may have gathered there,  
cherubim and seraphim thronged the air;  
but his mother only, in her maiden bliss,  
worshiped the beloved with a kiss.

4 What can I give him, poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;  
if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part;  
yet what I can I give him: give my heart.

*The Great Thanksgiving*

#13 UMH

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing,  
always and everywhere to give thanks to you,  
Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth.\*

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.\*

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread,  
gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said:  
"Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over he took the cup,  
gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said:  
"Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,  
poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,

we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving  
as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us,  
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,  
and on these gifts of bread and wine.  
Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,  
that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.\*  
By your Spirit make us one with Christ,  
one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world,  
until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet.  
Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church,  
all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**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. Amen.**

**Sharing the Bread and Cup**

**Prayer After Receiving:**

Day after day after day you give yourself to us: in two or three gathered in your  
name, in connection across the miles, and in bread and wine. As we go from this  
gathering, may we feel restored to your body, companioned by your people, and  
sustained by the power of your Spirit as we witness to your healing and reconciling  
work. Through Christ our Lord, Amen.

**Hymn:**

**"We Three Kings"**

**#254**

**1 We three kings of Orient are;  
bearing gifts we traverse afar,  
field and fountain, moor and mountain,  
following yonder star.**

**Refrain:**

**O star of wonder, star of light,  
star with royal beauty bright,  
westward leading, still proceeding,  
guide us to thy perfect light.**

2 Born a King on Bethlehem's plain,  
gold I bring to crown him again,  
King forever, ceasing never,  
over us all to reign. [Refrain]

3 Frankincense to offer have I;  
incense owns a Deity nigh;  
prayer and praising, voices raising,  
worshiping God on high. [Refrain]

4 Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume  
breathes a life of gathering gloom;  
sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,  
sealed in the stone-cold tomb. [Refrain]

5 Glorious now behold him arise;  
King and God and sacrifice:  
Alleluia, Alleluia,  
sounds through the earth and skies. [Refrain]

**Benediction:**

**Postlude**



### **Welcome**

If you are visiting with us for the first time, we hope you feel welcome and will join us again for the worship of God. For many of us, we think of this as “home” and would invite you to do the same. We are family – you belong. “We welcome persons of any faith background into our fellowship, either as a member or as a friend.”

Our web site is [www.jcumc.com](http://www.jcumc.com)

Pastor: Geri Judd

Organist: Eric Machan Howd

Lay Leader: Don Shardlow

Christian Ed Chair: Sarah Brainard

Webmaster: Eileen Jacobs

Ministers: the Whole Congregation

*The Church Phone is 607-387-6296. To arrange an appointment for any time, you may contact Geri Judd directly at (607)387-6296 or [gerijudd@yahoo.com](mailto:gerijudd@yahoo.com).*

## Join the Event

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