

ORDER OF WORSHIP - JANUARY 5, 2025
EPIPHANY SUNDAY

GREETING AND OPENING PRAYER

Dr. John Hatton

WELCOMING THE LIGHT OF JESUS

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Dr. James Humlong

Variations on "What Star is This?"
arr. Michael Burkhardt

INTROIT

Chancel Choir

Arise, Shine
Gary Alan Smith

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Rev. Joan Wooden

Arise; shine, for your light has come!
We are called out of our darkness into light.
Lift up your eyes and look around.
We rejoice in the gift of light.
Come, let us worship the God of light and joy and peace.
We come to kneel at the cradle of the babe,
the light incarnate.

***HYMN 220**

Angels from the Realms of Glory

***PSALTER LESSON**

Psalm 72: 1-7, 10-14

Give the king your justice, O God,
and your righteousness to the royal son!
May he judge your people with righteousness,
and your poor with justice!
Let the mountains bear prosperity for the people,
and the hills, in righteousness!
May he defend the cause of the poor of the people,
give deliverance to the needy,
and crush the oppressor!
May he live while the sun endures,
and as long as the moon, throughout all generations!
May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass,
like showers that water the earth!
In his days may righteousness flourish,
and peace abound,
till the moon be no more!
May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles render him tribute,
may the kings of Sheba and Seba bring gifts!

**May all kings fall down before him,
all nations serve him!**

For he delivers the needy when they call,
the poor and those who have no helper.

**He has pity on the weak and the needy,
and saves the lives of the needy.**

**From oppression and violence he redeems their life,
and precious is their blood in his sight.**

***GLORIA PATRI**

UMH 70

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Adam Brewer

CALL TO CONFESSION

Dr. John Hatton

PRAYER OF YEARNING

**Christ Jesus, we yearn for your grace to fill our lives.
We yearn to accept your love so fully
that our hearts might overflow with love
for your world.**

**Gift us, not just with your mercy and grace,
but with an openness and confidence
to receive your gifts.**

**Shine through our hearts, our lives, and our actions,
that others may find in us
generous friends of grace and love.**

**May our prayers and our actions
bring your light and love to the world. Amen.**

SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

In Christ's grace, we can boldly embrace God's love.
In Christ's mercy, we can confidently proclaim
that God's love is enough.

Glory to God! Amen.

HYMN 219

stanzas 1 and 3

What Child is This

The Lord be with you.
And with thy spirit.

PASTORAL PRAYER

Dr. John Hatton

THE LORD'S PRAYER

PRESENTATION OF OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Chancel Choir

What Star Is This?

arr. Craig Curry

***DOXOLOGY**

UMH 95

***PRAYER OF BLESSING**

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Kathy Rodgers

Matthew 2: 1-12 (NLT)

Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the reign of King Herod. About that time some wise men from eastern lands arrived in Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star as it rose, and we have come to worship him."

King Herod was deeply disturbed when he heard this, as was everyone in Jerusalem. He called a meeting of the leading priests and teachers of religious law and asked, "Where is the Messiah supposed to be born?"

"In Bethlehem in Judea," they said, "for this is what the prophet wrote:

'And you, O Bethlehem in the land of Judah,
are not least among the ruling cities of Judah,
for a ruler will come from you
who will be the shepherd for my people Israel.'

Then Herod called for a private meeting with the wise men, and he learned from them the time when the star first appeared. Then he told them, "Go to Bethlehem and search carefully for the child. And when you find him, come back and tell me so that I can go and worship him, too!"

After this interview the wise men went their way. And the star they had seen in the east guided them to Bethlehem. It went ahead of them and stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were filled with joy! They entered the house and saw the child with his mother, Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasure chests and gave him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

When it was time to leave, they returned to their own country by another route, for God had warned them in a dream not to return to Herod.

This is the word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

Pastor Parker Outman

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

UMH 13

***HYMN 254**

We Three Kings

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

We Five Kings
arr. Dan Miller

Dr. James Humlong