

Epiphany: A Service of Holy Communion

Leader's Guide

GATHERING

***Weekly Announcements** (begin at 10:10 a)

***Prelude** (begins at 10:15a)

Welcome Pastor Dustin (begins at 10:20a)

Confession and Forgiveness***

P. Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who was in the beginning,
who makes a dwelling among us, who covers us with justice and mercy.

Amen.

P. Before we confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another, let
us take a brief pause for personal reflection.

Brief pause – scenic video during silent individual reflection. VIDEO

P. God of goodness and lovingkindness,

A. we confess that we have sinned against you and our neighbors.

We have turned away from your invitation to new life.

We have turned away from the lowly and downtrodden.

**In your abundant mercy, forgive us our sins,
those we know and those known only to you,**

for the sake of the one who came to live among us,

Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

P. Hear the good news of peace and salvation!

God forgives us all our sins,

not through our own work,

but through † Jesus Christ, made known to all people.

With all who come to the manger,

rejoice in this amazing gift of grace.

A. Amen.

Gathering Hymn – *We Three Kings*

VIDEO

Welcome

P. The grace of Jesus Christ our Savior, the reconciling love of God, and the
communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

A. And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P. O God, on this day you revealed your Son to the nations by the leading of a star. Lead us now by faith to know your presence in our lives, and bring us at last to the full vision of your glory, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

A. Amen.

WORD

First Reading – Isaiah 60:1-6

VIDEO

L. 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.

Musical Meditation

VIDEO music with overlay video

Gospel Reading

Matthew 2:1-12

P. The Gospel according to Saint Matthew.

A. Glory to you, O Lord.

P. 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.

P. This, my siblings in Christ, is the Gospel of our Lord.

A. Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Rev. Jonathan Vanderbeck

Hymn of the Day – *This Little Light of Mine*

VIDEO

Prayers of Intercession

P. We ask that you lift up your prayers in the comments section of Facebook Live (or in your hearts) at this time.

P. Hear us, O God

A. Your mercy is great.

Intro to Response to God's Call: Micah 6:8

P. As we have lifted up prayers for our community and world, we are reminded that we are called to go and bring the witness of God's love to the world. Will you join us in our sung response as we consider the words of the prophet Micah - what does the Lord require of you?

Response to God's Call: Micah 6:8

Peace

P. And may the peace of Christ be with you always.

A. And also with you.

P. Let us share a sign of God's peace with one another.

MEAL

Contact Us and Offering***

TWO SLIDES

- P. We know that some are joining us here at Messiah for the first time. If you'd like to learn more about our ministries and activities, or for any one with questions about Messiah, please contact us by email or by phone. At this time, if you'd like to make an online gift using tithe.ly or via mail to Messiah, feel free to do so.

Offering interlude music and slide

VIDEO

Offering Prayer

- P. Gracious God, you came to us as one unknown, bringing joy and salvation to the earth. Nourish us at your banquet table, that with all who welcome your birth we may proclaim your peace, revealed in Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

VIDEO

Lord's Prayer

- P. God remember us in your love, and teach us to pray:

Lord's Prayer

VIDEO

Eucharistic Prayer

- P. In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his life-giving death and glorious resurrection, we await your promised life for all this dying world.

Breathe your Spirit on us and on this bread and cup: carry us in your arms from death to life, that we may live as your chosen ones, clothed in the righteousness of Christ. Through him all glory and honor is yours,

Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

A. Amen.

Invitation to Communion

P. Even when we cannot be physically together, we are one in Christ Jesus united around a common table. Indeed, at this table, Jesus gathers us all together: the humble and the proud, the joyful and the grieving, the pious and the profane, those of strong faith and those who only long for faith, to everyone, without exception. Come siblings in faith, and join in Spirit filled community!

Distribution of the Sacrament

VIDEO

At this time, all may share Holy Communion amongst their families.

Post Communion Blessing

P. The body of our Lord Jesus Christ and His precious blood strengthen you, and keep you in God's Grace. Amen.

A. Amen.

Prayer After Communion

P. We give you thanks, gracious God,
that you have once again fed us from your very self
with the body and blood of Christ.
Through this mystery, send us forth
to proclaim your promise to a world in need,
through the same Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

Blessing

P. Almighty God,
who sent the Holy Spirit to Mary,
proclaimed joy through the angels,
sent the shepherds with good news,
and led the magi by a star,
bless you this day ✠ through the Word made flesh.

Amen.

Sending Hymn – *I Want to Walk as A Child of The Light* VIDEO

Litany of Epiphany

- P. This year, may the doors of our homes be wide enough to receive all who hunger for love and all who are lonely for friendships.
- A. May they welcome all who have cares to unburden, thanks to express, hopes to nurture.**
- P. This year, may the doors of our homes be narrow enough to shut out pettiness and pride, envy and enmity.
- A. May our thresholds not be stumbling blocks to young or strained feet.**
- P. This year, may our thresholds be too high to admit complacency, selfishness and harshness.
- A. May our homes be, for all who enter, doorways to richness and more meaningful life.**
- P. Let us pray. Loving God, bless this chalk which you have created, that it may be helpful to your people; and grant that through the invocation of your most Holy Name all who use it in faith to write upon the doors of their homes the names of your saints, Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar, may receive health of body and protection of soul for all who dwell in or visit their home throughout the new year; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- A. Amen.**

Benediction

- P. Go in peace. Share the gift of Jesus.
- A. Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

VIDEO