



The Epiphany of Our Lord

January 3, 2021

10:30 a.m.

PRELUDE

"O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright" P. 46

Johann Pachelbel

OPENING SENTENCES

Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews?

We have observed his star at its rising and have come to pay him homage.

He has been born in Bethlehem in the land of Judah.

He will shepherd your people Israel.

We have seen your star and are overwhelmed with joy.

At the treasure before us and the treasure within us.

OPENING HYMN

"The First Noel"

(see end of bulletin)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty and ever-living God, you revealed the incarnation of your Son by the brilliant shining of a star. Shine the light of your justice always in our hearts and over all lands, and accept our lives as the treasure we offer in your praise and for your service, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

CHILDREN'S TIME

NARRATIVE READING

Matthew 2:1-12

Today's narrative reading is from Matthew:

¹In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ²asking, "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." ³When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

⁶And 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."

⁷Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then 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." ⁹When 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. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On 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. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Word of God. Word of life.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

"We Three Kings" and Psalm 72

(see end of bulletin)

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Guided by the spirit and gathered into one community, let us pray for the church, the world and all God's creation.

(Brief Silence)

Each petition concludes:
God who is with us,
hear our prayer.

Into your hands gracious God we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your promise to hear our prayers.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Rejoicing in the presence of God here among us, let us pray as our Savior taught:

**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 forever. Amen.**

BENEDICTION

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.

CLOSING HYMN

“O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright”

(see end of bulletin)

PEACE

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

POSTLUDE

Variations on a French Noël

Louis-Claude Daquin

PREACHING Pastor Peter Nycklemoe
PRESIDING Pastor Melissa Pohlman
ASSISTING Pastor Stephanie Friesen
ORGANISTS Isaac Drewes, Cantor Mark Sedio
QUARTET Froya Olson, Robin Helgen, Bill Pederson, David Gindra
VIDEO/SOUND Mark Kieffer

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Prayer of the Day – <http://www.narrativelectionary.org>

Chancel flowers this weekend are given by Miriam Haines and family in loving memory of Don Haines. If you wish to donate flowers, contact Judy Korogi at 612-788-1288.

The First Noel

Stanzas 1-3

1 The first No - el the an - gel did say was to
 2 They look - ed up and saw . . a star shin - ing
 3 And by the light of that . . same star three . .
 4 This star drew near to the . . north - west, o'er . .
 5 Then en - tered in those wise . . men three, full . .

cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay; in fields where
 in . . the east . . be - yond . . them far; and to the
 wise . . men came . . from coun - try far; to seek for a
 Beth - le - hem . . it took . . its rest; and there it
 rev - 'rent - ly . . up - on . . their knee, and of - fered

they lay, keep - ing their sheep, on a cold win - ter's
 earth it gave . . great light, and . . so it con -
 king was their . . in - tent, and to fol - low the
 did both stop . . and stay right . . o - ver the
 there in his . . pres - ence their . . gold, and

Refrain

night that was so deep.
 tin - ued both day and night.
 star wher - ev - er it went. No - el, No - el, No -
 place where Je - sus lay.
 myrrh, and frank - in - cense.

el, No - el! Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

“We Three Kings” and Psalm 72

Verses of Psalm 72 (appointed for this day) are interspersed with sections of the traditional Epiphany carol, “We Three Kings.”

All sing:

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

Solo: Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the king’s son;
that he may rule your people righteously and the poor with justice;

All sing (Refrain):

Oh, star of wonder, star of night;
Star with royal beauty bright.
Westward leading, still proceeding
Guide us to they perfect light.

Solo: In his time shall the righteous flourish; there shall be an abundance of peace till the
moon shall be no more.
He shall rule from sea to sea, and from the river to the ends | of the earth.

His foes shall bow down before him, and his enemies lick the dust.
The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay tribute, and the rulers of Arabia and Saba
of-fer gifts.

All sing:

Born a king of Bethlehem’s plain, gifts we bring to crown him again
King forever, ceasing never over us all to reign.

Solo: All kings shall bow down before him, and all the nations do him service.
For he shall deliver the poor who cries out | in distress,
and the oppressed who has no helper.
He shall have pity on the lowly and poor and shall preserve the lives of the needy.

All sing (Refrain):

Oh, star of wonder....

Stanza 1 – all; 2 – choral setting by Hugo Distler; 3- all

O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright!

Stanza 2 is sung to a setting by Hugo Distler

1. O Morn - ing Star, how fair and bright!
2. Come, heav'n - ly bride - groom, light di - vine,
3. Oh, let the harps break forth in sound!

You shine with God's own truth and light,
And deep with - in our hearts now shine;
Our joy be all with mu - sic crowned,

A - glow with grace and mer - cy!
There light a flame un - dy - ing!
Our voic - es gai - ly blend - ing!

Of Ja - cob's race, King Da - vid's Son,
In your one bod - y let us be
For Christ goes with us all the way,

Our Lord and mas - ter, you have won
As liv - ing branch - es of a tree,
To - day, to - mor - row, ev - 'ry day!

Our hearts to serve you on - ly! Low - ly, ho - ly!
Your life our lives sup - ply - ing. Now, though dai - ly
His love is nev - er end - ing! Sing out! Ring out!

Great and glo - rious, All vic - to - rious, Rich in bless - ing!
Earth's deep sad - ness May per - plex us And dis - tress us,
Ju - bi - la - tion! Ex - ul - ta - tion! Tell the sto - ry!

Rule and might o'er all pos - sess - ing!
Yet with heav'n - ly joy you bless us.
Great is he, the King of glo - ry!