



# EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

## St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

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# Epiphany of Our Lord Jesus Christ

The Holy Eucharist Rite Two

Sunday, January 3, 2021

## The Word of God

### Entrance Rite

#### ENTRANCE HYMN

*What star is this, with beams so bright*

*Unison or harmony*

1 What star is this, with beams so bright, more beau-teous  
2 True spake the pro-phet from a-far who told the  
3 The guid-ing star a-bove is bright; with-in them  
4 O Je-sus, while the star of grace im-pels us  
5 To God the Fa-ther, heaven-ly Light, to Christ, re-

1 than the noon-day light? It shines to her-ald  
2 rise of Ja-cob's star; and cast-ern sa-ges  
3 shines a clear-er light, and leads them on with  
4 on to seek thy face, let not our sloth-ful  
5 vealed in carth-ly night, to God the Ho-ly

1 forth the King, and Gen-tiles to his crib to bring.  
2 with a-maze up-on the won-drous to-ken gaze.  
3 power be-nign to seek the Giv-er of the sign.  
4 hearts re-fuse the guid-ance of thy light to use.  
5 Ghost we raise our e-equal and un-ceas-ing praise.

## **OPENING ACCLAMATION**

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*People* And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

## **COLLECT FOR PURITY**

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

## **SONG OF PRAISE**

*Spoken*

Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.  
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.  
For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

## **THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* And also with you.

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

O God, by the leading of a star you manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: Lead us, who know you now by faith, to your presence, where we may see your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

# The Lessons

## FIRST READING: Isaiah 60:1-6

A Reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

<sup>1</sup>Arise, shine; for your light has come,  
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

<sup>2</sup>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.

<sup>3</sup>Nations shall come to your light,  
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

<sup>4</sup>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.

<sup>5</sup>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.

<sup>6</sup>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.

*Reader*            The Word of the Lord.

*People*            Thanks be to God.

## PSALM:        Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14

<sup>1</sup>Give the King your justice, O God, \*  
and your righteousness to the King's Son;

<sup>2</sup>That he may rule your people righteously \*  
and the poor with justice;

<sup>3</sup>That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, \*  
and the little hills bring righteousness.

<sup>4</sup>He shall defend the needy among the people; \*  
he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.

<sup>5</sup>He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, \*  
from one generation to another.

<sup>6</sup>He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, \*

like showers that water the earth.

- <sup>7</sup>In his time shall the righteous flourish; \*  
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.  
<sup>10</sup>The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay tribute, \*  
and the kings of Arabia and Saba offer gifts.  
<sup>11</sup>All kings shall bow down before him, \*  
and all the nations do him service.  
<sup>12</sup>For he shall deliver the poor who cries out in distress, \*  
and the oppressed who has no helper.  
<sup>13</sup>He shall have pity on the lowly and poor; \*  
he shall preserve the lives of the needy.  
<sup>14</sup>He shall redeem their lives from oppression and violence, \*  
and dear shall their blood be in his sight.

**SECOND READING:            Ephesians 3:1-12**

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Ephesus.

<sup>1</sup>This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles—<sup>2</sup>for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, <sup>3</sup>and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, <sup>4</sup>a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. <sup>5</sup>In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: <sup>6</sup>that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

<sup>7</sup>Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. <sup>8</sup>Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, <sup>9</sup>and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; <sup>10</sup>so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. <sup>11</sup>This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, <sup>12</sup>in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

*Reader*            The Word of the Lord.

*People*            Thanks be to God.

**ALLELUIA-** Piano Voluntary

**GOSPEL:**

*Priest*            The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

*People*            Glory to you, Lord Christ.

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

<sup>6</sup>“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.”

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

*Priest*            The Gospel of the Lord.  
*People*            Praise to you, Lord Christ.

## **THE SERMON**

**FR. RUSS JOHNSON**

## **THE RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS**

*Celebrant*

Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

*People*  
I do.

*Celebrant*

Do you believe in God the Father?

*People*

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

*Celebrant*

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

*People*

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit

and born of the Virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

*Celebrant*

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

*People*

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.

*Celebrant*

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

*People*

I will, with God's help.

*Celebrant*

Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

*People*

I will, with God's help.

*Celebrant*

Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

*People*

I will, with God's help.

*Celebrant*

Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

*People*

I will, with God's help.

*Celebrant*

Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

*People*

I will, with God's help.

May Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, keep us in eternal life by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord. *Amen.*

## **THE PEACE**

*Celebrant*        The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People*            And also with you.

## **The Holy Communion**

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High.

*Psalms 50:14*

**Piano Voluntary "O Light of Light, Love Given Birth"**

## **The Great Thanksgiving**

*Celebrant*        The Lord be with you.

*People*            And also with you.

*Celebrant*        Lift up your hearts.

*People*            We lift them to the Lord.

*Celebrant*        Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People*            It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

## **SANCTUS - Spoken**

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.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory;

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with St. Matthew and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *AMEN.*

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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 and ever. *Amen.*

## **The Breaking of the Bread**

### **FRACTION ANTHEM**

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
*Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.*

### **PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION**

I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament, and, since I cannot at this time receive communion, I pray you to come into my heart. I unite myself with you and embrace you with all my heart, my soul, and my mind. Let nothing separate me from you; let me serve you in this life until, by your grace, I come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace. *Amen.*

Let us pray.

Eternal God, heavenly Father,  
you have graciously accepted us as living members  
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,  
and you have fed us with spiritual food  
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.  
Send us now into the world in peace,  
and grant us strength and courage  
to love and serve you  
with gladness and singleness of heart;  
through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

### **BLESSING**

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

**CLOSING HYMN** *We three kings of Orient are*



1 We three kings of O - ri - ent are, bear - ing  
 2 Born a King on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I  
 3 Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I: in - cense  
 4 Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a  
 5 Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise, King and



1 gifts we tra - verse a - far, field and foun - tain,  
 2 bring to crown him a - gain, King for ev - er,  
 3 owns a De - i - ty nigh; prayer and prais - ing,  
 4 life of gath - er - ing gloom; sor - rowing, sigh - ing,  
 5 God and Sac - ri - fice; heaven sings al - le -



1 moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.  
 2 ceas - ing nev - er o - ver us all to reign.  
 3 glad - ly rais - ing, wor - ship him, God Most High.  
 4 bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the stone - cold tomb.  
 5 lu - ia: al - le - lu - ia the earth re - plies.

*Refrain*

O ————— star of won - der, star of night,

star with roy - al beau - ty bright; west - ward lead - ing,

still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - fect light!

**DISMISSAL**

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People*

Thanks be to God.

**Please join us for a virtual coffee hour after the service!**