

**BULLETIN FOR SUNDAY, JANUARY 9, 2022 – 8:30 Service**

**THE HOLY SPIRIT CALLS US TOGETHER AS THE PEOPLE OF GOD**

**Prelude** *How Lovely is the Morning Star* by Dietrich Buxtehude

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Gathering Song**

***We Three Kings of Orient Are***

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

***Refrain***

**Oh, star of wonder, star of night,  
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, gladly raising,  
worshiping God Most 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;  
heav'n sings alleluia:  
alleluia the earth replies. *Refrain***

**Invocation**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, Love from the beginning, Word made flesh, Breath of heaven.

**Amen.**

**Confession and Forgiveness**

P: Let us confess our sinfulness before God and one another, trusting in God's endless mercy and love.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Merciful God,

**C: we confess that we are not perfect. We have said and done things we regret. We have tried to earn your redeeming grace, while denying it to others. We have resisted your call to be your voice in the world. Forgive us, loving God. Give us your righteousness, the strength to put aside our failures, and the courage to try again. Amen.**

P: Dear people of God, hear the good news: Christ the Savior is born! You are loved and I declare to you that you are forgiven in the name of ✝ Jesus, who has come among us. You are freed from proving that you deserve to be loved, because God's love is given to you as the most precious gift of all. Rejoice in this love and share it with the world.  
**Amen.**

### **Sharing a Sign of God's Peace**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always!

**C: And also with you!**

### **Apostolic Greeting**

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

**C: And also with you.**

### **Prayer of the Day**

WL: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

WL: Let us pray.

**C : 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. Amen.**

### **Litany**

WL: We give thanks on this holy day, adorned with epiphanies: for the star that led the magi to the manger.

**C: that the nations may see the light of Christ;**

WL: for the water turned to wine at Cana's wedding,

**C: that the people taste the goodness of the Lord;**

WL: for the baptism of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Jordan,

**C: that the Christ would save us all.**

WL: This is the day that the Lord has made,

**C: we will rejoice and be glad in it. Alleluia.**

### **Children's Sermon**

#### **Star Words**

You are invited to receive.

#### **Star Prayer**

P: God, we acknowledge that we are not always ready to receive your best gifts for us. We have been given an epiphany word in order that our searching will bring us to you.

**C: It is often our habit to turn aside, stumble over, or even reject experiences and encounters that we later understand to have been precious gifts.**

P: Help us to be open to the lens that this word might offer for the year ahead. Help us not only ponder the gift of our star word but also your Son, the Word Made Flesh, in our hearts so that our hearts are changed by you.

**C: We acknowledge that we do not fully understand what this word might mean for our faith, but we receive it from you with gratitude and pray that your Holy Spirit will enable us to live into our word with intention and faithfulness. Amen.**

***GOD SPEAKS TO US IN SCRIPTURE, PREACHING AND SONG***

**First Reading Isaiah 60: 1-6**

L: Word of God, Word of Life. **C: Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Matthew 2: 1-12**

*Before the Gospel is read:* **C: Glory to you, O Lord.**  
*After the Reading:* **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon**

**Song of the Day *I Want to Walk as a Child of Light* ELW #815**

**1 I want to walk as a child of the light.  
I want to follow Jesus.  
God set the stars to give light to the world.  
The star of my life is Jesus.**

***Refrain***

**In him there is no darkness at all.  
The night and the day are both alike.  
The Lamb is the light of the city of God.  
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.**

**2 I want to see the brightness of God.  
I want to look at Jesus.  
Clear Sun of righteousness, shine on my path,  
and show me the way to the Father. *Refrain***

**3 I'm looking for the coming of Christ.  
I want to be with Jesus.  
When we have run with patience the race,  
we shall know the joy of Jesus. *Refrain***

**Apostle's Creed**

WL: Let us confess our faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed:

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**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. Amen.**

### **Prayers of the People**

WL: Hear us O God. **C: Your mercy is great.**

## **GOD FEEDS US WITH THE PRESENCE OF JESUS CHRIST**

### **Offering**

**Offeratory** *The Star Proclaims the King is Here* by J. Pachelbel

### **Offertory Prayer**

WL: Let us pray. Generous God,

**C: you have given us life, this community, and these gifts of the earth that become the meal of your grace. Move in our hearts, that we might use your gifts to bring hope and blessing wherever we go, through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### **Great Thanksgiving**

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

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

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Santus

### **Words of Institution**

### **Lord's Prayer**

### **Distribution Hymns**

*Your Little Ones, Dear Lord* ELW #286

- 1 Your little ones, dear Lord, are we,  
and come your lowly bed to see;  
enlighten ev'ry soul and mind,  
that we the way to you may find.**
- 2 With songs we hasten you to greet,  
and kiss the ground before your feet.  
Oh, blessed hour, oh, sweetest night  
that gave you birth, our soul's delight.**
- 3 Oh, draw us wholly to you, Lord,  
and to us all your grace accord;  
true faith and love to us impart,  
that we may hold you in our heart.**
- 4 Until at last we too proclaim,**

with all your saints, your glorious name;  
in paradise our songs renew,  
and praise you as the angels do.  
*Here is Bread* W&P 58

**Verse 1**

Here is bread here is wine  
Christ is with us He is with us  
Break the bread drink the wine  
Christ is with us here

**Refrain**

In this bread there is healing  
In this cup there's life forever  
In this moment by the Spirit  
Christ is with us here

**Verse 2**

Here is grace here is peace  
Christ is with us He is with us  
Know His grace find His peace  
Feast on Jesus here (*Refrain*)

**Verse 3**

Here we are joined in one  
Christ is with us He is with us  
We'll proclaim 'til He comes  
Jesus crucified (*Refrain*)

**Post Communion Blessing**

**Post Communion Prayer**

P: Let us pray. Emmanuel, God with us,

C: you grace us with life and breath and give us bread for the journey. Send us out in service to this world that you love, telling the amazing news of your coming to be Savior and Lord of all.

Amen.

**GOD BLESSES US AND SENDS US IN MISSION TO THE WORLD**

**Blessing**

P: Grace from God's own heart, peace from the ✝ Child in the manger, and strength from the Spirit of life be blessings for you today and forever.

Amen.

## Closing Song

### *This Little Light of Mine* ELW #677

- 1 This little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine;  
this little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine;  
this little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine,  
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
  
- 2 Ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine;  
ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine;  
ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine,  
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
  
- 3 Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine;  
Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine;  
Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine,  
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

## Sending

WL: Christ is born! Go tell it on the mountain and everywhere.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude *Toccata* by J. Pachelbel

*Music by Nancy Betz*

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