



ORDER FOR WORSHIP

Epiphany

January 3, 2021

The feast of Epiphany (“manifestation”) concludes the Christmas season with a celebration of God’s glory revealed in the person of Jesus Christ. In Isaiah and Ephesians, that glory is proclaimed for all nations and people. Like the light of the star that guided the magi to Jesus, the light of Christ reveals who we are: children of God who are claimed and washed in the waters of baptism. We are sent out to be beacons of the light of Christ, sharing the good news of God’s love to all people.

GATHERING

*The Holy Spirit
calls us together
as the people of
God.*

WELCOME

PRAYER

PRELUDE

“Joy to the World with O Come Let Us Adore Him”, arranged by Carol Tornquist

WORD

*God speaks to us
in scripture
reading,
preaching, and
song*

GOSPEL

Matthew 2: 1 - 12

God’s promise shines bright in the night as magi follow a star to honour a new king. Strangers from a faraway land, they welcome the long-awaited messiah of Israel.

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: ⁶‘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.’” 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.

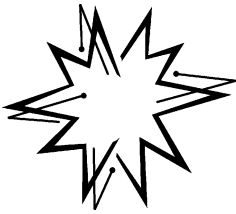
SERMON

Pastor Tuula Van Gaasbeek

HYMN OF THE DAY

verses 1,2,3,5,6 **ELW 301**

Bright and Glorious Is the Sky



1 Bright and glo - rious is the sky, ra - diant are the
2 On that ho - ly Christ - mas night through the dark - ness
3 Sa - ges from the east a - far, when they saw this



heav - ens high where the gold - en stars are shin - ing.
beamed a light; all the stars a - bove were pal - ing,
won - drous star, went to find the king of na - tions



All their rays to earth in - clin - ing beck - on us to
all their lus - ter slow - ly fail - ing as the won - drous
and to of - fer their ob - la - tions to the child, the



heav'n a - bove, beck - on us to heav'n a - bove.
star drew nigh, as the won - drous star drew nigh.
new - born king, to the child, the new - born king.



5 Guided by the star, they found
him whose praise the ages sound.
We too have a star to guide us,
which forever will provide us
with the light to find our Lord,
with the light to find our Lord.

6 And this star, as bright as day,
that will never lead astray
with its message so appealing,
is the word of God, revealing
Christ, the way, the truth, the life,
Christ, the way, the truth, the life.

Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783–1872; tr. Jens Christian Aaberg, 1877–1970, alt.
Music: DEJLIG ER DEN HIMMEL BLÅ, Danish, 19th cent.
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*In everything
Give
Thanks.*

1 Thessalonians 5:18

THANKSGIVING

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE

DEDICATION OF PARAMENTS

The altar and lectern are dressed with beautiful new paraments, and Pastor with a matching stole, given to the glory of God in loving memory of Fred and Marion Roberts, charter members. A gift from their family.

SHARING of the PEACE

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

“He is Born” (French Carol)”, arranged by Patricia Sanders Cota

LORD’S PRAYER

SENDING

BLESSING

DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

*God blesses us
and sends us in
mission to the
world.*



ST. PHILIP'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

SERVING TODAY

Rev. Tuula Van Gaasbeek	Pastor
Chris Ritcey-Conrad	Music Director
Dave Pascoe	Videographer
Eric Fergin	Reader
Jim Rouse	Prayers of the People
Dallas O'Reilly	The Lord's Prayer
Handbells Quartet	Offertory

In our Prayers

Gustav Berndt, Rodney Erlandson, Al Jacksteit, Mark Kieswetter, Fran Moore, Marion Morningstar, Pat Penney, Julie Potocny, Lesley Powell, Sydney Ross, Helen Scollnik, and Elga Smidt.

Ways to be involved

While we can't be in the building, there are still ways to stay involved and in community with others. Here are a few:

- Tuesday Bible Study via Zoom @ 7:00 pm
- Participate in the Virtual Worship: play an instrument or sing, read the Gospel, provide a Children's Message, lead the prayers, or tell a Faith Story. Please contact the office.
- Join in the Virtual Coffee Hour @ 11:00 am on Sunday mornings.

Pass the Offering Plate Please

Thanks for giving your offering regularly. Even while our doors are closed, our hearts and hands are open and busy. Our ministries need your support. Details for how to give are on stphilipstoronto.com/donate-now/.