

ORDER OF WORSHIP EPIPHANY
JANUARY 3, 2021

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE AND BRINGING IN THE LIGHT

CALL TO WORSHIP

Isaiah 60:1-3 and Matthew 12:1-2

Light! Light, light and more light!

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of God has risen upon you.

Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising.

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem, wise men came from the East, saying:

Where is he who is born king of the Jews?

For we have seen his star in the East, and have come to worship him.

May the wonderful light of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all..¹

HYMN *We Three Kings*

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

3 Frankincense to offer have I;
incense owns a Deity nigh;
prayer and praising, voices raising,
worshiping God on high. [**Refrain**]

Refrain:
O star of wonder, star of light,
star with royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding,
guide us to thy perfect light.

4 Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume
breathes a life of gathering gloom;
sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,
sealed in the stone-cold tomb. [**Refrain**]

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**]

5 Glorious now behold him arise;
King and God and sacrifice:
Alleluia, Alleluia,
sounds through the earth and skies.
[**Refrain**]

MORNING PRAYER

A new day has dawned, a new year begun. O Lord, call us so we may hear your voice.

The world turns to hopes and dreams of the future. Keep us, Lord, in your ways and on your path. We enter this new year with hope and excitement. Remind us that you lead us. Guide us as look to you, and worship you. Amen.²

WORDS FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

SCRIPTURE FOR TODAY

Matthew 2:1-12

MORNING REFLECTION

PRAYERS

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

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.

Help us to be open to the gift that you offer us now through our star words. 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 Spirit will enable us to live into our word with intention and faithfulness. AMEN³

DEDICATIONS OF OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES and The Lord's Prayer

SENDING FORTH WITH BLESSING

May the path that Christ walks to bring justice upon the earth,
to bring light to those who sit in darkness,
to bring out those who live in bondage,
to bring new things to all creation:

may this path run through our life.

May we be the road Christ takes.⁴ Go to live and love and laugh and serve your God. Amen.

The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve 2241

1. The Spir - it sends us forth to serve; we
2. We go to com - fort those who mourn and
3. We go to be the hands of Christ, to
4. Then let us go to serve in peace, the

go in Je - sus' name to bring glad tid - ings
set the bur - dened free; where hope is dim, to
scat - ter joy like seed and, all our days, to
gos - pel to pro - claim. God's Spir - it has em -

to the poor, God's fa - vor to pro - claim.
share a dream and help the blind to see.
cher - ish life, to do the lov - ing deed.
pow - ered us; we go in Je - sus' name.

WORDS: Delores Dufner, OSB
MUSIC: USA folk melody
LAND OF REST
CM
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¹ Bruce Prewer

² Rev. Mindi on her **Rev-o-lution** blog

³ Rev. Marci Glass

⁴ Jan L. Richardson, *The Painted Prayerbook*