

# EPIPHANY SUNDAY

Rev. Kevin M. Pleas

Online Worship

January 10, 2021

**PRELUDE** "The First Noel" – arr. Joel Raney Adam Peithmann

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS** Rev. Kevin Pleas

**INTROIT** "I Am the Light of the World!" (#469) – first page only

## CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)

Leader: Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you.

**People: See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples,**

Leader: But the Lord rises upon you and his glory appears over you.

**People: Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.**

## OPENING PRAYER (Unison)

**Almighty Lord God, you gave your Son, Jesus Christ, to be the light of the world: We praise and magnify your holy name that in him you have revealed the wonder of your saving love to all people. With those of old who brought their tribute to his feet, confessing him as King of heaven and earth, we now present the worship of our grateful hearts, asking you to give us grace to give ourselves to you, through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

**HYMN # 174** "Brightest and Best"

## STEWARDSHIP ANNOUNCEMENT

**PASTORAL PRAYER** Barbara Papagian

## TIME OF SILENCE

## OUR LORD'S PRAYER

**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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

**PRAYER RESPONSE** "Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying" (#305)

**SCRIPTURE READING** Pip Adams

Matthew 3:13-17 (New Revised Standard Version)

Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

**PASTOR'S MESSAGE**

“I Am Well Pleased”  
**THE SERVICE OF COMMUNION**

All are welcome to join in the sacrament using your own version of the bread and the wine.

**INVITATION**

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Light of the World: you gave us the transforming birth of the child Jesus as a light for our path. Yet we confess that we shut our eyes to the light. We admit that we do not want to see the gift you have given us. We acknowledge our reluctance to see and share our gifts with our sisters and brothers. We are often dazzled by the glitter and tinsel the world has made of Christ's birth. We ask that your Spirit be lit within us, that we may share your gifts of peace and justice with all people. We seek to receive, and return the gift of Christ's birth and death, again and again. For it is in his name we pray. Amen.**

**ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

**PRAYER OF CONSECRATION**

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**SHARING OF THE BREAD AND THE CUP**

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

**We give you thanks, O God, that you have come to us through Jesus Christ, both in the midst of time and history in the city of Bethlehem, and in the timeless presence of Christ's Spirit as we receive the gifts of bread and wine. Send us out into the world rejoicing, ready to share your love with the people we meet; through the grace of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

**HYMN # 176**

“Sing of God Made Manifest”

**CLOSING WORDS**

**BENEDICTION (Unison)**

**May Christ, the Son of God, be manifest in us all,  
That our lives may be light to the world;  
And the blessings of God Almighty,  
The Creator, the Christ, and the Holy Spirit,  
Be upon us and remain with us always.**

**Amen**

**POSTLUDE**

“Allegro Assai Vivace” – Felix Mendelssohn

---

**Please note: In these difficult times, we are holding you all in our thoughts and prayers. For those who are able, we are grateful for your continuing contributions to the stewardship of our church.**

**Hymn No. 469**

**“I Am the Light of the World!” (first page only)**

“I am the light of the world! You people come and follow me!” If you follow and love you’ll learn the mystery of what you were meant to do and be.

**Hymn No. 174**

**“Brightest and Best”**

1. Brightest and best of the stars of the morning, dawn on our pathway and lend us your aid. Star of the east, the horizon adorning, guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.
2. Shall we give Jesus our costly devotion, fragrance of Edom, and off’rings divine, gems of the mountain and pearls of the ocean, myrrh from the forest and gold from the mine?
3. Vainly we offer each ample oblation, vainly with gifts Jesus’ favor secure. Richer by far is the heart’s adoration. Dearer to God are the gifts of the poor.
4. Brightest and best of the stars of the morning, dawn on our pathway, and lend us your aid; star of the east, the horizon adorning, guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.

**Prayer Response**

**Hymn No. 305**

**“Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying”**

Lord, listen to your children praying, Lord, send your spirit in this place; Lord, listen to your children praying, send us love, send us pow’r, send us grace.

**Hymn No. 176**

**“Sing of God Made Manifest”**

1. Sing of God made manifest in a child robust and blest, to whose home in Bethlehem where a star had guided them, magi came and gifts unbound, signs mysterious and profound: myrrh and frankincense and gold grave and God and king foretold.
2. Sing of God made manifest when at Jordan John confessed, “I should be baptized by you, but your bidding I will do.” Then from heaven a double sign dove like Spirit, voice divine – hailed the true Anointed One: “This is my beloved Son.”
3. Sing of God made manifest when Christ came as wedding guest and at Cana gave a sign, turning water into wine; further still was love revealed as he taught, forgave, and healed, bringing light and life to all who would listen to God’s call.

4. Sing of God made manifest on the cloud-capped mountain's crest, where the Law and Prophets waned so that Christ alone remained: glimpse of glory, pledge of grace, given as Jesus set his face toward the waiting cross and grave, sign of hope that God would save.