

# Epiphany Sunday

Sunday, January 4, 2026

## The Life and the Work of the Church

### Mission & Service Birthday/Anniversary Recognition

Happy birthday to you,  
To Jesus be true,  
May God's gracious blessings  
rest always with you.

### Introit **In the Darkness Shines the Splendour** (Voices United 92, v. 1)

*Words: Bernadette Gasslein 1992, alt.; Music: Henry John Gauntlett 1849; harm. Arthur Henry Mann 1919  
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In the darkness shines the splendour  
of the Word who took our flesh,  
welcoming, in love's surrender,  
death's dark shadow at his crèche.  
Bearing every human story,  
Word made flesh reveals his glory.

### Lighting of the Christ Candle

Arise, shine! For your light has come.

**The glory of God has risen upon us!**

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

**We come seeking Christ, the light of the world.**

Lift up your eyes and look around – God's presence is here.

**With joy and wonder we worship together.**

### Opening Hymn **The First Nowell** (Voices United 91)

*Words: English traditional carol, ca. 17th century, alt.  
Music: English traditional melody; harm. John Stainer 1851,  
desc. and harmony, Healey Wittan 1926  
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- 1      The first Nowell the angel did say  
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;  
in fields where they lay akeeping their sheep  
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

*Refrain*      Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,  
born is the King of Israel.

- 2      They looked up and saw a star,  
shining in the east, beyond them far;  
and to the earth it gave great light,  
and so it continued both day and night. *Refrain*

- 3      And by the light of that same star  
three wise men came from country far;  
to seek for a king was their intent,  
and to follow the star wherever it went. *Refrain*

- 4      This star drew nigh to the northwest;  
o'er Bethlehem it took its rest,  
and there it did both stop and stay,  
right over the place where Jesus lay. *Refrain*

- 5      Then entered in those wise men three,  
full reverently upon their knee,  
and offered there in his presence  
their gold and myrrh and frankincense. *Refrain*

- 6      Then let us all with one accord  
sing praises to our heavenly Lord,  
that hath made heaven and earth of nought,

## A Time to Wonder

### Hymn **I Am the Light of the World!** (Voices United 87)

*Words and Music: Jim Strathdee*

*Words and Music © 1969 Desert Flower Music*

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**Refrain** '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.

- 1 When the song of the angels is stilled,  
when the star in the sky is gone,  
when the kings and the shepherds  
have found their way home,  
the work of Christmas is begun: **Refrain**
- 2 To find the lost and lonely one,  
to heal the broken soul with love,  
to feed the hungry children with warmth and good food,  
to feel the earth below, the sky above! **Refrain**
- 3 To free the prisoner from all chains,  
to make the powerful care,  
to rebuild the nations with strength of good will,  
to see God's children everywhere! **Refrain**
- 4 To bring hope to every task you do,  
to dance at a baby's new birth,  
to make music in an old person's heart,  
and sing to the colours of the earth! **Refrain**

### Scripture Readings

Isaiah 60:1-6

Matthew 2:1-12

## Reflection "Finding Light in Unexpected Places"

### Hymn Of the Day **Bathe Me in Your Light** (More Voices 82)

*Words: John Oldham, 2002; Music: Ron Klusmeier, 2002*

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- 1 Bathe me in your light,  
O God of All, Creator;  
let it shine upon my soul  
with healing and with grace.  
Be to me a beacon bright  
through shadows of life's wounding,  
showing me the way to live  
in faith, in your embrace.
- 2 Bathe me in your love,  
O Source of Awe and Wonder;  
help me walk the sacred path  
of harmony and peace.  
May I be attentive to  
the musings of your presence,  
drinking from the well of hope  
that brings the heart release.
- 3 Bathe me in your grace,  
O One of Spirit's longing;  
teach me of your gentle ways  
that fill the soul with strength.  
Guide me on the pilgrimage  
that leads to truth and wholeness,  
Fill me with your promise of  
a love that knows no length.

### Invitation to Offering

Offering Music    The Jesus Gift

*by Hal Leonard*

Choral Response    **What Can I Do?** (More Voices 191)

*Words and Music: Paul Rumbolt and Michele McCarthy; arr. Alan C. Whitmore, 2005*

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What can I do?  
What can I bring?  
What can I say?  
What can I sing?  
I'll sing with joy.  
I'll say a prayer.  
I'll bring my love.  
I'll do my share. *Repeat*

Offering Prayer

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayers

The Lord's Prayer

Parting Hymn    **Arise, Your Light is Come**  
(Voices United 79)

*Words: Ruth Duck, 1974; Music: William H. Walker 1872*

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1    Arise, your light is come!  
The Spirit's call obey;  
show forth the glory of your God,  
which shines on you today.

2    Arise, your light is come!  
Fling wide the prison door;  
proclaim the captive's liberty,  
good tidings to the poor.

3    Arise, your light is come!  
All you in sorrow born,  
bind up the broken-hearted ones  
and comfort those who mourn.

4    Arise, your light is come!  
The mountains burst in song!  
Rise up like eagles on the wing;  
God's power will make us strong.

Commissioning and Benediction

Go now, as seekers of light and bearers of hope.

**We go to follow the Christ star wherever it leads.**

May the blessing of God – the Creator, the Christ, and the Spirit  
of Light – go with you and remain with you always. Amen.

Postlude

March of the Three Kings

*Stewart Landon, based on a 13th century French Carol*

Guest Worship Leader – Rev. Mark Collins  
Music Leadership – Sharon Prindle-Collins and the CBUC Choir  
The Life and Work of the Church – Atholl Malcolm  
Scripture Reader – Margaret Chambers  
Greeters – Willa Burke and Blyth Hughes  
Technical Support – Louise Johnston and Melissa Nagy  
Fellowship Time – Andy and the Queens of Caffeine