



Home By
Another Way
Epiphany

January 2, 2022

Prelude

Welcoming

Lighting the Christ Candle

Jesus Christ is the light that shines in the shadows of life, who bursts like sunshine through clouds of sadness, whose presence changes gloom into gladness.

We light our Christ Candle rejoicing that the presence of God is with us this morning.

Call to Worship

We come to this place—
each of us on our own path.

The path is winding,
and the path is not always clear,
and the path changes,
but we are here.

God is walking us home.
What a gift it is to not walk alone.
Let us worship Holy God.

Opening Hymn: As with Gladness Men of Old

(Voices United 81, vs. 1 - 3)

Words: William Chatterton Dix ca. 1858, alt.

Music: Conrad Kocher 1838; adapt. William H. Monk 1861; desc. Alan Gray 1920

- 1 As with gladness men of old
did the guiding star behold,
as with joy they hailed its light,
leading onward, beaming bright,
so, most gracious Lord, may we
evermore your splendour see.
- 2 As with joyful steps they sped,
to that lowly manger bed,
there to bend the knee before
Christ, whom heaven and earth adore;
so may we with eager pace
ever seek your throne of grace.
- 3 As they offered gifts most rare
at that manger crude and bare,
so may we with holy joy,
pure and free from sin's alloy,
all our costliest treasures bring,
Christ, to you, our heavenly King.

Scripture Readings

Hebrew Scripture (Old Testament): Isaiah 60:1-6

Christian Scripture (New Testament): Ephesians 3:8-12

Gospel Reading: Matthew 2:1-12

Reflection: Encounters with Mystery (*Bill*)

Hymn of the Day: What Child Is This (Voices United 74)

Words: William Chatterton Dix ca. 1865

Music: English melody, 16th century; harm. Attrib. John Stainer 1871

- 1 What child is this, who laid to rest,
on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet
while shepherds watch are keeping?

Refrain This, this is Christ the King,
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud,
the Babe, the Son of Mary!

2 Why lies he in such mean estate
where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here
the silent Word is pleading. *Refrain*

3 So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh;
come, one and all, to own him.
The King of Kings salvation brings;
let loving hearts enthrone him. *Refrain*

Prayers for Others & Ourselves

The Lord's Prayer

Parting Hymn: Born in the Night, Mary's Child (Voices United 95)

Words: Geoffrey Ainger 1964, alt.

Music: Geoffrey Ainger 1964; harm. Richard D. Wetzel 1972

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1 Born in the night, Mary's Child,
a long way from your home;
coming in need, Mary's Child,
born in a borrowed room.

2 Clear shining light, Mary's Child,
your face lights up our way;
light of the world, Mary's Child,
dawn on our darkened day.

3 Truth of our life, Mary's Child,
you tell us God is good;
yes, it is true, Mary's Child,
shown on your cross of wood.

4 Hope of the world, Mary's Child,
you're coming soon to reign;
saviour of all, Mary's Child,
walk in our streets again.

Benediction

Today, we journeyed from afar to see this child whom we call Lord and Saviour.

By the light of that same star that lit the way of magi and shepherds, Jesus has appeared to us, in an epiphany of hope, peace, joy, and love.

In faith, we have worshipped him.

Like the magi of old, may we always seek the guiding light of Christ's presence as we live and serve day by day. Amen.

Postlude

Worship Leaders – Bill Cantelon and Nancy Walker

Music Leader – Michael Denton

Welcoming – Stephen Godfrey

Scripture Reading – Sue Christensen

Technical Support – Sam Boehner and Jiemei Li