JANUARY 3, 2021

The Epiphany of the Lord

We are still celebrating the season of Christmas, and today we celebrate the feast of the Epiphany. ‘Epiphany’ means ‘manifestation’ or ‘appearance’ or ‘discovery’—a revelation that changes our lives. Epiphanies are gifts from God as God collaborates with our desire for new growth. The event of the Epiphany revolves around the ‘appearance’ of Christ to the Magi, who were pagans and Gentiles (non-Israelites). They see the star, and it draws them to Christ. This event opens up our understanding of salvation with a profound insight: salvation radiates outward from within Israel and draws the entire world back in as God’s own. The star is the natural beauty of this world that shines in Israel with such supernatural radiance that it draws these pagan Magi from what they were doing and redirects them to worship and adoration of the true God.
“Spiritus Est Qui Vivificat.”

It is the Spirit Who gives Life.

Gathering - The First Nowell

The First Nowell, the angel did say, Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
In fields as they lay, keeping their sheep, On a cold winter’s night that was so deep.

Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Born is the King of Israel.

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.

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.

Text & music: Traditional English Carol

verse 3
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

to refrain

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Gloria – A Christmas Gloria

Verse 1
Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will.
We praise you, we bless, we adore you, we glorify you,
We give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King,
O God almighty Father.

Verse 2
Lord Jesus Christ, only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. to refrain

Verse 3
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen. to refrain

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LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Scripture - Isaiah 60:1–6
Darkness covers the earth, and heavy clouds hang over the people. But the light has come, and the glory of the Lord shines brightly.

Second Scripture - Ephesians 3:2–3a, 5–6
In Christ Jesus, Gentiles and Jews are co-heirs of the family fortune and co-sharers in the family promise. Finally, this mystery of God’s love is revealed by the Spirit.
Gospel Acclamation - *Christmastime Alleluia*  
James Chepponis © 1997 by GIA Publications

We have seen his star, his star in the east, And have come to adore Christ the Lord.

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**Gospel – Matthew 2:1–12**

The magi from the east follow the star until it stops still over the house. They enter, finding the Child with Mary, prostrate themselves in homage and give Him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

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**Nicene Creed**

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

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**Prayer of the Faithful – Lord, Hear Our Prayer**
LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Preparation of Gifts

Preface Dialogue

Eucharistic Acclamations - Mass of Creation  
Marty Haugen

HOLY


MYSTERY OF FAITH


AMEN


LAMB OF GOD

Communion - We Three Kings


Mission Forth - Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

Text: Christopher Wordsworth. Tune: Jakob Hintze

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