



# The Liturgy of the Word

The Epiphany

January 3, 2021 • 10:00 a.m.

The Episcopal Diocese of Fort Worth

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*The people's responses are in bold.*

## The Entrance Rite

*The people stand as able.*

PROCESSIONAL HYMN • 119      *As with gladness men of old*      P 7 leaflet

### THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

Alleluia! We have observed his star at its rising, and have come to worship him.

**Alleluia! Almighty God,  
you led the Wise Men  
by the shining of a star  
to find the Christ,  
the Light from Light,  
lead us also in our pilgrimage,  
to find Christ. Amen.**

### THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid:

Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### HYMN OF PRAISE • S-280

**Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.**

**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.**

# The Word of God

## THE COLLECT FOR THE DAY

God be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

O God, by the leading of a star you manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: Lead us, who know you now by faith, to your presence, where we may see your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

*The people are seated.*

## THE FIRST READING

**Isaiah 60:1-6**

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.

The Word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14**

- 1 Give the King your justice, O God, \*  
and your righteousness to the King's son;**
- 2 That he may rule your people righteously \*  
and the poor with justice.**
- 3 That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, \*  
and the little hills bring righteousness.**
- 4 He shall defend the needy among the people; \*  
he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.**
- 5 He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, \*  
from one generation to another.**
- 6 He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, \*  
like showers that water the earth.**
- 7 In his time shall the righteous flourish; \*  
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.**
- 10 The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay tribute, \*  
and the kings of Arabia and Saba offer gifts.**
- 11 All kings shall bow down before him, \*  
and all the nations do him service.**
- 12 For he shall deliver the poor who cries out in distress, \*  
and the oppressed who has no helper.**
- 13 He shall have pity on the lowly and poor; \*  
he shall preserve the lives of the needy.**
- 14 He shall redeem their lives from oppression and violence, \*  
and dear shall their blood be in his sight.**

## THE SECOND READING

**Ephesians 3:1-12**

This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles— for surely you have already heard of the commission of God’s grace that was given to me for you, and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow-heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God’s grace that was given to me by the working of his power. Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

The Word of God for the people of God.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*The people stand as able at the introduction of the hymn.*

HYMN AT THE SEQUENCE • 128

*We three kings*

P 8 leaflet

## THE HOLY GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Matthew (2:1-12).

**Glory to you, O Christ.**

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, ‘Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.’ When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, ‘In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: “And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.” ’

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, ‘Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.’ When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure-chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*The people are seated at the invitation of the homilist.*

## THE HOMILY

*A moment for silent reflection follows the homily.*

The Rev. Allison Sandlin Liles

## THE NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father.**

**Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again  
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.**

**We 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 worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the Prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Presider* Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Almighty God, grant that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. We pray for Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, the Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church; Scott, our bishop; and for all bishops, ministers and lay leaders. Christ, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace, especially Donald, our president; Joe, our President-elect; Greg, our governor; and Betsy, our mayor; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. Christ, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory. Christ, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. We pray for 4Saints Episcopal Food Pantry, Eastside Ministries, and other non-profits that care for your beloved. Christ, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

Joy of human hearts, heal our human communities, especially those where your word is not heard, or where neglect, violence, greed, and warfare increase the suffering and need of people and other creatures. Protect and guide those who serve in the military, and those who are first responders. Christ, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

Comforter of all the earth, bless those worshiping with us today and any looking for a place to belong; sustain the people of who need your presence and help especially those we now name \_\_\_\_\_. Christ, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom. Christ, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

## THE CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Let us pray also for the forgiveness of our sins.

**Have mercy upon us, most merciful God;  
in your compassion forgive us our sins,  
known and unknown,  
things done and left undone;  
and so uphold us by your Spirit  
that we may live and serve you in newness of life,  
to the honor and glory of your Name;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

*Celebrant* And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, together we pray,

*All*     **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 trespasses,  
          as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
          but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
          and the power, and the glory,  
          for ever and ever. Amen.**

#### THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be always with you.  
**And also with you.**

#### THE BLESSING

And the blessing of God Almighty, Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier,  
be upon you and remain with you forever. **Amen.**

#### THE DISMISSAL

Let us go forth rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.  
**Thanks be to God.**

#### POSTLUDE

1 As with glad - ness men of old did the guid - ing star be - hold;  
 2 As with joy - ful steps they sped to that low - ly man - ger - bed;  
 3 As they of - fered gifts most rare at that man - ger rude and bare;  
 4 Ho - ly Je - sus! ev - ery day keep us in the nar - row way;  
 5 In the heaven - ly coun - try bright, need they no cre - a - ted light;

1 as with joy they hailed its light, lead - ing on - ward, beam - ing bright;  
 2 there to bend the knee be - fore him whom heaven and earth a - dore;  
 3 so may we with ho - ly joy, pure and free from sin's al - loy,  
 4 and, when earth - ly things are past, bring our ran - somed souls at last  
 5 thou its light, its joy, its crown, thou its sun which goes not down:

1 so, most gra - cious Lord, may we ev - er - more be led to thee.  
 2 so may we with will - ing feet ev - er seek the mer - cy - seat.  
 3 all our cost - liest trea - sures bring, Christ! to thee, our heaven - ly King.  
 4 where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glo - ry hide.  
 5 there for ev - er may we sing al - le - lu - ias to our King.



1 We three kings of O - ri - ent are, bear - ing  
2 Born a King on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I  
3 Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I: in - cense  
4 Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a  
5 Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise, King and



1 gifts we tra - verse a - far, field and foun - tain,  
2 bring to crown him a - gain, King for ev - er,  
3 owns a De - i - ty nigh; prayer and prais - ing,  
4 life of gath - er - ing gloom; sor - rowing, sigh - ing,  
5 God and Sac - ri - fice; heaven sings al - le -



1 moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.  
2 ceas - ing nev - er o - ver us all to reign.  
3 glad - ly rais - ing, wor - ship him, God Most High.  
4 bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the stone - cold tomb.  
5 lu - ia: al - le - lu - ia the earth re - plies.

*Refrain*

O star of won - der, star of night,

star with roy - al beau - ty bright; west - ward lead - ing,

still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - fect light!

The image shows a musical score for a vocal piece. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff for the vocal line and a bass clef staff for the piano accompaniment. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The vocal line has lyrics: "still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - fect light!". The piano accompaniment provides harmonic support with chords and moving lines.

*The stanzas may be sung by three soloists: 1 and 5 by the ensemble; 2-4 by individuals; and the refrain by all.*

Words: John Henry Hopkins, Jr. (1820-1891), alt. Music: *Three Kings of Orient*, John Henry Hopkins, Jr. (1820-1891)

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