



EPIPHANY

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EPIPHANY

WINNETKA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

JANUARY 7, 2024

GATHERING

PRELUDE

We Three Kings

WELCOME

QUIET MEDITATION

CHORAL INTROIT

Noble Magi

Travel through the desert sand, journey to a distant land.
Why so long and why so far, simply guided by a star?
Noble magi worn and wise, looking into midnight skies.
Why so long and why so far, simply guided by a star?
Where do they go?

Caravan of camels cross the desert wild.
Eastern sages lead them on, searching for the child.
Bearing precious treasure, incense, myrrh, and gold;
Honoring the newborn King, prophecy foretold.
Guiding star, it moves no more; stops beside an open door;
Welcoming the wise men three, who worship Christ on bended knee.
And then they go.

LIGHTING OF THE CHRISTMAS WREATH

Isaiah 60

Arise, Jerusalem, and shine like the sun;
the glory of the Lord is shining on you!

Other nations will be covered by darkness,
but on you the light of the Lord will shine.

Nations will be drawn to your light,
and kings to the dawning of your new day.

Look around you and see what is happening:
your people are gathering to come home!

They bring with them silver and gold
to honor the name of the Lord,
the holy God of Israel!

Come, let us worship the newborn King!

CAROL 143 | STANDING

Angels, From the Realms of Glory

OPENING PRAYER | STANDING

Though we are slow to see the signs of your presence –

Lord Jesus, be born in us today.

Though we get distracted on the journey –

Lord Jesus, be born in us today.

Though we arrive with cluttered minds and weary hearts –

Lord Jesus, be born in us today.

As we kneel before you,
with Mary and Joseph,
with shepherds and magi,
with angels and archangels –

**Lord Jesus, receive our thanks and praise,
and be born in us today.**

Amen.

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King!
Let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of glory,
you sent Christ Jesus among us to be the light of the world
revealing your love for all people.
We confess that our sins hide the brightness of your glory,
and dim the light that should shine through us.
Forgive us for wasting our gifts,
ignoring people's cries for justice,
and harming the earth you love.
In your mercy,
cleansing us and make us new.

Silence is kept for personal confession.

Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE



WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

GOSPEL

Matthew 2:1-12

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Men Needing Direction
Rev. Paul Gilmore

CAROL | STANDING

As With Gladness Sages Bold



1. As with_ glad - ness sa - ges bold did the guid - ing
2. As with_ joy - ful steps they sped to that low - ly
3. As they_ of - fered gifts most rare at that man - ger
4. Ho - ly_ Je - sus, ev - 'ry day keep us in the



star be - hold; as with_ joy they hailed its light,
man - ger bed, there to_ bend the knee be - fore
plain and bare, so, may_ we this ho - ly day,
nar - row way; and when earth - ly things are past,



lead - ing on - ward, beam - ing bright, so, true Morn - ing
One whom heav'n and earth a - dore, so, may we, with
drawn to you with - out de - lay, all our cost - liest
bring our ran - somed souls at last where they need no



Star, may we ev - er - more your splen - dor see.
will - ing feet ev - er seek your mer - cy seat.
treas - ures bring, Christ, to you, from whom they spring.
star to guide, where no clouds your glo - ry hide.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE 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.

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST | STANDING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

CAROL | STANDING

Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart, and soul, and voice;
Now you need not fear the grave:
Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all
to gain the everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save!
Christ was born to save!

BIRTHDAYS AND CELEBRATIONS

THANKSGIVING

CENTSABILITY OFFERING / OFFERING

*After the offering is gathered, all stand and sing
as the bread and juice are brought to the table.*

CAROL | STANDING

Bring We the Frankincense of Our Love



1. Bring we the frank - in - cense of our love to the
2. Bring we the myrrh of hu - mil - i - ty to the
3. Ev - er se - cure in God's change - less - ness, though the



feet of the ho - ly Child, _____ ev - er re - mem - ber - ing
throne of the Son of God, _____ ev - er re - call - ing the
king - doms of earth may fall, _____ bring we the gold of our



God's great gift of a love that is un - de - filed, _____
pur - i - ty of his life when the earth he trod, _____
faith - ful - ness to the King who is Lord of all, _____



Ho - ly the In - fant and ho - ly the mo - ther and ho - ly and



pre - cious the gifts that we bring, Praise to Cre - a - tor and



praise to the Spir - it, and praise to Christ Je - sus our King. _____

INVITATION TO THE TABLE | STANDING

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING | STANDING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

God, our creator -

for every star in the sky,

we praise you;

for all the different ways you lead us to your Son,

we praise you;

for the dreams you place in our hearts,

we praise you;

for the joy of knowing we are loved,

we praise you.

We praise you, O God,

that in the fullness of time

you sent Jesus to be Immanuel, God-with-us.

At his birth,

the night sky lit up

with heavenly hosts and a shining star,

guiding shepherds and magi to the manger.

Through his teaching and example,

he continued to draw all people

to the light of your love.

And when the darkness of the cross and grave

threatened to extinguish the light,

he overcame death,

for he is the light of the world, shining still.

And so, with all the heavenly hosts we praise you as we sing...

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er, and
 God of might. Hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry!
 O bless - ed is the One who comes in God's own name
 Ho - san - na in the high - est! We praise you, God!

Gracious God,
 pour out your Holy Spirit
 upon these gifts of bread and wine,
 that the bread we break and the cup we bless
 may be a communion of the body and blood of Christ.
 In this feast, make us one with you
 and with each other.
 Fill us with your Spirit,
 that we may be united in ministry in every place.
 Send us, in your marvelous light,
 into the world,
 to serve others and work for peace
 until that day when we see at last the vision of eternal splendor
 for which you have created us.
 Through Jesus Christ our Lord,
 in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
 we worship you, O God, in songs of everlasting praise.

Amen.

The congregation is seated.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION

*All are welcome at the Lord's Table.
Please come forward by the center aisle to receive communion.
Once you have received, please return by the side aisles,
placing your cups in the baskets provided.*

The bread of life ... **Thanks be to God or Amen**
The cup of salvation ... **Thanks be to God or Amen**

COMMUNION CAROL

What Child Is This?

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

Why lies he in such mean estate, where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christians, fear: for sinners here the silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spears, shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you.
Hail, hail the Word made flesh, the Babe, the Son of Mary!

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh, come peasant, king, to own him;
the King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise the song on high, the virgin sings her lullaby.
Joy, joy for Christ is born, the Babe, the Son of Mary!

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Loving God,
from east and west,
from north and south,
you have gathered us at your table,
feeding us with the bread of life
and the cup of salvation.
Through this holy sacrament,
transform us into your body,
filled with your Spirit,
serving you and our neighbors
with great joy.
Amen.

SENDING

CAROL 136 | STANDING

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

CHARGE AND BLESSING | STANDING

POSTLUDE



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Information about weekly Bible studies and small groups can be found in your weekly email or at winnpres.org. Sign up at winnpres.org to receive our weekly email.

ROSE ON COMMUNION TABLE

Congratulations to John and Nancy Person on the birth of their granddaughter, Lindsey Harriet Van-Person, born December 30 to Robert and Jennifer Person.



OFFERING

You can financially support the ministry of WPC in one of the following ways:

- Scan this QR code.
- Place your offering in the collection plate.
- Give online at winnpres.org/give-online.

NEW WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY BEGINNING!

All women are invited to the new Bible study, beginning on January 13 at 10am. Our guide for will be *Into the Light Finding Hope Through Prayers of Lament*. This timely study will help us understand what lament means to us as Christians. For more information, please contact Nancy Holly.

LOOKING FOR NEW READERS

We are always on the lookout for new voices to read scripture and/or lead prayers on Sunday morning. If you're interested, please contact Geoff Duffy.

ARE YOU FRIENDLY?

We need a few more people to join our team of greeters. Our greeters arrive 15 minutes early on Sunday and welcome people as they arrive at our front doors. If you're interested, please contact Geoff Duffy.

SERVING TODAY

Worship Leaders: Paul Gilmore, Geoff Duffy

Greeters: Nancy Holly

Lectors: River and Isaac Lewis

Prayer Leader: Ella Witt

Communion Elements: Annabelle & Ella Witt

Communion Servers: Ward Wilson,

Abby Thomsen, Kathy Fink

Musicians: Daniel Rausch, Kyra Kornfeld,

Shannon McMullen

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COVER ART

The icon on the cover of the bulletin is by Polist artist, Anna Makac.

WINNETKA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1255 Willow Road | Winnetka, IL 60093 | 847-446-7777 | office@winnpres.org | www.winnpres.org

Rev. Paul Gilmore, Pastor | paul@winnpres.org

Geoff Duffy, Director of Music, Associate Director of Worship | geoff@winnpres.org

Nancy Holly, Director of Children's Ministry, Youth Coordinator | nancy@winnpres.org

Greg Hartfield, Custodian | greg@winnpres.org

Madeline Weston, Director of Office Management Ministries | office@winnpres.org

Rev. Phyllis Beattie, Parish Associate

