



SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS
JANUARY 3, 2021
SERVICE OF EPIPHANY

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
HILTON HEAD ISLAND, SC

*We are Disciples of Jesus.
Growing in Faith, Serving our Community and Connecting Others to Christ.*

✝ **This is Christ's church. There is a place for you here.** ✝

This Sunday

We welcome Pastor Bruce Booher who will be preaching and presiding over Communion virtually. We are so thankful he has chosen to be with us for a number of upcoming Sundays, as we await the arrival of Pastor June Wilkins in February.

A Service for the Day of Epiphany

The opening dialogue is based on the Tribus miraculis ornatum, an ancient Latin text remembering the three traditional revelations of Epiphany: the magi following a star to Jesus, the baptism of Jesus, and the miracle of water turned to wine.

✝ GATHERING ✝

Gathering Music *Angels We Have Heard on High*

[Presented by the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians.

Look for Tami Kuhlmann who is one of the singers.]

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QwKRKDLBNFo>

Welcome + Announcements

EPIPHANY DIALOGUE

The dialogue is to be spoken responsively:

We give thanks on this holy day, adorned with epiphanies:

for the star that led the magi to the manger,

that the nations may see the light of Christ;

for the water turned to wine at Cana's wedding,

that the people taste the goodness of the Lord;

for the baptism of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Jordan,

that the Christ would save us all.

This is the day that the Lord has made,

we will rejoice and be glad in it. Alleluia.

Opening Hymn

O Morning Star How Fair and Bright

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fj1COyzrf54>

GREETING

God who sent the Light into our world,
God who shone in the Bethlehem manger,
God who spreads the Spirit's rays, be with you all.
And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Everlasting God, the radiance of all faithful people, you brought the nations to the brightness of your rising. Fill the world with your glory, and show yourself to all the world through him who is the true light and the bright morning star, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

✠ WORD ✠

The First Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6

Jerusalem is assured that nations will make a pilgrimage to her because the light of God's presence is in her midst. The bountiful food of the sea and the profits of international trade will come streaming to Jerusalem and thereby declare God's praise.

¹Arise, shine; for your light has come,
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

²For darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples;
but the LORD will arise upon you,
and his glory will appear over you.

³Nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

⁴Lift 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.

⁵Then 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.

⁶A 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.

Holy Wisdom. Holy Word.

Thanks be to God.

The Second Reading: Ephesians 3:1-12

What had been hidden from previous generations is now made known through the gospel ministry of Paul and others. In Christ both Jews and Gentiles participate in the richness of God's promised salvation.

¹This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles—²for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, ³and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, ⁴a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. ⁵In 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: ⁶that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

⁷Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. ⁸Although 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, ⁹and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; ¹⁰so 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. ¹¹This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹²in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

Holy Wisdom. Holy Word.

Thanks be to God.

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 2nd chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Matthew 2:1-12

God's promise shines bright in the night as magi follow a star to honor a new king. Strangers from a faraway land, they welcome the long-awaited messiah of Israel.

¹In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ²asking, "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." ³When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

⁶'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.' "

⁷Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then 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." ⁹When 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. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On 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. ¹²And 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.

SERMON

Hymn of The Day *Christ Be Our Light- ELW #715*
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7Y5N6oxIKH0>

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Guided by the star, together with the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

O Splendor of God's glory, shine your radiance within our world. Remove the barriers that divide us, and teach us to love with all our might. Lead us, O God:
lead us by your light.

True Dawn from on high, set us free from the power of guilt and grave. Shine your light in our lives and grant us your grace. Lead us, O God:
lead us by your light.

O living Spring of light from light, renew the strength of all who suffer: the poor, the sick, and those who mourn, especially the Alex & the family of Barbara Kasten. Lead us, O God:

lead us by your light.

Compassionate God, you fill the hungry with good things and send the rich away empty. Nourish those who lack access to adequate food and nutrition, especially our daily guests at the Little Food Pantry and our weekly guests at the Thursday Lunch Break. Encourage others to provide for their neighbors in need. Lead us, O God:

lead us by your light.

Healing God, you pour out mercy to all who cry out to you. Surround everyone in need of healing in body, mind, or spirit with your tender presence especially Ron and Beth Ann, Bill Putrino, all living with chronic illnesses, and all recovering from illness or injury. Lead us, O God:

lead us by your light.

Holy Lifegiver, we lift up all celebrating birthdays this week, especially ----. May your Spirit continue to nurture all celebrating wedding anniversaries and sustain the faith of all celebrating baptismal anniversaries, especially----. May these milestones of our living fill us with gratitude for all good gifts, and remind us that you go with us every step of the way. Lead us, O God:

lead us by your light.

God of light, into your hands we place all for whom we pray, trusting in your radiant mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

EPIPHANY LITANY: *Epiphany is the day in the liturgical calendar that the church traditionally celebrates the coming of the Three Kings, the "Wise Men" who*

paid homage and gave costly gifts to the Christ Child. We also celebrate the manifestation, or revelation, of Christ to non-Jewish people.

Oh God, as the magi of old traveled great distances and expended great effort to acknowledge the coming of Christ the King, so we acknowledge this great epiphany:

Christ has come. Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

All of our hopes are bound up in the person of Jesus Christ. We could not hope for better news than His gospel.

To Christ we offer our most profound gifts:

talent

effort

time

attention;

In certainty that what we offer will be put to good use, woven into the fabric of Christ's completed work.

And this is the work Christ has done and is doing: awakening in us and in the earth the Kingdom of God -- that good kingdom, that Promised Land, present and unseen, now and not yet, revealed and mysterious.

May our gifts be as pleasing to you as gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And may we continually renew our understanding and awe of the coming and work of Christ Jesus.

Amen

✝ MEAL ✝

OFFERING

While we are in these Zoom meetings, we will provide a time for worshipers to prepare an offering to be mailed in, to go to our website to make a contribution, or take time to pray and consider how God is calling each of us to share our resources with the church and the world.

Thank You! *for all your offerings and gifts given to CLC and to the wider church this week. Your generosity is the fuel for our ministry in this place.*

Visitors *in our worship today are encouraged to go to our website <https://clchhi.org/> and send us an email letting us know you were worshipping with us today. If we can support you in any way, please share your need with us.*

If you have not already done so, use this time to finish setting your home table for communion.

Offering Music

Silent Night -CLC Bell Choir Dolce Jubilo

<https://youtu.be/FvseTTQMIEU>

OFFERING PRAYER

Gracious God,
you came to us as one unknown,
bringing joy and salvation to the earth.
Nourish us at your banquet table,
that with all who welcome your birth
we may proclaim your peace,
revealed in Jesus Christ, our Savior.
Amen.

Dialog

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Eucharistic Prayer for Epiphany

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:
Blessed are you for the birth of creation.
Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.
Blessed are you for your promise to your people.
Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.
In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup
we remember your Word dwelling among us,
full of grace and truth.

We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.

We look with hope for his coming.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit.

Come among us.

Bless this meal.

May your Word take flesh in us.

Awaken your people.

Fill us with your light.

Bring the gift of peace on earth.

Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours,

Holy One of Israel,

Word of God incarnate,

Power of the Most High,

one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,**

**on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

Invitation to the Table

The light of Christ came into our world and shines in the darkness.
Come now to feast at Christ's table.
Thanks be to God.

Distribution of Communion

After the pastor says: "The body of Christ given for you, all at home may commune those in their household. Then the pastor will say, "The blood of Christ shed for you" and all may share the wine at home.

✠ SENDING ✠

Prayer after Communion

O Lord, you look upon us in love and refresh our souls through the gifts of bread and wine. Send us out, reflecting the light of your grace, to tell the story of Jesus Christ, our bright morning star.
Amen.

BLESSING

Beloved children of God, what came into being in Christ was life, and the life was the light of all people.
The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.
The light of Christ shine on you with grace and mercy and fill you with joy and peace. (*John 1:1, 3-5*)
Amen.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace, guided by the light of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

SENDING SONG *Celtic Blessing*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F50YoGQfbSA&feature=youtu.be>

[This song is performed by Tami and David Kuhlmann as a song of encouragement for the congregation as we go forward “CLC Strong” in mission and ministry. The photo is from Tower Beach on December 21 longest night, where several CLC families gathered following Advent Vespers.]



Presiding Minister – Pr. Bruce Booher
Assisting Minister – Tami Kuhlmann & Susie Fidler
Zoom Producer for January – David Kuhlmann
Curator of our Music Offerings – Tami Kuhlmann
Altar Guild – Joyce Prange
Baker of the Communion Bread – Doris Stickel

From sundaysandseasons.com.

Copyright © 2020 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SB155588.

New Revised Standard Version Bible, Copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Revised Common Lectionary, Copyright © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts, admin Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission.

“Epiphany Dialogue” text: traditional, adapt. Zebulon M. Highben.

Bright and glorious is the sky” (LBW 75). Text © 1958 *Service Book and Hymnal*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Some of the prayers of intercession are based on the text of “O Splendor of God’s glory bright” (ELW 559). Text © 2000 Augsburg Fortress.

From sundaysandseasons.com.

“Epiphany Litany” from A COLLECTION OF LITANIES FROM FRAN PRATT