

THE EPIPHANY

MORNING PRAYER



JANUARY 2 AT 9:00 A.M.

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader Arise, shine, for your light has come,
People *and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.*

Leader For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples;
People *but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you.*

Leader Nations shall come to your light,
People *and kings to the brightness of your dawn.*

Leader The people who walked in darkness
People *have seen a great light;*

Leader Those who lived in a land of deep darkness,
People *on them light has shined.*

Leader Let us celebrate the Light of the world,
People *for upon us the Light has shined.*

Officiant Jesus said, "You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one lights a lamp to put it under a bucket, but on a lampstand where it gives light for everyone in the house. And you, like the lamp, must shed light among your fellow men, so that they may see the deed you do, and give glory to your Father in heaven." *Matthew 5:14-16*

COLLECT FOR EPIPHANY

Officiant 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 Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

THE FIRST LESSON: ISAIAH 60:1-6 (*please be seated for the readings*)

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 the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 72:1-7,10-14 (*read responsively*)

- 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 HOLY GOSPEL: MATTHEW 2:1-12 (*please remain standing*)

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People *Glory to you, Lord 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.
People *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

O STAR-FLINGING GOD: AN EPIPHANY PRAYER— *written by Glenn Mitchell*

O Star-flinging God,
whose light dances across eternity,
dazzle us into your presence
this new year.

Open our hearts to the mystery of your love.
Awaken us to your presence,
knit to the ordinary.
Reveal to us what is possible, but not yet present.
Heal us, that we might be healers.
Reconcile us to you and to ourselves,
that our living might be reconciling.
Stop us often, we pray
with news that is good
with hope that holds
with truth that transforms with a Word
tailored to this trail we're on.

May the word of your grace guide our steps
like the sun by day
and the north star by night,
as we travel into the gift of a new year. Amen.

THE NICENE CREED (*please stand*)

BCP 358

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. (*pause*)

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.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He 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 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 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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *(The leader and people pray responsively)*

On this day when peoples from afar came to worship Jesus the Lord, let our prayer be as wide as the world. Let us say to the Father: *Let the light of Christ shine on all people.*

That the light of Christ may shine on all nations far and near and that the Church may welcome them with the diversity of their cultures. In the Diocesan and Anglican cycle of prayer we pray for St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Shippensburg and the Province of the Anglican Church of the Congo. Let us pray to the Lord,
Let the light of Christ shine on all people.

That in our day justice may flourish and peace come to all of the world. We pray for Joe, our President; Tom, our Governor; Danene, our Mayor; and those serving in the Armed forces. Let us pray to the Lord,
Let the light of Christ shine on all people.

That God's people may hear the poor when they cry, have pity on the weak and open their hearts and hands to the needy. We pray especially for Amy Swiernik, Angelica, Carl, Chase, Dave Pennell, Emily Lavender, Ken Kiedrowski, Tiny Nolan, Kathy, Mary Ellen, Sandra Grove, Paula Wolf, Rich Hartley, Karan, Eric, and Doris. Let us pray to the Lord,
Let the light of Christ shine on all people.

That all who look for a star to guide them may discover the goodness of the Lord in people full of faith and love, let us pray to the Lord,
Let the light of Christ shine on all people.

That in our Christian communities we may learn, like the wise men, to share the treasures of our goods and hearts, let us pray to the Lord,
Let the light of Christ shine on all people.

Officiant Lord our God, we rejoice that you have become near to us in Jesus your Son. Let him be the light of life now and for ever. *Amen.*

A COLLECT FOR SUNDAYS

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

A COLLECT FOR GUIDANCE

Heavenly Father, in you we live and move and have our being: We humbly pray you so to guide and govern us by your Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget you, but may remember that we are ever walking in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

EPIPHANY BLESSING

May Almighty God, who led the Wise Men by the shining of a star to find the Christ, the Light from Light, lead you also, in your pilgrimage, to find the Lord. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

THE DISMISSAL

Celebrant Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia!
People *Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!*

POSTLUDE

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES AT ST. JOHN'S:

Today

9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer (online)

Monday, January 3

7:00 p.m. Ministries Council

Tuesday, January 4

1:30 p.m. Martha's Ministry

2:30 p.m. Food Pantry

5:00 p.m. VH Dance

6:30 p.m. Adult Forum (on zoom)

Wednesday, January 5

12:05 p.m. HE with Healing

7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

6:00 p.m. Auction Items drop off

Thursday, January 6

2:30 p.m. Food Pantry

Friday, January 7

9:00 a.m. Community Meal Prep

Weekly Support Ministries

AA: Tuesday 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

NA: Mon., Wed., & Fri. 12:00 p.m

New Office Hours: Monday: Office closed (staff is available for pastoral emergencies)
Tues-Thurs: 10:00 a.m. – 4 p.m. / Friday: 10:00 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Auction Collection: On Wednesday, January 5 from 6-8pm, items for the annual auction will be collected. This will be repeated on Wednesday, January 12, also from 6-8pm. Please park in the lot and meet a Stewardship Committee member at the Courtyard Entrance. In addition, collection will also take place from 9:00am-10:15am and 11:15am-11:45am on Sunday, January 9th. Committee members will still meet you in the Courtyard Entrance foyer, but only park in the lot if you are donating particularly large items. All items will be stored in the undercroft. If donating heavy items, please consider bringing help as there will often only be one committee member there to assist you.

Auction Goes Live: The auction will run from January 18th-January 24th. A link will be shared through email as soon as it goes live. This same link will be available to the general public. In order to bid, you will need to register with Proxibid, but that will be an automatic prompt if you show interest in a particular item.

St. John's Traveler Letter: Connecting us to our siblings in Christ across the world

Did you know St. John's has a team of pilgrims who travel every week to the very places we pray for in the Anglican communion? Follow John as he shares a little bit about the church and the places he visits!

Dear Pastor Amanda,

Happy New Year! Today I'm writing to you from Kinshasa, the capitol of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and headquarters of this week's prayer for the Anglican Church of the Congo. This is a busy city, right on the shores of the Congo River which, while not the world's longest river, is by far the world's deepest – several times as deep as St. John's is tall!

The Democratic Republic of the Congo is one of the largest countries in the world but has suffered plenty at the hands of former colonizers and corrupt Presidents. More recently, it had a peaceful election in 2018 and has seen its unique form of rumba music travel around the globe. You should check in out on Youtube!

Later today, I'm headed to a memorial service to remember the life of Archbishop Desmond Tutu, an Anglican leader from South Africa, who died last week. While he was just over five feet tall, he had a heart that was full of love and a voice that called for the end of Apartheid, a system which segregated black people from white people in South Africa. He joined with Nelson Mandela to end this terrible thing in 1991 and won the Nobel Peace Prize for his work.

He even came to Pennsylvania – Archbishop Tutu spoke at McCaskey High School right here in Lancaster in 1998 and then again in Harrisburg in 2006! I remember seeing him speak – short man, high voice, telling us all that no matter what, “God loves you!” May we all hope to keep that love for others in our hearts, for both our friends as well as our enemies.

He is a personal hero of mine, and all of us here in Kinshasa are sad to see him pass on. But even so, we remember his words about the God that brought us here to church today – “He loves you!”

See you next week in Chile!

John



WELCOME

Welcome to St. John's Episcopal Church. We are glad you are here. Please tell us a little bit about yourself by clicking the QR Code or by filling out a pew card and placing it in the offertory plate.

OUR MINISTERS

All Baptized Members

The Rt. Rev. Audrey C. Scanlan, Diocesan Bishop

The Rev. Amanda Knouse, Rector
amanda@stjohns-lancaster.org

The Rev. Matt MacDougall, Associate Rector
matt@stjohns-lancaster.org

The Rev. Stacey Catigano, Deacon
scatigano@gmail.com

VESTRY

Webb Cook (Senior Warden), Leslie Morgan (Junior Warden),
Debbie Carter, John Gouveia, Annie Lattanzio-Hale, Tim Huber,
Molly Moyer, Marylee Sauder, Mary Waskowicz, Joe Way

STAFF

Gina Keiser, Financial Secretary
Richard Kuhn Sr., Sexton
Douglas Beach, Minister of Music

PRIESTS AND CANONS ASSOCIATED WITH ST. JOHN'S

Canon William F. Honaman, DHL
The Rev. Faith D'Urbano
The Rev. Elizabeth Mollard

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