

# The Epiphany / Holy Innocents

January 8 2023 + 4pm



Image: [Kelly Latimore](#)



*Beloved companions in the Spirit -  
Come as you are offering our lives  
in the beautiful struggle of faith...*

# **We Gather**

## **Opening Loop / Tolling of the Bells**

**Announcements & Land Acknowledgement & Land  
Welcome in ləkʷəŋən from elder Butch Dick**

### **Opening Words**

In our search for deliverance from all that destroys life,

**God draws us into the heart of Love.**

Guiding us through lands unknown,

**God companions us on the journey.**

With the Holy as our guide,

**we will encounter Christ enfleshed.** enfleshed.

### **Opening Prayer / Collect**

Mysterious One, throughout the ages you have been revealing yourself in new ways, drawing us more deeply into relationship with you. In Christ, you took on flesh that we might recognize your presence with us - weeping with us, eating with us, struggling and dreaming with us. Keep us open, O God, to the ways you continue to reveal your love in our midst today.

**Amen.**

### **Opening Song: Beautiful Star of Bethlehem**

Oh beautiful star of Bethlehem

Shining far through shadows dimmed

Giving the light for those who long have gone

Guiding the wise men on their way

Unto the place where Jesus lay

Oh beautiful star of Bethlehem shine on

*Chorus* Oh beautiful star (beautiful, beautiful star)

Of Bethlehem (star of Bethlehem)

Shine upon us until the glory dawns

Give us a lamp to light the way

Unto the land of perfect day

Oh beautiful star of Bethlehem shine on

Oh beautiful star the hope of light

Guiding the pilgrims through the night

Over the mountains 'till the break of dawn

Into the land of perfect day - It will give out a lovely ray

Oh beautiful star of Bethlehem shine on. *Chorus*

(A.L. Phipps) The Stanley Brothers - 1964.

## **We Proclaim**

**The Psalm** (*Chanted*) - **Psalm 67** *Wil Gafney translation.*

May God be merciful to us and bless us,\*  
Show us the light of her countenance and come to us.  
Let your ways be known upon earth,\*  
your saving health among all nations.  
Let the peoples praise you, O God\*  
let all the peoples praise you.  
Let the nations be glad and sing for joy\*  
for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the nations  
upon earth.  
Let the peoples praise you, O God;\*  
let all the peoples praise you.  
The earth has brought forth her increase;\*  
may God, our own God, give us her blessing,  
May God give us her blessing,\*  
and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe of her.

### **A reading from the prophet Isaiah**

(60:1-6,11, Wil Gafney translation)

Arise daughter; shine daughter;  
for your light has come, daughter  
and the glory of the Holy One has risen upon you, daughter.  
For - watch now daughter- bleakness shall cover the earth,  
and thick bleakness the peoples;  
and upon you daughter, the Holy One will arise,  
and over you, daughter, God's glory will appear.  
Nations shall come to your light, daughter,  
and monarchs to the brightness of your dawn daughter.  
Lift your eyes round about daughter,  
and see; all of them gather,  
they come to you daughter;  
daughter, your sons shall come from far away,  
and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses hips.  
Then daughter, you shall see and be radiant;  
your heart, daughter, shall tremble and swell,  
because the abundance of the sea  
shall turn towards you daughter,  
the wealth of the nations shall come to you daughter.

A multitude of camels shall cover you daughter-  
young camels of Midian and Ephah  
- all those from Sheba shall come.

They shall bring gold and frankincense,  
and shall proclaim the praises of the Holy One.

"Your gates shall always be open daughter;

day and night they shall not be shut, so that nations shall bring  
you their wealth daughter, being led by their monarchs

...The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

*You are invited to rise in body or in spirit as we prepare our  
hearts to hear the Gospel.*

## Gospel Acclamation:

fiddle

[A] Lord, to whom shall we go? [C] Lord, to whom shall we go? \_\_\_\_\_

[A] You are gra-cious and merc - i - ful. [C] Lord, to whom shall we go? \_\_\_\_\_

[A] Slow to an - ger and a-bound-ing in love. [C] Lord, to whom shall we go? \_\_\_\_\_

[A] Lord, to whom shall we go? [C] Let us trust in your word. \_\_\_\_\_

## The Gospel

Let us proclaim the gospel from the rooftops!

**With our words and with our lives!**

A reading from the Gospel according to Matthew

Matthew 2: 1-18 - Wil Gafney translation

Now Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of King Herod; suddenly sages from the East came to Jerusalem, ~ asking, "Where is the one born king of the Judeans? For we have seen his star at its ascent and have come to reverence him?" When King Herod heard this, he was shaken, and all Jerusalem with him. Then calling together the chief priests and religious scholars of the people, he inquired of them where the

Messiah would be born. They said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for it has been written by the prophet:

"And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, by no means are 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 sages and learned from them the time that star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go, search diligently for the child, and when you have found him bring me word so that I may also go and revere him."

When they had heard the king, they left, and there suddenly was the star that they had seen at its ascent going before them until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they rejoiced, their joy was exuberant.

On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother and they fell down and revered him.

Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they returned home by another road. When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the magi, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the magi. Then what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled:

"A voice was heard in Ramah,  
wailing and loud lamentation,  
Rachel weeping for her children;  
she refused to be consoled, because they are no more."

Let us proclaim the gospel from the rooftops!

**With our words and with our lives!**

### **Gospel Acclamation:**

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia.

*Silence for meditation. Bell / Silence / Bell*

*You are invited to rise in body or in spirit as we proclaim the ancient story of our faith.*

**Credo**

I believe in God, the Maker Almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth;  
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heav'n,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Maker.  
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,  
The communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,  
+The resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. A---men.  
Ryan Flanigan/ Liturgical folk, alt./ CCLI

**Our Prayers****Chivonne Graff****Confession and Assurance**

Lord Jesus, illuminate the bleakness in our hearts:  
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**  
Lord Jesus, open our eyes to your saving love:  
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**  
Lord Jesus, unstop our ears to hear your living word:  
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.** Church of England, alt.

*Bell. Silent Prayer of confession. Bell.*

God who is with us, draw us in and cleanse us of our sins so  
that we might journey in the light of the Word Made Flesh,  
Jesus Christ our Redeemer. **Amen.**

**The Peace**

Christ is our peace. If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation. The old has passed away: behold, everything has become new. Beloved in Christ. The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

*We exchange the peace with a gesture.*

*During this next 'offertory' song, the table is set.*

*You are welcomed (now, or later) to place any financial contributions to our common life in the vintage record player in the back of the worship space. Cheques can be made out to 'The Emmaus Community'. Charitable receipts will be issued if you leave us your address.*

## **Offertory Song: The Coventry Carol**

*Refrain:* Lully, lulla, thou little tiny child  
By by, lully, lullay, thou little tiny child  
By by, lully lullay

O sisters too, how may we do  
For to preserve this day  
This poor youngling  
For whom we do sing  
By by, lully lullay?

Herod, the king  
In his raging  
Charged he hath this day  
His men of might  
In his own sight,  
All young children to slay

That woe is me  
Poor child for thee!  
And ever morn and day,  
For thy parting  
Neither say nor sing  
By by, lully lullay!  
*public domain.*

# We Celebrate

## Prayer Over The Gifts

Holy One, in a spirit of awe we offer these gifts. For you have led us to Love, invited us to linger in its presence, and promised us that no matter where we go, Love will go with us. May these offerings also be swept up into the embrace of Love to be channeled in the direction of all who hunger for your presence.

**Amen** enfleshed.

## The Communion/Holy Eucharist

God is shining upon you!

**And God's light streams upon you!**

Open your hearts.

**We open them to the brilliance of God.**

Let us give thanks for the light and love of God!

**We praise our Creator with joy and thanksgiving!**

Worship and praise belong to you, God our maker. For out of nothing, you called the world into being, and still, you draw Creation to its fulfillment. Day and night celebrate your glory until time shall be no more. And we, your children made of clay, know your enkindling love in this place.

In Christ, you have revealed yourself to the world. By the guiding of a star, you made him known to the nations as the son of David and king of Israel; that in following him, we might be led from the depths of shadows out into his marvelous light.

As children of your redeeming purpose who celebrate the manifestation of your Son, we offer you our praise and thanks. And so, with angels and archangels, and the whole Creation, we sing the hymn of your unending glory:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,**

**Heaven and earth of your glory are full**

**Hosanna Hosanna Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. X2**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,**

**Heaven and earth of your glory are full**

**Hosanna Hosanna Hosanna in the highest. X2**

Steve bell / Signpost Music / CCLI



Glory and thanks be to you, triune God. In Jesus the Messiah you have come to us to be our God-with-us. Having revealed yourself in the babe, Jesus, your Kingdom of Justice and Love has been born in our midst. The Light has come! The blind receive sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, and the captives are set free. And your people are called and entrusted with your unfolding work.

On the night before Jesus died, when some were plotting to extinguish the Holy Light, a sacred meal was shared between friends. And at this table, with the warmth of love and light, Jesus took bread and blessed it, and with his blessing, renewed the Divine Glow among his followers. As he broke the bread, he reminded them to eat in remembrance of him.

Later that same evening, Jesus took the cup. He blessed it and invited his friends to taste from the cup of grace. “Do this, as often as you drink of this,” he said, “for the remembrance of me.”

Responding to your invitation, we enter this sacred meal. Recalling the life, death, resurrection and ascension of your Christ, we look for the Kingdom to unfurl in our midst. Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this bread and this wine, that, overshadowed by his life-giving Light, we may enter this Holy Feast and become your hands and feet in our world. Kindled with the fire of your love, we anticipate your New Creation, where all Creation shall worship you, Triune God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

*Scottish Episcopal Church - 2016, Rev. Michelle L. Torigian - 2019, Alt.*

## **The Prayer of Jesus**

As beloved children of a loving parent let us pray:

**Our Father (Mother/Source) 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.**

*Silence is kept.*

These are the gifts of God, for the people of God, given for the life of the world. **Thanks be to God! Amen.**

*All are welcome to receive at Jesus' table! The bread is gluten-free. It may contain dairy and/or almond flour. If you'd like a dairy or nut free option, please let the presider know. Juice is in the small cups. Wine is in the common cup, please do not dip the bread into the cup.*

### **Communion Song: The Refugee King**

Away from the manger they ran for their lives  
The crying boy Jesus, a son they must hide  
A dream came to Joseph, they fled in the night  
And they ran and they ran and they ran

No stars in the sky but the Spirit of God  
Led down into Egypt from Herod to hide  
No place for his parents no country or tribe  
And they ran and they ran and they ran

Stay near me Lord Jesus when danger is nigh  
And keep us from Herods and all of their lies

I love the Lord Jesus, the Refugee King  
And we sing and we sing and we sing x2 Hallelujah

CD Baby (on behalf of Liz Vice Music, LLC); CD Baby Pro (Publishing), BMI - Broadcast Music Inc., ASCAP, Polaris Hub AB, and 5 Music Rights Societies / CCLI

### **Communion Song: May You Find A Light**

Lost and weary traveler, searching for the way to go.  
Stranger, heavy-hearted, longing for someone to know.

May you find a light. May you find a light.  
May you find a light to guide you home.

There are weary travelers, searching everywhere you go.

Strangers who are searching, longing deeply to be known

John Arndt and David Gungor © 2011 The Brilliance and The Flyer (BMI) and Integrity's Praise! / CCLI

## **We Are Sent**

### **Prayer after Communion**

Lord God, the bright splendour whom the nations seek: may we who with the Magi have been drawn by your light discern the glory of your presence in your Son, the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** *Church of England, Alt.*

## **Blessing**

### **Closing Song: The First Noel**

The first Noel the angel did say  
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay  
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep  
On a cold winter's night that was so deep  
Refrain: Noel Noel Noel Noel - 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. *refrain.*

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. *refrain.*

This star drew nigh to the northwest  
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest  
And there it did both stop and stay  
Right over the place where Jesus lay. *refrain.*

Then entered in those wise men three  
Full rev'rently upon the knee  
And offered there in His presence  
Their gold and myrrh and frankincense. *refrain.*

Then let us all with one accord  
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord,  
Who has made heaven and earth of nought,  
And with his blood salvation bought. *Refrain.*

*Traditional English carol/ Public Domain.*

## **Sending**

Go now as light into the world!  
**Thanks be to God! Alleluia!**

## **Closing Announcement Loop**



Refugees: La Sagrada Familia - Kelly Latimore Icons

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