



11:15 AM Worship ▪ January 6, 2019 ▪ Epiphany of the Lord Sunday

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\*GATHERING SONG *Joy to the World (Unspeakable Joy)*

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REGISTRATION OF ATTENDANCE

*Please register your attendance using the black pads found on the aisle end of the pew. We use this information to welcome our guests, and to invite you to events in our Wesley Community. We do not share your personal information, and consider it a privilege to extend Christ's welcome.*

\*PRAISE SONG/GREETING *Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee*

CHILDREN'S TIME

Children are invited to go with Miss Kathi & others to Room 28 downstairs for Children's Church.

PRAYER SONG *Adore*

SILENT PRAYER

*(Praying in silence can be a powerful way to encounter God. You are invited to take the next few moments to offer the prayers of your heart and mind to God.)*

PASTORAL PRAYER

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 forever. Amen.**

PRAYER SONG *Adore*

- LET US BE OPEN -

SCRIPTURE READING DRAMA: Matthew 2:1-12

SERMON *Guide Us to Thy Perfect Light*  
Reverend Sara Isbell

- LET US BE WILLING -

OFFERING *Follow the Light*

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

*In the United Methodist Church, the Table is open to all who accept Christ's invitation. The congregation will come forward at the invitation of the ushers, to receive the bread and cup by intinction (dipping) and return to their seats by the side aisle. Gluten-free bread is available at the pastors' serving stations.*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

The prophet speaks of the coming light of God which calls all the people of the earth to come together in God's realm of shalom. Let us confess the ways in which we have rejected God's vision of wholeness: **God of light and darkness, we have seen the glimmer of your star-light beckoning to us, but we have turned away and followed other paths. We confess that we have not loved you with all our heart, with all our soul, with all our mind, and with all our strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not loved ourselves. Forgive us, Holy One. Strengthen our faltering steps and guide us in your holy way of peace. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON:

Lift up your eyes and see the grace of God poured out into your lives. **The light of God shines through the darkness. Our hearts rejoice for Christ is in our midst.**  
([ruminari.wordpress.com/2008/01/02/prayer-of-confession-epiphany/](http://ruminari.wordpress.com/2008/01/02/prayer-of-confession-epiphany/))

HOLY COMMUNION

PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING

**Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.**

\*CLOSING SONG *Go, Tell It on the Mountain*

\*BENEDICTION AND INVITATION TO COVENANT RENEWAL

\*Please Stand As You Are Able



*Epiphany*

OF THE LORD SUNDAY

Wesley United Methodist Church

Services of Worship

January 6, 2019

Nine O'Clock & Quarter Past Eleven

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It is the mission of Wesley United Methodist to make and nurture disciples for Jesus Christ.

GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE AND WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REGISTRATION OF ATTENDANCE

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- LET US PRAISE GOD -

PRELUDE *Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern* - Manz  
(O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright)

\*CALL TO WORSHIP:

O Come, Let us Adore Him, Christ the Lord!  
**The Star in the dark sky heralded His Coming.**

Led by the light of the Star, the Wise Ones came to pay homage.  
**We, too, come to the stable, seeking the infant King.**

Come, Arise! Shine! The Light has come.  
**God's Light of love is shining upon us.**

\*OPENING PRAYER

Loving God, who breaks through the darkness of doubt and despair, be with us this day as we hear of the visit of the Wise Ones, who risked everything to follow a Star. Let us open our hearts and be willing to risk receiving the gift of gracious Love that you have to offer us in the form of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

\*OPENING HYMN #254 *We Three Kings*

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: Christmas Affirmation

**We believe in God, the creator and giver of life, who brought all creation to birth, who mothers us and fathers us, protecting, nurturing, and cherishing us.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ: God born among us as a fragile baby, embodying both love and the need for love, and calling us to rest in God as trustingly as a tiny child.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, breathed into us at our birth, always drawing us on to be born again, encouraging, exhorting, comforting, nourishing our growth and inspiring our living.**

**We believe in the reconciliation of the world to God, through Christ. Hunted at birth and humiliated at death, Christ entered our fearful darkness so that we might enter his glorious light and share the life of his resurrection.**

**And we believe that each new child is a glimpse of the face of God, a sign of the life to come, and a call to live in peace and celebrate living together. Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth. Amen.**

(re-worship.blogspot.com/2011/11/christmas-affirmation-of-faith.html)

\*GLORIA PATRI #70

ANTHEM *The Wonder of the Star* - Fettke  
Chancel Choir

CHILDREN'S TIME

Children are invited to go with Miss Kathi & others to Room 28 downstairs for Children's Church.

- LET US BE HONEST -

CALL TO PRAYER #242 *Love Came Down At Christmas* - verse 1

SILENT MEDITATION

(Praying in silence can be a powerful way to encounter God. You are invited to take the next few moments to offer the prayers of your heart and mind to God.)

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER #895

**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 forever. Amen**

PRAYER RESPONSE #242 *Love Came Down At Christmas* - verse 3

- LET US BE OPEN -

SCRIPTURE READING DRAMA: Matthew 2:1-12

SERMON *Guide Us to Thy Perfect Light*  
Reverend Sara Isbell

- LET US GIVE AND RECEIVE -

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

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ASSURANCE OF PARDON:

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(ruminari.wordpress.com/2008/01/02/prayer-of-confession-epiphany/)

OFFERTORY *In The Beauty of His Holiness* - Berry  
The Amazon Women

COMMUNION MUSIC *At The Table of The Lord* - arr. Althouse  
*Great Is Thy Faithfulness* - arr. Althouse  
The Amazon Women

PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING

**Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.**

\*CLOSING HYMN #188 *Christ Is the World's Light* - verses 1 & 4

\*BENEDICTION AND INVITATION TO COVENANT RENEWAL

POSTLUDE *In Dir ist Freude* - J. S. Bach  
(In Thee is Gladness)

\*Please Stand As You Are Able

Call to Worship, Opening Prayer & Scripture Drama from [www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/4511/worship-connection-epiphany-sunday-2016](http://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/4511/worship-connection-epiphany-sunday-2016)

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Reverend Justin Iverson, Liturgist  
Andrew Johnson, Organist  
Todd Tucker, Pianist  
Brenna Martin, Hymn Singer  
Kathi Pritts, Children's Time

