



Reverend Alan Smith  
United Methodist  
Church of the Good Shepherd  
1500 Quentin Road,  
Lebanon, PA 17042  
717-272-7741 www.umcogs.org

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP   
*Celebration of Faith*



## JOYFUL JOURNEY

January 3, 2021

Epiphany Sunday

On the Web service

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PRELUDE

*Wie Schön leuchtet der Morgenstern*  
*(How Brightly Shines the Morning Star*

J. F. Greiss  
arr. Robert Gower

### CALL TO WORSHIP

from “*The Visit of the Magi—Epiphany Sunday*”,  
on The Calvin Institute of Christian Worship.

Liturgist: O come, let us worship the Lord and consider what wondrous things God has done:

**People: The Magi who study the heavens follow a guiding star!**

Liturgist: O come, let us worship the Lord and consider what wondrous things God has done:

**People: The peoples who live in the shadows see a glorious light!**

Liturgist: O come, let us worship the Lord and consider what wondrous things God has done:

**People: The Christ who embodies the Word unveils the hidden plan,  
making us joint heirs of the promise of salvation through the gospel!**

Liturgist: O come, let us worship the Lord,

**People: for God has done wondrous things!**

### HYMN

We Three Kings

# 254

1. We three kings of Orient are;  
bearing gifts we traverse afar,  
field and fountain,  
moor and mountain,  
following yonder star.

O star of wonder, star of light,  
star with royal beauty bright,  
westward leading, still proceeding,  
guide us to thy perfect light.

2. Born a King on Bethlehem's plain,  
gold I bring to crown him again,  
King forever,  
ceasing never,  
over us all to reign.

O star of wonder, star of light,  
star with royal beauty bright,  
westward leading, still proceeding,  
guide us to thy perfect light.

3. Frankincense to offer have I;  
incense owns a Deity nigh;  
prayer and praising,  
voices raising,  
worshiping God on high.

O star of wonder, star of light,  
star with royal beauty bright,  
westward leading, still proceeding,  
guide us to thy perfect light.

4. Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume  
breathes a life of gathering gloom;  
sorrowing, sighing,  
bleeding, dying,  
sealed in the stone-cold tomb.

O star of wonder, star of light,  
star with royal beauty bright,  
westward leading, still proceeding,  
guide us to thy perfect light.

5. Glorious now behold him arise;  
King and God and sacrifice:  
Alleluia, Alleluia,  
sounds through the earth  
and skies.

O star of wonder, star of light,  
star with royal beauty bright,  
westward leading, still proceeding,  
guide us to thy perfect light.

#### EPIPHANY CALL TO PRAYER

*written by Peter Haynes*

Light of Christ, awaken us this hour to the glory of your presence in our midst. Shine among us in such a way that the darkness without and within may be pushed back, such that we might truly see what is really real. Help us to recognize our sin for what it is. Enable us to behold the world as you created it to be, as you created us to be. Empower us to move from darkness to light, from sin to new life. May your light within us shine through into worship this day, as all days. This we pray in the name of the Word made flesh, the light which is the light of all people. Jesus Christ. Amen.

#### SCRIPTURE READING: *Matthew 2: 1-12*

Liturgist: The Word of God for God's people.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

#### DOXOLOGY

#236 – Stanza 6

*All glory be to God on high, and to the earth be peace;  
good will henceforth from heaven to earth,  
begin and never cease, begin and never cease. Amen*

#### Affirmation of Faith:

Word and Table Service I

page 7

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
Born of the Virgin Mary, 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 heaven,  
Is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and 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. Amen.

MESSAGE

*"You are An Epiphany"*

Pastor Alan Smith

HYMN

*O Little Town of Bethlehem*

# 230

1. O little town of Bethlehem,  
how still we see thee lie;  
above thy deep  
and dreamless sleep  
the silent stars go by.

Yet in thy dark streets shineth  
the everlasting light;  
the hopes and fears  
of all the years  
are met in thee tonight.

2. For Christ is born of Mary,  
and gathered all above,  
while mortals sleep,  
the angels keep  
their watch of wondering love.

O morning stars together,  
proclaim the holy birth,  
and praises sing to God the King,  
and peace to all on earth!

3. How silently, how silently,  
the wondrous gift is given;  
so God imparts to human hearts  
the blessings of his heaven.

No ear may hear his coming,  
but in this world of sin,  
where meek souls will  
receive him, still  
the dear Christ enters in.

4. O holy Child of Bethlehem,  
descend to us, we pray;  
cast out our sin, and enter in,  
be born in us today.

We hear the Christmas angels  
the great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us, abide with us,  
our Lord Emmanuel!

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

by Rev. Nancy J.

Pastor: Let us prepare our hearts for our approach to the table of our Lord.

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.

**People: God of light and darkness, we have seen the glimmer of your star-light beckoning to us, 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. Forgive us, Holy One. Strengthen our faltering steps and guide us in your holy way of peace. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor: Lift up your eyes and see the grace of God poured out into your lives.

**People: The light of God shines through the darkness. Our hearts rejoice for Christ is in our midst.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them up to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give our thanks and praise.

**People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Pastor: It is right, and a good and joyful thing.... And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**People: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Pastor: Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. Your Spirit anointed Him... And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith...

**People: Christ has died; Christ has risen; Christ will come again.**

Pastor: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts...  
...and now, with the confidence of children of God, let us pray:

**People: Our Father in heaven, hallowed by 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 for ever. Amen.**

#### SHARING OF THE BREAD AND THE CUP

#### FOLLOWING COMMUNION

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.

HYMN:

*Sing We Now of Christmas*

#237

WORDS: Trad. French carol (Lk. 2:8-20; Mt. 2:1-12)

Sing we now of Christmas,  
Noel, sing we here!  
Hear our grateful praises  
to the babe so dear.

Sing we Noel,  
the King is born, Noel!  
Sing we now of Christmas,  
sing we now Noel!

Angels called to shepherds,  
"Leave your flocks at rest,  
journey forth to Bethlehem,  
find the child so blest."

Sing we Noel,  
the King is born, Noel!  
Sing we now of Christmas,  
sing we now Noel!

In Bethlehem they found him;  
Joseph and Mary mild,  
seated by the manger,  
watching the holy child.

Sing we Noel,  
the King is born, Noel!  
Sing we now of Christmas,  
sing we now Noel!

From the eastern country  
came the kings afar,  
bearing gifts to Bethlehem,  
guided by a star.

Sing we Noel,  
the King is born, Noel!  
Sing we now of Christmas,  
sing we now Noel!

Gold and myrrh they took there,  
gifts of greatest price;  
there was never a stable  
so like paradise.

Sing we Noel,  
the King is born, Noel!  
Sing we now of Christmas,  
sing we now Noel!

## EPIPHANY BENEDICTION

posted on Liturgy Alive: Models of Celebration

Pastor: We have celebrated together that Jesus Christ came not only for Christians, but to be known by every person, every country, every culture on earth. For He is the Savior of all. May we come to know Him better and then make Him known to others, especially by the way we live. And may almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen**

Pastor: You are sent out into the world in the peace of Christ, walk in His light.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

*Personet Hodie*

Phil Lehenbauer

---

## SERMON OUTLINE

Pastor Alan Smith

*"You are an Epiphany"*

SCRIPTURES: Matthew 2:1-12; Ephesians 3:1-12

**"Epiphany"** – January 6<sup>th</sup> – a day that celebrates the revelation of the incarnation, to not only the Jew, but also the Gentile

Epiphanies – their revelations – their "Ah-hah!" moments in life.

Wise men, magi, tell their story, the story of their journey. Their words told the story of God's leading and intervention, not only in their lives, but in the world.

**You** are an epiphany...

Your story...

Your journey...

Your hope...

**A Blind man** Jesus in John 9 – **the unfolding of an epiphany..**

"The man who is called Jesus made clay...."(v.11)

"He is a prophet." (v.17)

"If this man were not from God, He could do nothing." (v.33)

"Who is He, Lord/Sir, that I may believe in Him?" (v.36)

"Lord, I believe!" (v.38)

**God's plans and activity** are revealed not only in our words, they are revealed in our journey.

**Learn to tell your story.**

Tell the story of our journey

Tell the Story of our Faith...

We tell the story of our ministry as a revelation of Jesus to the world..

Wise Men... The journey of Epiphany.

Blind Man... The witness of Epiphany

Paul... The ministry of Epiphany.

You?... YOU are an epiphany

Calendar for week of 1/3/21

**SUNDAY**

**8:30 - Drive In Worship [Parking Lot]**

9:45 - Contemporary live stream

9:45 - Sunday School [zoom]

11:00 - Traditional Worship [on the web]

6-8 - Youth Night

**MONDAY**

**TUESDAY**

**WEDNESDAY**

7:00 am - Prayer & Sacrament

7:00 pm—Celebrate Recovery

(contact Jason [jgillhoolley@gmail.com](mailto:jgillhoolley@gmail.com)

or Andrea [agillhoolley717@gmail.com](mailto:agillhoolley717@gmail.com) )

**THURSDAY**

**FRIDAY**

**SATURDAY**

7:00—Men's sm grp [zoom]

9:00 - Contemporary Worship Rehearsal

**6:00 - Drive In Worship [Parking Lot]**

**SUNDAY**

**8:30 - Drive In Worship [Parking Lot]**

9:45 - Contemporary [live stream]

9:30 - Sunday School [zoom]

11:00 - Traditional Worship on the web

6-8 - Youth

### **Service Participants:**

Rev. Alan Smith, Pastor  
Michael Roberts, Video  
Phyllis Conrad, Organist

### Liturgy Credits

- Call to Worship: “The Visit of the Magi”—Epiphany Sunday from The Calvin Institute of Christian Worship website.
- Epiphany Call to Prayer written by Peter Haynes; posted on the [Long Green Valley Church of the Brethren](#) website.
- A Service of Word and Table I; United Methodist Hymnal; © 1989 by The United Methodist Publishing House.
- Prayer of Confession: by Rev. Nancy J. from “Wonderings Through Life and Other Such Nonsense” website.
- Epiphany Benediction from Liturgy Alive: Models of Celebration

### MUSIC CREDITS

Prelude: *Wie Schön leuchtet der Morgenstern* composed by J.F. Greiss, arr. Robert Gower; ©2017 Oxford University Press.

Postlude: *Personent Hodie* composed by Phil Lehenbauer. © Phil Lenenbauer. Used by permission.

Hymn Introduction: *O Little Town of Bethlehem* composed by Janet Linker; © 1995 Bechenhorst Press, Inc.

All hymns from The United Methodist Hymnal; © 1989 by The United Methodist Publishing House.

- *We Three Kings*; Words and Music: John H. Hopkins, 1857
- *While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks*; Words: Nahum Tate; Music: *Harmonia Sacra*, 1812; arr. G.F. Handel, 1728.
- *O Little Town of Bethlehem*; Words: Phillips Brooks, ca 1868; Music: Lewis H. Redner, 1868.
- *Bread of the World*; Words: Reginald Heber, 1827; Music John S.B. Hodges, 1868.
- *Here, O My Lord, I See Thee*; Words: Horatius Boner, 1857; Music: Edward Dearle, 1874
- *Sing We Now of Christmas*; Words and Music: Traditional French Carol; Harmony by Martin Shaw 1928, © Oxford University Press.

All music and song texts used by permission of CCLI License #942435; Streaming by permission by CCLI License #20119367.