



January 05, 2025
10:30 a.m. Service
Traditional Worship

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Hymn of Praise – “We Three Kings” (UMH #254)

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.

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.

Frankincense to offer have I;
incense owns a Deity nigh;
Prayer and praising, voices raising,
worshipping 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.

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.

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.

Call to Worship:

Pastor: Like the Wise Men of old, we too come seeking the Lord Jesus.

People: We have come to inquire where we might find him.

Pastor: Follow the guiding light, and it will surely lead you to him.

People: What joy is ours, for we have found our King.

All: We will bow down and worship him.

Act of Praise – “Glory be to the Father” (UMH #70)

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.

Prayer for Epiphany

O God, you made of one blood all nations, and, by a star in the East revealed to all peoples him whose name is Emmanuel. Enable us who know your presence with us so to proclaim his unsearchable riches that all may come to his light and bow before the brightness of his rising, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

Scripture Lesson – Isaiah 60:1-6

Prayer of Confession

Dear God, you have come to us as a redeeming God. Wise Men of old followed your star and found their Savior. That star is also precious to us, but we have let it become a mere decoration, instead of your declaration of mercy. Forgive us for putting off the journey it beckons us to make. May we not only follow the star ourselves, but may we keep it shining brightly so that all may rise up and follow. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Prayer of Intercession

Extending the Peace of Christ

Choir

Offering

Doxology "Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow" (UMH #95)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise him, all creatures here below;

Praise him above, ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Hymn – "What Child is This" (UMH #219)

What child is this who, laid to rest,

on Mary's lap is sleeping?

Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,

while shepherds watch are keeping?

This, this is Christ the King,

Whom shepherds guard

and angels sing;

Haste, haste to bring him laud,

the babe, the son of Mary.

Why lies he in such mean estate

Where ox and ass are feeding?

Good Christians, fear, for sinners

Here the silent Word is pleading.

This, this is Christ the King,

Whom shepherds guard

and angels sing;

Haste, haste to bring him laud,

the babe, the son of Mary.

So bring him incense, gold and myrrh,
Come, peasant, king, to own him;
The King of kings salvation brings,
Let loving hearts enthrone him.

This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard
and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring him laud,
the babe, the son of Mary.

Sermon: “Pay Attention”

Text: Matthew 2:1-12

Sacrament of Holy Communion

UMH 218

For lo! The days are hastening on,
thy prophet seen of old,
When with the ever circling years
shall come the time foretold
When peace shall over all the earth
its ancient splendors fling,
And the whole world send back the song
which now the angels sing.

UMH 219

What child is this who, laid to rest,
on Mary’s lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
while shepherds watch are keeping?

UMH 220

Angels from the realms of glory,
wing your flight o’er all the earth;
ye who sang creations story
now proclaim Messiah’s birth:

Refrain:

Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the newborn King.

UMH 221

In the bleak midwinter,
frosty wind made moan,
earth stood hard as iron,
water like a stone;
snow had fallen, snow on snow,
snow on snow,
in the bleak midwinter, long ago.

UMH 229

Infant holy, infant lowly,
for his bed a cattle stall;
oxen lowing, little knowing,
Christ the babe is Lord of all.
Swift are winging angels singing,
noels ringing, tidings bringing:
Christ the babe is Lord of all.

UMH 230

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.

Hymn “Go, Tell It on the Mountain” (UMH #251)

Go, tell it on the mountain
over the hills and everywhere
Go, tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born
While shepherds kept their watching

O'er silent flocks by night
Behold throughout the heavens
There shown a holy light

Go, tell it on the mountain
over the hills and everywhere
Go, tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born

The shepherds feared and trembled
When lo! above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus
That hailed the Savior's birth

Go, tell it on the mountain
over the hills and everywhere
Go, tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born

Down in a lowly manger
The humble Christ was born
And God sent us salvation
That blessed Christmas morn

Go, tell it on the mountain
over the hills and everywhere
Go, tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born

Benediction

Pastor: Arise, and go forth to shine for all the world to see.

People: **We go to spread the good news of light and love, righteousness and justice.**

Pastor: Go now and follow the star that will guide you on your journey this week, this year, and forever.

People: **As the Magi of old, we go forth in trust and excitement, transformed in the presence of the child of light.**

Pastor: May the blessing of the God of light rest upon you and fill you with light.

All: **Amen.**

Congregational Response: Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus
Turn your eyes upon Jesus

Look full in his wonderful face
and the things of earth will grow strangely dim
in the light of his glory and grace.

Postlude/Dismissal

Today's Worship Leaders Include:

Choir Director: Roy Nelson
Scripture Reader: Jonathan Seamans
Acolytes: Liam Nelson and Vivian Scarlett

St. John's Staff

Lead Pastor - Rev. Brad Leight
Pastoral Associate - Ruth Portzline, CLM
Director of Children's Ministries – Rev. Megan Berkebile
Director of Youth and Family Ministries - John-Thomas (JT) Crockett
Director of Music Ministries - Roy Nelson

Contemporary Worship Leader, Keyboard Accompanist - Alissa Nelson
Church Administrator - Lou Lescas
Office Clerical Coordinator - Holly Gray

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