



Worship with Communion Epiphany Sunday

VIDEO: Participate on any device at 10AM on January 3
go.mysjec.com/facebook or go.mysjec.com/youtube
You can watch the videos at any time after their premier.

Welcome! We're glad you chose to worship with us today!

♪ Earth Has Many A Noble City

Earth has many a noble city; Beth'l'hem, thou dost all excel:
out of thee the Lord from heaven came to rule his Israel.

Fairer than the sun at morning was the star that told his birth,
to the world its God announcing seen in fleshly form on earth.

Eastern sages at his cradle make oblations rich and rare;
see them give, in deep devotion, gold and frankincense and myrrh.

Sacred gifts of mystic meaning: incense doth their God disclose,
gold the King of kings proclaimeth, myrrh his sepulcher foreshows.

Jesus, whom the Gentiles worshiped at thy glad epiphany,
unto thee, with God the Father and the Spirit, glory be.

Words: Marcus Aurelius Clemens Prudentius (348-c413). Music: *STUTTGART*, 1715.

Celebrant 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!**

Celebrant 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!**

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

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

Celebrant O come, let us worship the Lord:

People **For God has done wondrous things!**

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

People God of new beginnings, open our hearts and minds to receive and give your love this year. Some of us come today with heavy hearts, yet hopeful. We thank you for the passion and lives of service of people who have gone before us. Walk with us through anger and fear and lead us to places illuminated by your grace and covenant. Help us to become like those who traveled from afar to visit the Christ Child: strong and persistent on the journey, generous beyond measure and wise when threatened by power. In the name of the Prince who is Peace, we pray. AMEN!

♪ Gloria, Gloria

Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, gloria, alleluia alleluia!

Words: Trad, adapt Taizé Community Music: Jacques Berthier ©1979 Les Presses de Taizé/GIA Publ. All rights reserved.

First Lesson

Reader A reading of Isaiah chapter 60, verses 1 through 6.

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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Unison Reading

Reader Let us read in unison Psalm 72, verses 1 through 7 and 10 through 14.

All Give the King your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the King's Son; that he may rule your people righteously and the poor with justice; that the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, and the little hills bring righteousness. He shall defend the needy among the people; he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor. He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, from one generation to another. He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, like showers that water the earth. In his time shall the righteous flourish; there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.

The rulers of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay tribute, and the rulers of Arabia and Saba offer gifts. All rulers shall bow down before him, and all the nations do him service. For he shall deliver the poor who cries out in distress, and the oppressed who has no helper. He shall have pity on the lowly and poor; he shall preserve the lives of the needy. He shall redeem their lives from oppression and violence, and dear shall their blood be in his sight.

Epistle

Reader A reading of Ephesians chapter 3, verses 1 through 12.

This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles-- for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel

Matthew 2. 1-12

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Celebrant 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.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon

Nicene Creed

Celebrant Let us join in the words of the Nicene Creed.

All 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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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!

Prayers of the People

Reader Sisters and brothers, our baptismal vows call us to compassion and mercy on behalf of those in need. We offer our prayers for the church and the world.

People **God of light and life, our prayers rise before you this day in hope and faith.**

Reader We pray for the entire Body of Christ, especially for the clergy and people of The Anglican Communion, The Episcopal Church, the Diocese of Fond du Lac, and St James Episcopal Church.

People **Flame of abundant love, be our joy in proclaiming your Good News to the world.**

Reader We pray for all who are coming to faith, all who wonder about faith, and all who are struggling with faith.

People **Light of all creation, guide us to lead, teach, and nurture your disciples.**

Reader We pray for those in need of food, shelter, clothing, and of God's healing touch.

People **Comforter of the suffering, warm our hands to loving service.**

Reader We pray for the world, especially where there is trouble and suffering, far away or nearby.

People **Ember of steadfast care, fuel our passion to challenge injustice and violence and to pursue peace and reconciliation.**

Reader We pray for the land on which we stand, the peoples, creatures, plant life, and waters around us.

People **Star blaze of glory, lead us to care for this fragile earth, our island home, and to heal the circle of creation.**

Reader We lift up the prayers of our church family. God of radiant light, your love illuminates our hopes before we know them, and our needs before we ask.

People **Kindle your flame within us, that in our prayers and service, we may know your transforming presence at work in the world around us.**

Reader For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

***People* Jesus, God with us, hear our prayer.**

Reader Almighty God, by your Holy Spirit you have made us one with your saints in heaven and on earth: Grant that in our earthly pilgrimage we may always be supported by this fellowship of love and prayer, and know ourselves to be surrounded by their witness to your power and mercy. We ask this for the sake of Jesus Christ, in whom all our intercessions are acceptable through the Spirit, and who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

***All* AMEN!**

Reader Let us confess our sins to God.

***All* God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. AMEN!**

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

***People* AMEN!**

Celebrant Let us join in prayer for all those who have celebrated or will be celebrating their birthdays.

***All* O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN!**

Celebrant Let us join in prayer for all those who have celebrated or will be celebrating their anniversaries.

All O God, you teach us through the example of Jesus that love is the fulfilment of the Law; help those couples celebrating anniversaries to persevere in love, to grow in mutual understanding, and to deepen their trust in each other; that in wisdom, patience and courage, their life together may be a source of happiness to all with whom they share it. AMEN!

Celebrant To all of you celebrating milestones: May the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be upon you to guide and protect you and all those you love, today and always!

All AMEN!

Passing the Peace

Celebrant The peace of Christ be always with you.

People And also with you.

Invitation to Communion

from the Iona Community, Scotland

Celebrant The table of bread and wine is now to be made ready. It is the table of company with Jesus, and all who love him. It is the table of sharing with the poor of the world, with whom Jesus identified himself. It is the table of communion with the earth, in which Christ became incarnate. So come to this table, you who have much faith and you who would like to have more; you who have been here often and you who have not been for a long time; you who have tried to follow Jesus, and you who have failed; come.

♪ The People Who in Darkness Walked

The people who in darkness walked have seen a glorious light;
on them broke forth the heavenly dawn who dwelt in death and night.

To hail thy rising, Sun of life, the gathering nations come,
joyous as when the reapers bear their harvest treasures home.

To us the promised Child is born, to us the Son is given;
him shall the tribes of earth obey, and all the hosts of heaven.

His name shall be the Prince of Peace forevermore adored,
the Wonderful, the Counselor, the Mighty God and Lord.

His power increasing still shall spread, his reign no end shall know;
justice shall guard his throne above, and peace abound below.

Text: John Morison, 1781, alt. Tune: *DUNDEE*, Thomas Ravenscroft, 1621.

Offering Our Gifts

Celebrant Gifts and offerings may be mailed to the church, dropped off in the church mail slot, or sent through your bank. There are also online giving options on our web site at mySJEC.com/donate. We are grateful for your continued financial support of our ministry and mission.

Celebrant Inspire us to always share your love through action, O God:

People **Strengthen us to always be an inviting safe community for all.**

Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

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

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Celebrant It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your son Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, reign - ing God of

pow'r and might, heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry,

all cre - a - tion seeks your light! Bles-sed is the one who

comes in your name. Bles-sed be the Lord most high!

Setting: PICARDY, French carol; arr Kimberly Bracken Long.

Celebrant We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take... eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen,
Christ the Lord will come again.

Setting: PICARDY, French carol; arr Kimberly Bracken Long.

Celebrant And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray to you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

A - - - men, a - - - men.

A - - - men, a - - - men.

Setting: PICARDY, French carol; arr Kimberly Bracken Long.

Celebrant As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,
All 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!

Breaking Bread

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
All Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

♪ We Will Take What You Offer

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We will take what you of - fer, we will live by your word; we will love one an -
 - oth - er and be fed by you Lord. We will take what you of - fer, we will
 live by your word; we will love one an - oth - er and be fed by you Lord.

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

The Celebrant gives the invitation to spiritual communion to all participating near and far.

People In union, O Lord, with the faithful at every altar of your Church where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. I present to you my soul and body with the earnest wish that I may always be united to you, and, since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself with you, and embrace you with all the love of my soul. Let nothing ever separate you from me. May I live in you, and may you live in me, both in this life and in the life to come. AMEN!

Celebrant Let us pray.

All Mysterious God, we thank you for feeding us with yourself, and for making yourself known to us in the holy child, Jesus the Christ. Let us carry within our hearts your Holy Spirit—that same Spirit which was in Jesus—so that we may help bring your Light, Peace, and Love to all the earth. We pray in the Name of Jesus, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. AMEN!

Blessing for Epiphany Season

Celebrant 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.

People Alleluia! AMEN!

Celebrant May God, who sent the Holy Spirit to rest upon the Only-begotten at his baptism in the Jordan River, pour out that Spirit on you who have come to the waters of new birth.

People Alleluia! AMEN!

Celebrant May God, by the power that turned water into wine at the wedding feast at Cana, transform your lives and make glad your hearts.

People Alleluia! AMEN!

Celebrant And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always.

People Alleluia! AMEN!

♪ As With Gladness Men of Old

As with gladness, men of old did the guiding star behold
 As with joy they hailed its light leading onward, beaming bright
 So, most glorious Lord, may we evermore be led to thee.

As with joyful steps they sped to that lowly manger bed
 There to bend the knee before him whom Heaven and earth adore;
 So may we with willing feet ever seek thy mercy seat.

As they offered gifts most rare at that manger rude and bare;
 So may we with holy joy, pure and free from sin's alloy,
 All our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to thee, our heavenly King.
 Holy Jesus, every day keep us in the narrow way;
 And, when earthly things are past, bring our ransomed souls at last
 Where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glory hide.

Words: William Chatterton Dix, c1858. Music: *DIX*, Conrad Kocher, 1838.

Sending

Celebrant Go forth bearing the Light of Christ to the world! Alleluia, alleluia!

People Thanks be to God! Alleluia, alleluia!



St James Episcopal Church, 434 North 8th Street, Manitowoc, WI 54220

If you have any questions, concerns, or pastoral needs, please call The Rev Diane M Murray, Rector: 920.860.5152

Thank you for your support! Gifts may be mailed to the church or sent through your bank.

There are also online giving options on our web site at mySJEC.com/donate.

January's special offering supports Painting Pathways Clubhouse—please label accordingly.