

Kincardine United Church

Epiphany

January 5th, 2025 11:00 a.m.

Bold print in the bulletin invites you to say the words.

Kincardine United Church

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PRELUDE Carol Sing

WELCOME

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND Bill Perry, Consecon PC
Carrying Place, Ont.

Since time immemorial, Indigenous peoples have lived on and cared for this land. As settlers we acknowledge this area as the traditional home of the Ojibwe nation. As a community of faith, we seek to rebuild right relations with the First Nations, Metis and Inuit peoples, to learn from them, and to live on this land, their land, with respect and gratitude for its creation and Creator. This is our commitment.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

May the peace of Christ be with you all

And also with you

GOD GATHERS US

INTROIT In Thee is Gladness

Marcel Dupre

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

Susan Likey, High River U.C., High River Alta

CALL TO WORSHIP Norah Laverty, St. Andrew U.C., Sioux Lookout,

ON (adapted)

We have just come through the seasons of Advent and Christmas when we received the gifts of hope, peace, joy, love and Jesus, the son of God.

The magi gave gifts to Jesus and in return received the gift of a dream that led them on a new path.

What gifts, material and spiritual, are we willing to give? What gifts from God are we willing to receive? Are we willing to bring the gifts of Jesus with us into worship today and into the new year ahead.

Come let us give it a try.

OPENING PRAYER Sally Tuffin, St. Paul's U.C., Prescott, Ont.

***HYMN** I Am the Light of the World VU #87

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Norah Laverty, St. Andrew's U.C., Sioux Lookout, ON

When the magi needed a new path, God sent them a dream. When you need a new path, God will send you dreams and inspiration too. This is God's promise. Will you open your heart and mind to receive it? In the silence of our hearts, let us share with God our longings and our challenges, and the places in our lives where we need new paths:

Silent prayer

O Generous God,
 as we look back on the year just passed, we know that we missed paths you were opening to us, perhaps because we were overwhelmed or afraid; perhaps because we did not have enough hope, peace, joy and love. May the courage and wisdom of the magi be ours in this new year.

SHARING TIME

THE LORD'S PRAYER (sung) (*Voices United #960*):

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, the power and the glory, for ever and ever.
 Amen.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION Wendy MacLean, Brockville, Ont

RESPONSIVE PSALM #72 VU #790

HYMN We Three Kings of Orient Are
 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.**

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 2:1-12

The Visit of the Magi

2 In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, magi^[a] from the east came to Jerusalem, **2** asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star in the east^[b] and have come to pay him homage.” **3** When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him, **4** and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah^[c] was to be born. **5** They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it has been written by the prophet:

6 ‘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^[d] my people Israel.’ ”

7 Then Herod secretly called for the magi^[e] and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. **8** 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.” **9** When they had heard the king, they set out, and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen in the east,^[f] until it stopped over the place where the child was. **10** When they saw that the star had stopped,^[g] they were overwhelmed with joy. **11** 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. **12** And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

DOXOLOGY #321 (*verse 4*) “*Maker in Whom We Live*”

Eternal Triune God, let all the hosts above,
let all on earth below, record and dwell upon your love.
When heaven and earth have fled before your glorious face,
may all the saints your love has made sing everlasting praise.

REFLECTION

GOD INVITES US TO RESPOND

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

ANTHEM We Are Marching in the Light of God South African Song

OFFERING INVITATION

PRAYER OF DEDICATION Bob Root, Peterborough, Ont.

CLOSING HYMN Arise, Your Light Has Come VU #79

BENEDICTION Kate Gregory, while at Belwood-Metz P.C., Belwood, ON

SONG OF COMMITMENT VU #37 "Gloria"

Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia.

POSTLUDE Siyahmaba

John Behnke
