

Welcome to Worship

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

February 1, 2026



The season of Epiphany is considered to be a season of Light. It begins with the arrival of the Magi who follow a great light in the heavens that they might come to worship Jesus, a light in the darkness. Epiphany ends with Jesus on a mountaintop being “transfigured” in the presence of three of his closest disciples. Jesus’ face shone like the sun, his clothes became bright as light, and God pronounced his favor and blessing upon Him.

The Gospel lessons in Epiphany focus upon Jesus calling the disciples, inviting them to “come and see” and to “follow me.” As they step out and accept the Lord’s invitation, they begin to discover what it means to walk in the light of the Lord.

These next two Sundays, Deacon Joanne and Pastor Dave will share Scriptures and a sermon message that speak of their personal journeys as disciples, seeking to walk in the Lord’s presence. May these reflections inspire you in your own faith journey as a follower of our Lord Jesus Christ!

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Lord God, in the chill and dark of winter we are waiting and longing.

We are looking for you to come into our world!

We are seeking light.

In our lives ... **we are seeking light.**

In our neighborhoods ... **we are seeking light.**

In our families ... **we are seeking light.**

In our work ... **we are seeking light.**

In our nation ... **we are seeking light.**

In our world ... **we are seeking light.**

In our hearts ... **we are seeking light.**

Lord Jesus, you are the Light of the World.

Fill our lives with your light today! Amen.

GATHERING SONG: “O God of Mercy, God of Light”

ELW 714

GREETING:

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

Almighty God, draw our hearts to you. Guide our minds, fill our imaginations, control our wills, so that we may be wholly yours. Use us as you will, always to your glory and the welfare of your people; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

FIRST READING: Philippians 4:4-9

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵ Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸ Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹ As for the things that you have learned and received and heard and noticed in me, do them, and the God of peace will be with you.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 121

¹ I lift up my eyes to the hills—
from where will my help come?

² **My help comes from the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.**

³ He will not let your foot be moved;
he who keeps you will not slumber.

⁴ **He who keeps Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep.**

⁵ The Lord is your keeper;
the Lord is your shade at your right hand.

⁶ **The sun shall not strike you by day
nor the moon by night.**

⁷ The Lord will keep you from all evil;
he will keep your life.

⁸ **The Lord will keep
your going out and your coming in
from this time on and forevermore.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: *ELW Setting 10, page 205*



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

GOSPEL: John 15:5-11

The Holy Gospel according to John the 15th Chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

⁵“I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. ⁷If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

⁹“As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commands and remain in his love. ¹¹I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON SONG: “Dearest Jesus at Your Word”

ELW 520

SERMON

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth,

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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,
He is seated at the right hand of the Father,
And he will come 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.

PRAYERS:

Lord God, in the chill and dark of winter we are waiting and longing.
We are looking for you to come into our world!

We long for your light.

We pray for your light.

Where there is sorrow,
we pray for the light of your grace.

Where there is sickness,
we pray for the light of your healing.

Where there is despair,
we pray for the light of your hope.

Where there is hatred,
we pray for the light of your forgiveness.

Where there is war,
we pray for the light of your love.

Where there is confusion,
we pray for the light of your peace.

Where there is injustice,
we pray for the light of your courage.

Where there is fear
we pray for the light of your joy.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Bring the light of your healing grace into our world. **Amen**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY:

*We give thee but thine own, Whatev'r that gift may be.
All that we have is thine alone, A trust O Lord from thee.*

GREAT THANKSGIVING:

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks & praise.



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

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 and ever. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

POST COMMUNION BLESSING:

Radiant God, we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. In the sacrament of his body and blood you have drawn us to your heart. Send us from this table with delight, that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love, and bear witness to all we have seen and heard, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

BENEDICTION:

The Lord bless you and keep you,
the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you,
the Lord look upon you with favor and give you his peace.

SENDING SONG: “Be Thou My Vision”

ELW 793

DISMISSAL: Go in peace, Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

Adapted from Sundays and Seasons.com.

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