

## Transfiguration Sunday After Epiphany – Feb. 15, 2026 10 a.m. Worship at Zion's Lutheran Church

**Welcome Friends and Guests:** Today's festival is a bridge between the Advent-Christmas-Epiphany cycle that ends today and the Lent-Easter cycle that begins in several days. On a high mountain Jesus is revealed as God's beloved Son, echoing the words at his baptism. This vision of glory sustains us as Jesus faces his impending death in Jerusalem. We turn this week to Ash Wednesday and our yearly baptismal journey from Lent to Easter. Some churches put aside the alleluia at the conclusion of today's liturgy. This word of joy will be omitted during the penitential season of Lent and will be sung again at Easter.

### Serving this Sunday:

Worship – Pastor Lisa Rygiel, Julie Wersal & Jody Alford

Musicians – Connie Pallone & Becky McNeil

Ushers – Jody Alford & Jo Moss

Communion – John & Lisa Rygiel



**Worship & Music:** In boundless diversity, we all are made in God's image! If you are visiting or new to our faith family, please sign our guest book and feel free to learn more about us. *Come back and worship each Sunday at 10 a.m.*

Large print bulletins are available from the ushers. We use both the cranberry book of Worship and the purple *All Creation Sings* hymnals as indicated in the bulletin.

**Communion:** We celebrate open communion. This is Christ's table, all are welcome. You may come forward for the sacraments or cross your arms across your chest for a blessing. Our bread is gluten free and both wine and white grape juice (center of communion tray) are available.

**Other:** Restrooms are in the Fellowship Hall; our ushers can direct you.

**Fellowship:** Please join us after worship today for coffee and conversation. All are welcome!

***Zion's Lutheran is a Reconciling in Christ (RIC) community.***

## ~Gathering~

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

### **Gathering of Prayers & Call to Worship**

Arise! Shine! The light you have been waiting for is here!

**Darkness has been banished!**

God's light of hope floods the earth

**God's light comes to us all.**

Lord, make us ready to journey to this Light.

**Prepare our hearts to receive this Light. Amen.**

### **Confession & Forgiveness**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, <sup>☩</sup> one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid, cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silent Reflection

Gracious God, **have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the <sup>☩</sup> Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

**Gathering Hymn: #671 (cranberry hymnal) Shine Jesus Shine**

### **Greeting**

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

**And also, with you.**

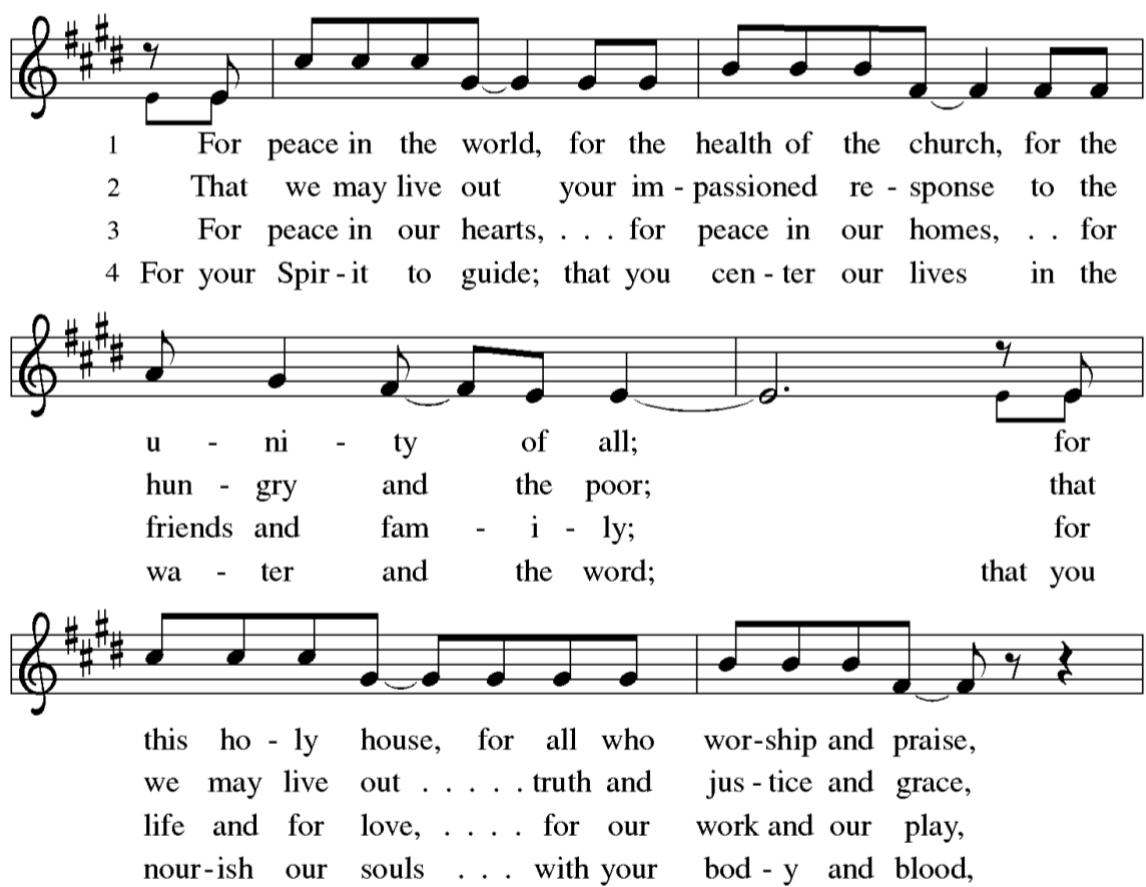
## Kyrie

*Refrain*



Ky-ri-e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.  
Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, ev-'ry day.

1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the  
2 That we may live out your im - pas-sioned re - sponse to the  
3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for  
4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the



u - ni - ty of all; for  
hun - gry and the poor; that  
friends and fam - i - ly; for  
wa - ter and the word; that you  
this ho - ly house, for all who worship and praise,  
we may live out . . . truth and jus - tice and grace,  
life and for love, . . . for our work and our play,  
nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,

*Refrain*



let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

## Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you. **And, also with you.**

O God, in the transfiguration of your Son you confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the witness of Moses and Elijah, and in the voice from the bright cloud declaring Jesus your beloved Son, you foreshadowed our adoption as your children. Make us heirs with Christ of your glory, and bring us to enjoy its fullness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

~Word~

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

**First Reading:** Exodus 24:12-18

<sup>12</sup> The Lord said to Moses, “Come up to me on the mountain and wait there; I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction.” <sup>13</sup> So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up onto the mountain of God. <sup>14</sup> To the elders he had said, “Wait here for us, until we come back to you. Look, Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them.” <sup>15</sup> Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. <sup>16</sup> The glory of the Lord settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. <sup>17</sup> Now the appearance of the glory of the Lord was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the Israelites. <sup>18</sup> Moses entered the cloud and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

**Responsive Reading:** Psalm 2

<sup>1</sup> Why are the nations in an uproar? Why do the peoples mutter empty threats?

**<sup>2</sup> Why do the kings of the earth rise up in revolt, and the princes plot together, against the Lord and against the Lord's anointed?**

<sup>3</sup> “Let us break their yoke,” they say; “let us cast off their bonds from us.”

**<sup>4</sup> God whose throne is in heaven is laughing; the Lord holds them in derision.**

<sup>5</sup> Then in wrath God speaks to them, and in rage fills them with terror.

**<sup>6</sup> “As for me, I have anointed my king upon Zion, my holy mountain.”**

<sup>7</sup> Let me announce the decree of the Lord, who said to me, “You are my son; this day have I begotten you.

**<sup>8</sup> Ask of me, and I will give you the nations for your inheritance and the ends of the earth for your possession.**

<sup>9</sup> You shall crush them with an iron rod and shatter them like a piece of pottery.”

**<sup>10</sup> And now, you kings, be wise; be warned, you rulers of the earth.**

<sup>11</sup> Submit to the Lord with fear, and with trembling bow in worship;

**<sup>12</sup> lest the Lord be angry, and you perish in a sudden blaze of wrath. Happy are all who take refuge in God!**

**Second Reading:** 2 Peter 1:16-21

<sup>16</sup> We did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. <sup>17</sup> For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, “This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.” <sup>18</sup> We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain. <sup>19</sup> So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. <sup>20</sup> First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, <sup>21</sup> because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

### Gospel Acclamation:



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

### Gospel: Matthew 17:1-9

The holy gospel according to Matthew chapter 17. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. <sup>2</sup> And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became bright as light. <sup>3</sup> Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. <sup>4</sup> Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will set up three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." <sup>5</sup> While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" <sup>6</sup> When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. <sup>7</sup> But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." <sup>8</sup> And when they raised their eyes, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone. <sup>9</sup> As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

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

**Children's Message:** Mary McKenna

**Sermon:** Pastor Lisa Rygiel

**Hymn of the Day:** #954 (purple hymnal) You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd

### Recognition of Outgoing Church Council Member

Cherie, you have faithfully served Zion's Lutheran Church Council during your term of office, leading the members to an increased love of Jesus Christ through your example. In gratitude for your diligent efforts on our behalf, we ask the Lord's blessing on you. Please accept this small gift in gratitude for your service.

### Installation of Church Council Member

The following people have been elected by the congregation to positions of leadership... People of God, I ask you: Will you support these, your *elected* leaders, and will you share in the mutual ministry that Christ has given to all who are baptized? **We will, and we ask God to help us.**

## The 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 of the People

Revealing God, your Spirit sustains the church. Strengthen the faithful with the revelation of Christ transfigured, that we may joyfully follow him in the way of the cross. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Life-giving God, creation is full of your majesty. Nurture in us a deep respect for the interdependence of all life and make us wise and vigilant stewards of your good earth. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Peacemaking God, the nations are in turmoil. We pray for an end to violent conflict in our country and throughout the world. Give wisdom to negotiators, protection to protesters, and sanctuary to refugees. Defend any who are in danger. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Healing God, you desire wholeness for all people. Bring healing to any who are experiencing illness, chronic pain, or mental anguish. Comfort the dying and those who grieve, receive our prayers of hope and thanksgiving. Especially today, we pray for...Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Holy God, in our worship we glimpse your glory, hear your voice, and receive assurance of your love. Inspire all who prepare, lead, and participate in worship to serve you with reverence and joy. We pray for our newly installed church council, asking your blessing on their efforts and we give thanks for the many and varied gifts that they bring to Zion's. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Transforming God, you bring life from death. We give thanks for the witness of those who have died in faith, and we praise you for the hope we have in Christ, our Morning Star. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Confident that the Holy Spirit receives our prayers and answers us, we commend all for whom we pray to God's loving-kindness made known to us in Christ Jesus our Savior. **Amen.**

## Peace

The spirit-filled peace of Christ be with you always! **And also with you!**

*~Meal~*

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

## Offering

*An offering is gathered for missions of the church. You can give using check or cash (mail to 510 Pine Street), or online at:*

*[https://tithe.ly/give\\_new/www/#/tithe/give-one-time/1334741](https://tithe.ly/give_new/www/#/tithe/give-one-time/1334741)*

**Offertory:** #1063 (purple hymnal) God of the Fertile Fields, vs. 4

## Offering Prayer

Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

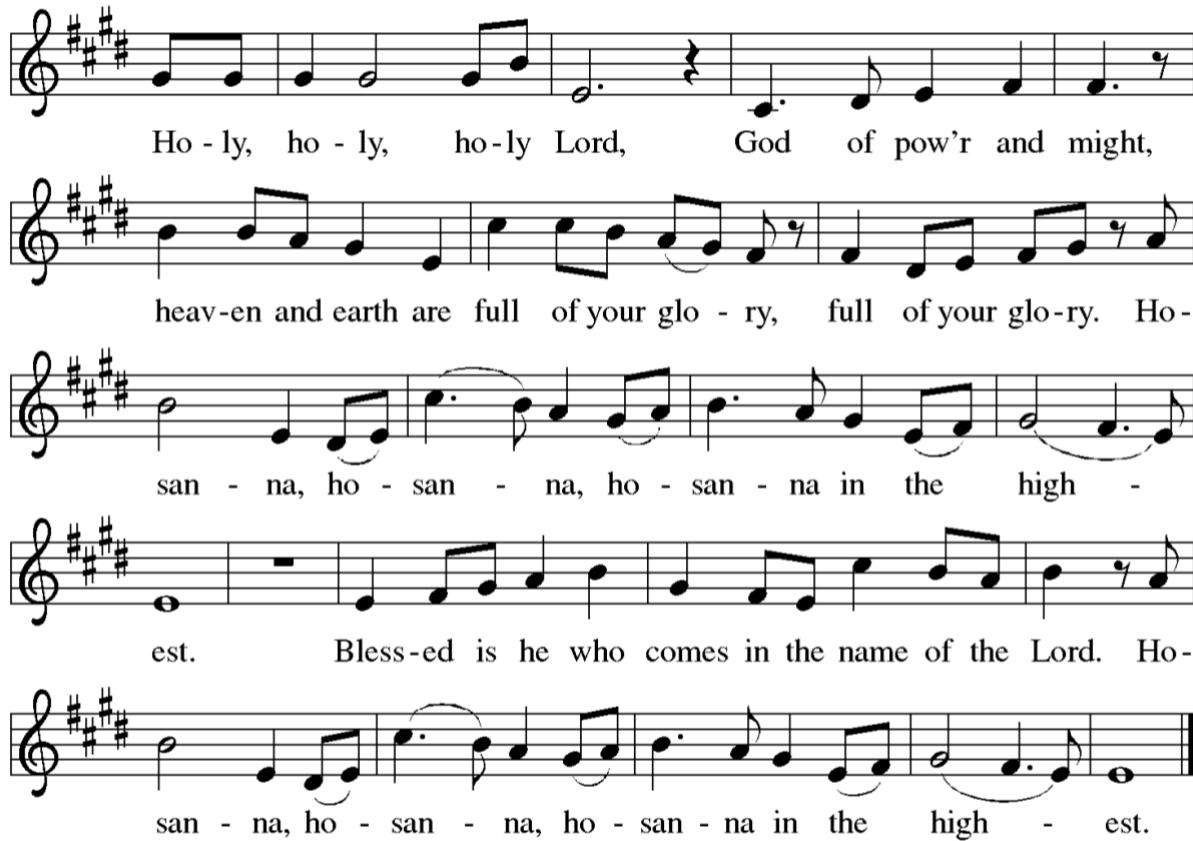
The Lord be with you. **And also, with you.**

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 and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

### Holy, Holy, Holy



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho-ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho-  
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -  
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-  
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## Thanksgiving at the Table

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life...: Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith: **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

With this bread and cup, we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming. **Come, Lord Jesus.**

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth. **Come, Holy Spirit.**

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## 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.**

## Invitation to Communion

*God's love is wide. God's table is big. No one is excluded.*

*Taste and see that the Lord is Good.*

*Our bread is gluten free & both wine and white grape juice are available.*

*God comes to us in worship and song. God also comes to us in silence and stillness.*

*Please use the time before and after you commune for silent contemplation.*

**Communion Hymn: #661 (cranberry hymnal) I Love to Tell the Story**

## Song of Thanksgiving



**C** Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev- 'ry- one what he has done.



Let ev- 'ry- one who seeks the Lord re - joice and proud- ly bear his name.



He re - calls his prom - is - es and leads his peo - ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## Communion Prayer

Gracious God, in this meal you have drawn us to your heart and nourished us at your table with food and drink, the body and blood of Christ. Now send us forth to be your people in the world, and to proclaim your truth this day and evermore, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

*~Sending~*

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

## Announcements

### Benediction

Go into God's world, bearing the light of hope and peace. Bring the Good News of the love of God through Jesus Christ to all the people. Go in peace. And may the Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and  $\ddagger$  give you peace. **Amen.**

**Sending Hymn: #867 (cranberry hymnal) In Thee There is Gladness**

## Dismissal

Go in peace to seek justice for all people. **Thanks be to God.**

## ~Announcements~

- ⊕ **Fellowship:** Join us after worship in the Fellowship Hall for coffee and conversation. All are welcome.
- ⊕ **Souper Bowl of Caring:** Even though Super Bowl 2026 is in the record books, our Souper Bowl of Caring continues throughout the month of February, as Zion's joins churches nationwide to address hunger in our communities. As part of *Souper Bowl of Caring*, Zion's will collect canned goods and non-perishable food items throughout the month of February, for donation to the Trinidad Soup Kitchen. At the end of February, all donations will be blessed and given to the Trinidad's Soup Kitchen.
- ⊕ **Wednesday Book Club:** The Wednesday Book Club focusing upon *What if Jesus was Serious – A Visual Guide to the Teachings of Jesus We Love to Ignore* meets at 10:30 each Wednesday in the Fellowship Hall.
- ⊕ **Children's Choir Resumes:** Children's choir resumes at 3 p.m. today in the Fellowship Hall.
- ⊕ **Ash Wednesday:** We begin our Lenten observance with worship on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 18, including a 5:30 p.m. soup supper followed by worship at 7 p.m. All are welcome.
- ⊕ **Lenten Soup Suppers:** At 5:30 p.m. each Wednesday during Lent, Zion's will share a soup supper and devotion in the Fellowship Hall. Sign-up sheets are in the Fellowship Hall to volunteer to bring soup, bread, beverages, or dessert.
- ⊕ **Time of Prayer and Coffee:** The Zion's family is invited to join our siblings in Christ from the Methodist church for a time of prayer and coffee at 10:30 a.m. each Thursday at Kangaroo Coffee -- in the Marketplace on Commercial Street.
- ⊕ **God's Work Our Hands:** Terri Watson is working to identify members of our congregation who would be willing to help our siblings in Christ with basic assistance, such as rides and running errands. Terri will have a sign-up sheet at worship on Sunday, to identify resources and ways to help. Signing up allows Terri to match individual needs with people who are able to help, considering volunteer schedules and capabilities.
- ⊕ **The Way Ministry:** At 1 p.m. each Sunday through March 29, Zion's welcomes The Way ministry to our Fellowship Hall as they offer food and worship to the unhoused and others in need.
- ⊕ **We're Here for You:** For pastoral care, call Pastor Lisa at 719-846-7785 or send an email: [zionsluth@gmail.com](mailto:zionsluth@gmail.com).

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Call to Worship & Benediction: by Nancy C. Townley and posted in Ministry Matters Worship Connection: Epiphany Sunday at [https://ministrymatters.com/2018-12-01\\_worship\\_connection\\_epiphany\\_sunday\\_option\\_2\\_](https://ministrymatters.com/2018-12-01_worship_connection_epiphany_sunday_option_2/), used with permission.