

ORDER FOR THE PUBLIC WORSHIP of GOD

January 8, 2017 Epiphany Sunday



A Word on Worship

As you enter the Sanctuary, please prepare your heart for worship and silence your mobile devices.

Today is Epiphany Sunday in the church calendar. The word epiphany comes from a Greek word meaning "manifestation or appearance." In church history this word has become closely associated with the revelation of Christ in connection with the visit of the Magi. Epiphany is regularly observed on the Sunday closest to January 6.

What is the significance of the epiphany of our Lord? We cannot know the Lord in a saving way apart from Him revealing himself to us. The Apostle Paul writes to Titus: "But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy" (3:4-5a).

O Lord, in this new year, unveil Your beauty to our sight that we might love You more. Grant us the blessing of remaining faithful to our divinely-appointed tasks; and grant to us a child-like heart of trust in You for Jesus' sake, Amen.

THE EPIPHANY OF GOD'S GLORY

ORGAN PRELUDE:

Epiphany Partita on "How Lovely Shines the Morning Star!" . . . Michael Burkardt

Chorale: "Almighty Father, in your Son..."

Bicinium: "Come, heav'nly bridegroom, light divine..." Rondo: "O How Lovely Shines the Morning Star!" Capriccio: "O, let the harps break forth in sound!..." Pastorale: "Lord, when you look on us in love..." Toccata: "What joy to know, when life is past..."

Samuel Metzger, Organist

CHORAL INTROIT: "We Three Kings".....KINGS OF ORIENT

O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright, Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.

> The Westminster Singers (8:15), The Chancel Choir (11:00) Gabriel C. Statom, Director of Music

CALL TO WORSHIP.....Richard G. Cain

♦HYMN OF PRAISE: "Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies".....



- Christ, the true, the on ly Light, un ac com pa nied by Thee; 1. Christ, whose glo - ry fills the skies,
- cheer-less is the morn 2. Dark and then, this soul of mine; pierce the gloom of sin and grief; 3. Vis - it,



Sun of Right-eous-ness, a-rise, tri-umph o'er the shades of night; the day's re-turn till Thy mer-cy's beams I see; Joy - less is fill Ra - dian - cy di- vine; scat - ter all my un - be - lief;



Day-spring from on high, be near; Day-star, in my heart ap-pear. in-ward light im-part, glad my eyes, and warm my heart. more and more thy - self dis-play, shin-ing to the per-fect day.

Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples;

but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you.

And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising.

They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall bring good news, the praises of the Lord.

The sun shall be no more your light by day, nor for brightness shall the moon give you light;

but the Lord will be your everlasting light, and your God will be your glory.

Your sun shall no more go down, nor your moon withdraw itself; for the Lord will be your everlasting light, and your days of mourning shall be ended.

♦CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE.....

DIV

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

†PRAYER OF ADORATION

THE EPIPHANY OF GOD'S GRACE

CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty and merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned
against You and one another
by what we have done and by what we have left undone.
Jesus Christ has come among us as the light of the world,
yet we often walk in the shadows,
plagued by faithless fears, worldly anxieties, and arrogant pride.
Purify us by the blood of Your Son
so that we might walk in the light
and the radiance of Jesus Christ
might become more visible in us.
For we make our prayer in His great name. Amen.

INDIVIDUAL PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF DIVINE PARDON

†HYMN OF CHRIST'S EXALTATION CORONAE

Look, ye saints, the sight is glorious: see the Man of Sorrows now; From the fight returned victorious, ev'ry knee to Him shall bow. Crown Him, Crown Him, Crowns become the Victor's brow.

Sinners in derision crowned Him, mocking thus the Savior's claim; Saints and angels crowd around Him, own His title, praise His name. Crown Him, Crown Him, Spread abroad the Victor's fame! PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS.....L. Brett Wynne

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: "There Shall a Star Come Out of Jacob" . . . Felix Mendelssohn from the Oratorio "Christus"

There shall a star come out of Jacob, And a scepter shall rise out of Israel, With might destroying princes and cities.

As bright the star of morning gleams, So Jesus sheddeth glorious beams Of light and consolation. Thy Word, O Lord, radiance darting, Truth imparting, gives salvation;

Thine be praise and adoration!

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE CORONAE

Crown the Savior, angels, crown Him: Rich the trophies Jesus brings; In the seat of pow'r enthrone Him, while the vault of heaven rings, Crown Him! Crown Him! Crown the Savior King of kings.

Hark! Those bursts of acclamation! Hark! Those loud triumphant chords! Jesus takes the highest station; O what joy the sight affords! Crown Him! Crown Him! King of kings and Lord of lords.

†PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION

†GREETINGS

A WORD TO THE CHILDREN (8:15) Lynn L. Erickson

The Ordination of God's Servants

ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF CHURCH OFFICERS. . . . John J. Colcolough Clerk of Session

(8:15) Deacons:

*Blake Bergeron, John Brooks, Gaye Carter, *Rob Crump, *Dan Fore, *Duncan Galbreath, *Lloyd Grissinger, *Anita Hughey, John Roberts, *Norfleet Thompson, Ruth Warren, Katie West, *Drew Willson, *Drew Yonchak

(11:00) Elders:

*Jim Echols, *Jimmy Edwards, Jerry Harmon, Rob Heard, *Joel Kaye, Brian Lewis, Andy McArtor, Neal McAtee, Pat McCarty, Price Morrison, Mike Warner, Scott Wilson, *Sheng Zhou

*to be ordained

Officers' Vows

Do you reaffirm your faith in Jesus Christ as your own personal Lord and Savior?

Do you believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be uniquely and fully inspired by the Holy Spirit, and the supreme and final authority in all matters on which they speak?

With any exception that you have stated to the Session, do you sincerely receive and adopt the Westminster Confession of Faith and the Catechisms of this Church, as containing the system of doctrine taught in the Holy Scriptures?

Do you promise that if at any time you find yourself out of accord with any of the essentials of the faith you will, on your own initiative, make known to your church Session the change which has taken place in your views since the assumption of this ordination vow?

Do you affirm and adopt the "Essentials of Our Faith" without exception?

Do you subscribe to the government and discipline of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church?

Do you promise subjection to your fellow Presbyters in the Lord?

Have you been induced, as far as you know your own heart, to accept the office of deacon/ruling elder from love of God and sincere desire to promote His glory in the Gospel of His Son?

Do you promise to be zealous and faithful in promoting the truths of the Gospel and the purity and peace of the Church, whatever persecution or opposition may arise to you on that account?

Will you seek to be faithful and diligent in the exercise of all your duties as deacon/ elder whether personal or relative, private or public; and to endeavor by the grace of God to adorn the profession of the Gospel in your manner of life, and to walk with exemplary piety before this congregation of which God will make you an officer?

Are you now willing to take responsibility in the life of this congregation as a deacon/elder and will you seek to discharge your duties, relying upon the grace of God, in such a way that the entire church of Jesus Christ will be blessed?

Congregational Vow

Do you, the members of this congregation, receive these persons as officers in our church, and do you promise to yield them and all your officers all that honor, encouragement, and obedience in the Lord to which their ordination as officers entitles them, according to the Word of God and the Constitution of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church?

Prayer of Ordination and Installation

Charge to Officers and Congregation

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND THE 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:

For Thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

The Proclamation of God's Word

... Matthew 3:1-12 (page 808 in pew Bible)

All flesh is grass, and all its beauty is like the flower of the field;

The grass withers, the flower fades, but the Word of our God will stand forever. Amen. (Isaiah 40:6b, 8)

SERMON The Radical Believer Sanders L. Willson

PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

♦HYMN OF THE CROSS: No. 252 "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"....HAMBURG

†BENEDICTION

†CONGREGATIONAL THREE-FOLD AMEN

ORGAN POSTLUDE:

♦Indicates congregation standing

CCLI License #252778

Getting Connected

To find out more about who we are and how you can become part of our church community, contact Pastor Todd Erickson at (901) 531-8895 or todd.erickson@2pc.org.