



January 4, 2026

*We embrace our call to love and serve Jesus Christ
as we cultivate community and empower our neighbors.*

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A Service of Divine Worship on the Lord's Day

January 4, 2026 – Epiphany Sunday

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Gathering Song: *We Three Kings, verses 1&5*

***Call to Worship:**

Liturgist: We have listened, and heard! We have sought and seen a great light!

People: The light has shined for the whole world. The Prince of Peace has been born for us all.

Liturgist: The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth.

People: Love came down as a child and yet a king. The King of Glory has come!

***Opening Hymn:** *What Child is This? verses 1&3*

Please be seated.

A Call to Confession (Liturgist)

The King of Kings has come to redeem us. Let us now confess our sins to God and to each other with full confidence of our salvation.

Unison Prayer of Confession (prayed aloud by all)

Almighty and merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you and one another in both our actions and our inactions. We recognize that in Jesus our light has come, yet often we choose to walk in the shadows and ignore the light.

Silent Confession *Please take a moment for silent confession*

Asking for God's Forgiveness

Liturgist: Let us now ask God's forgiveness.

People: Gracious God, forgive our sins and remove from us the veil of darkness which shrouds our lives. Illumine us by your Word so we may shine with the radiance of Christ's glory. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Liturgist: God so loved the world that He sent His only Son to us. Not to condemn the world, but to save it. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

People: Amen! Thanks be to God!

Sung Response to Confession: *Open Our Eyes, Lord*

*Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus.
To reach out and touch Him and say that we love Him.
Open our ears, Lord, and help us to listen.
Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus.*

***Passing the Peace of Christ, Sharing in Christ's Welcome**

Liturgist: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And, also with you.

Liturgist: Let us stand and share the peace of Christ with one another.

(Congregation shares peace with one another in the pew, over the phone, across the screen.)

Anthem:

Go, Tell it on the Mountain

Lucy Keefer

Children's Moment

Star Words

Prayer for Illumination

Our Lord and our God, now as we hear your Word, fill us with your Spirit. Soften our hearts that we may discern your ways. Fill us with your light. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Scripture Lesson

Isaiah 60:1-6, Matthew 2:1-12

The Message:

The Magi Model for Spiritual Discovery

Hymn of Affirmation:

We Three Kings, verses 2,3,4

Offertory

Lois Baranowski

Thanksgiving in Song:

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise Him, all creatures here below
Praise Him above ye heavenly host
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, Amen.*

Celebrating the Lord's Table

Invitation

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord is with us always.

God's love dwells within us and brings us peace.

May you always feel the joy of God in your heart.

May we also be so bold to share that joy with others.

Give thanks to God for unconditional love.

We lift our hearts in joy and thanksgiving.

We give you thanks, O God, for the gift of life in all its forms. For the breath we take, the earth beneath our feet, the stars above our heads, and the sacred rhythm of the seasons. We thank you for the mystery of being, for the beauty of the mountains, and the depth of the oceans, for the songs of the birds, and the stillness of the night. You have woven us into the fabric of your creation, each of us a thread, each of us a reflection of your image.

For the Beauty of the Earth, verse 1

We give you thanks, O God, for your Son, Jesus, who taught us how to live the way you want us to. He taught us how to be kind and how to reach out when others are in need. He taught us that we are never alone and we are never too far gone to be redeemed. He taught us that we belong to you. Through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son, you have shown us the way to love, the path to reconciliation, and the hope of eternal life.

You Are Mine, Refrain

Words of Institution

Great is the mystery of faith.

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

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and juice, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. By your Spirit unite us with the living Christ and with all who are baptized in his name, that we may be one in ministry in every place. As this bread is Christ's body for us, send us out to be the body of Christ in the world.

We give you thanks, O God, for the Spirit's presence among us, guiding, comforting, inspiring, moving in and through us like the wind, filling the spaces where we are open, making all things new. In this moment, we offer ourselves to you, our hearts, our hands, our voices, our joys and our sorrows, our victories and our struggles. We give thanks for the grace that sustains us, the peace that surrounds us, and the hope that carries us forward. May we live each day as an offering, grateful for your gifts, faithful in our response, and loving toward all.

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.*

**Sharing the Feast Together
Prayer of Thanksgiving**

***Sending Hymn:** *Go, Tell it on the Mountain*

***Charge and Benediction**

***Postlude**

151 We Three Kings of Orient Are



1 We three kings of O - ri - ent are; bear - ing gifts we tra - verse a - far,
 2 Born a King on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I bring to crown him a - gain,
 3 Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I; in - cense owns a de - i - ty nigh;
 4 Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a life of gath - er - ing gloom;
 5 Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise, King and God and Sac - ri - fice:



field and foun - tain, moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.
 King for - ev - er, ceas - ing nev - er o - ver us all to reign.
 prayer and prais - ing glad - ly rais - ing, wor - ship - ing God Most High.
 sor - rowing, sigh - ing, bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the stone - cold tomb.
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! sounds through the earth and skies.



Refrain



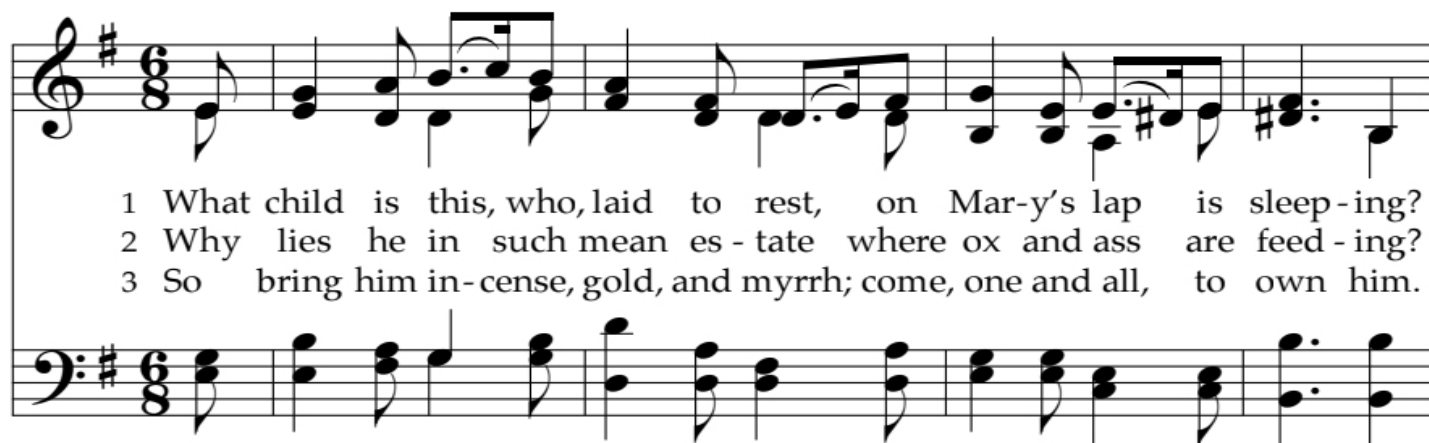
O star of won - der, star of night, star with roy - al beau - ty bright,



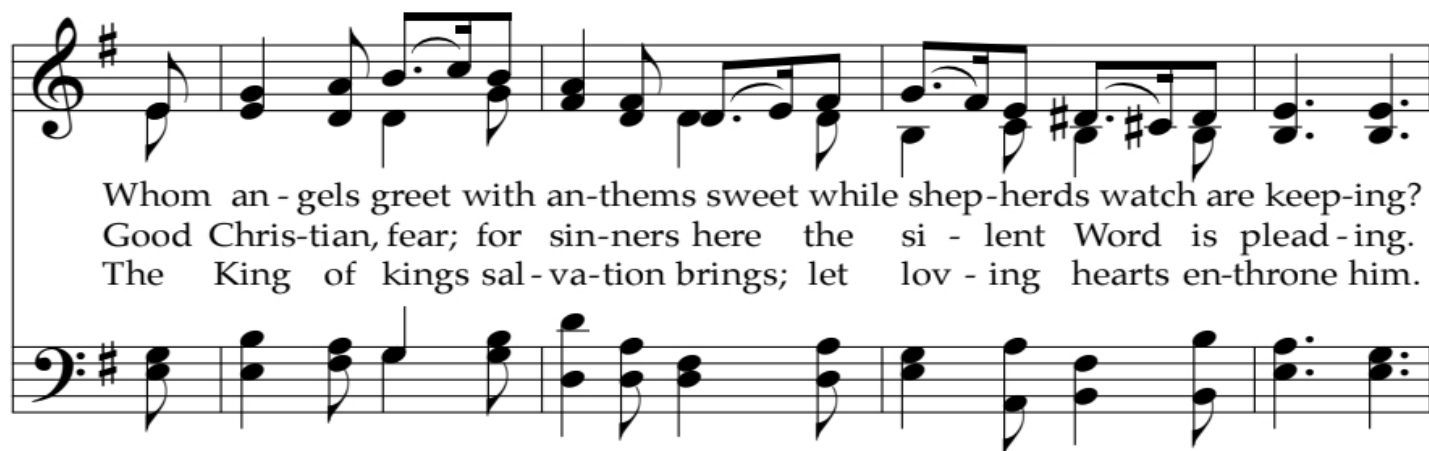
west - ward lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - fect light!



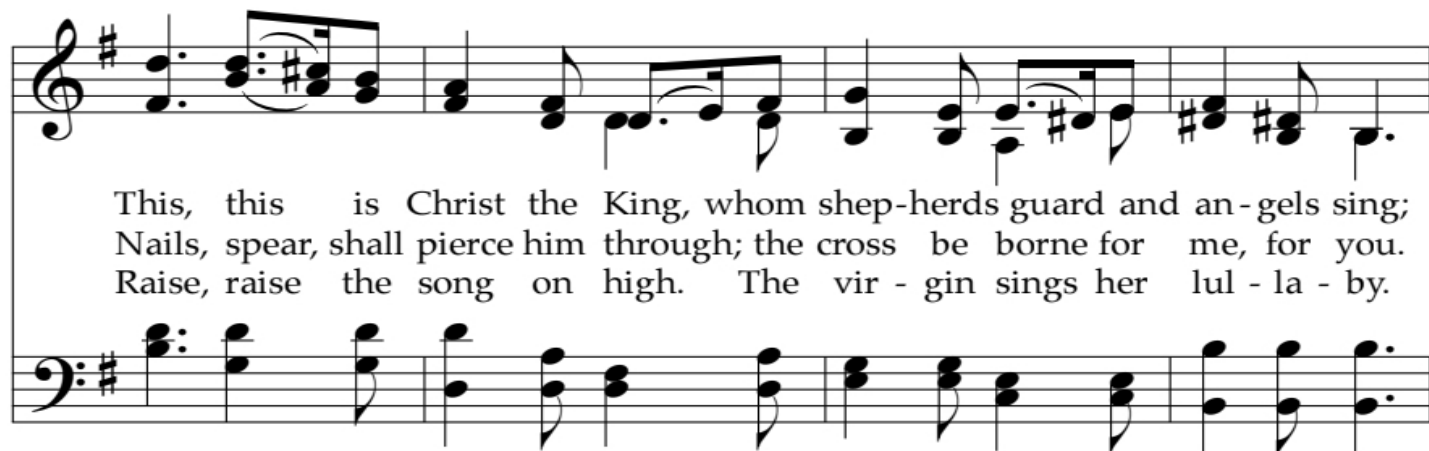
What Child Is This



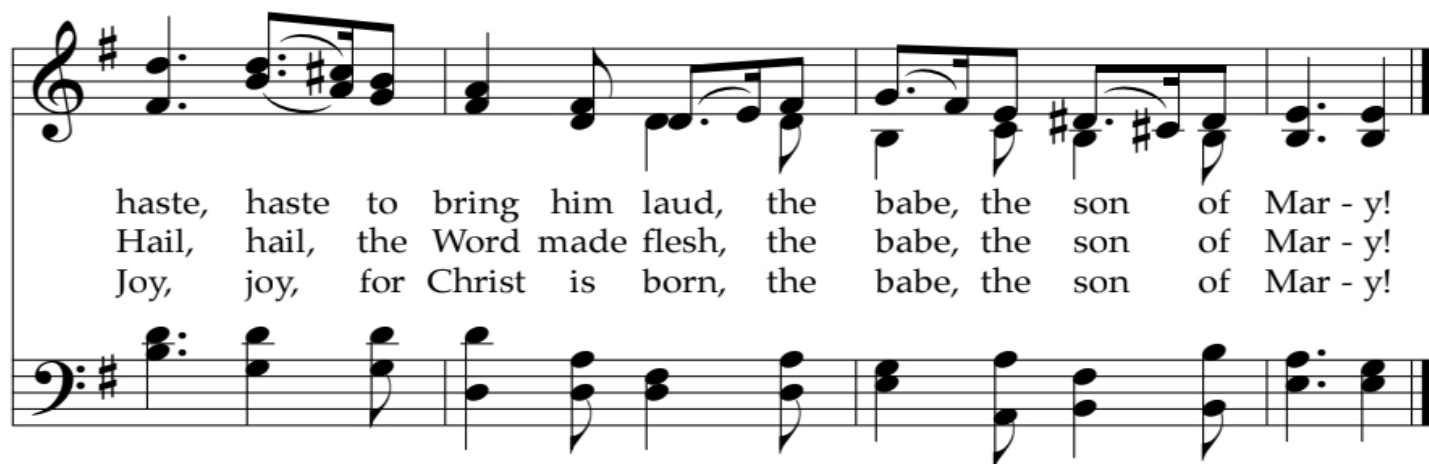
1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar-y's lap is sleep-ing?
 2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed - ing?
 3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, one and all, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet while shep - herds watch are keep - ing?
 Good Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.
 The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.



This, this is Christ the King, whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;
 Nails, spear, shall pierce him through; the cross be borne for me, for you.
 Raise, raise the song on high. The vir - gin sings her lul - la - by.



haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
 Hail, hail, the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
 Joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!

136 Go, Tell It on the Mountain

Refrain $\text{♪} = \text{♩}^3 \text{♪}$

Go, tell it on the moun-tain, o-ver the hills and ev - ery - where;

go, tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!

Fine

1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,
2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when lo! a - bove the earth
3 Down in a low - ly man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born,

be - hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.
rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ-mas morn.

to Refrain