

OBSERVANCE OF THE EPIPHANY

January 5, 2025

10:00 am

*please rise as you are able, in body or spirit.



[Jesus Born Vectors by Vecteezy](#)

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

INTROIT

CALL TO WORSHIP*

*For thus says the Lord: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; **Proclaim, give praise, and say 'Save, O Lord, your people, the remnant of Israel.'***

See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth,

Among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together;

A great company, they shall return here.

With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back.

HYMN* *“O Morning Star! How Fair And Bright”* 827

PRAYER OF PRAISE*

CONFESSION OF SIN (UNISON)

Redeem your world, O Lord. We lament the destruction caused by worldly rulers extending their power through force. We lament the ways that the tendrils of oppression have taken hold among your people, your creation.

Redeem your people, O Lord. Too often, we fail to act in ways that reflect your love.

Too often, we fail to speak your truth. When it is easier for us to do nothing, help us act. When it is easier for us to say nothing, give us words to speak. Turn us away from sin, liberate us from the grasp of oppression, and lead us towards new life in Christ.

(silence)

Lord have mercy.

Christ have mercy.

Lord have mercy.

Kyrie Eleison. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON / PASSING OF THE PEACE*

RESPONSE TO PARDON*

**Lord, make us servants of your peace:
where there is hate, may we sow love;
where there is hurt, may we forgive;
where there is strife, may we make one.**

A TIME WITH CHILDREN

SCRIPTURE – Matthew 2:1-6

Barbara Wierwille

OFFERING OF MUSIC

Adult Choir

“Arise, Shine, for Your Light Has Come”

GOSPEL – Matthew 2:7-12

SERMON

Shirley Larson

“Home by Another Way”

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/LORD’S PRAYER

Responsive:

Leader: With weeping they shall come

All: and with consolations I will lead them back.

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.

HYMN* *“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”*

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CHARGE AND BENEDICTION*

CHORAL RESPONSE*

**In all life's brilliant, timeless moments,
Let faithful voices sing Your praise.
O Son of God, our life-bestower,
Whose glory lightens endless days.**

FELLOWSHIP TIME

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES

We thank the Rev. Shirley Larson for leading the worship service today. Linda is returning home today after attending the the Montreat College Conference with the Ukirk students.