

THE GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you

And also with you

WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

Today we celebrate the Christian feast of the Epiphany, which commemorates the mysterious visitors who came to the Christ child. Epiphany means 'to show', 'to make known' or 'to reveal'. and with their gifts they revealed Jesus as Lord and King for the whole world, not just the Jewish nation, but the whole world.

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Generous God, for all that sustains us; we offer our thanks and praise.
For spiritual gifts that bind us together; we offer our hands and voices.
For the Good News of the Gospel; healing and wholeness, freedom and justice we offer our hearts in service. Amen

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Ever-patient God, we are a people who live in darkness. We stumble around bombarded by news of war, poverty, pandemic, injustice and oppression. This can overwhelm and paralyze us.
Help us to be people of the light, shining your light of righteousness, peace, and joy into all the dark places of our lives and world.

**Unlock the mystery and glory of the babe born in Bethlehem.
Turn our aimless wanderings into a journey of purpose guided by your star.
Let the light break into our lives and our world, and transform us into people of the light.**

ABSOLUTION

As certain as the dawn follows the night, so is the promise of God's forgiveness and love for us all. Arise and Shine. + Follow the star. Find the light of the world born in Bethlehem and be transformed from darkness into light. **Amen**

THE COLLECT

The **COLLECT** (is the prayer for the day) is said

Creator of the heavens, who led the Magi by the star to worship the Christ-child: guide and sustain us, that we may find our journey's end in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

HYMN

Band led 724 'We three Kings from Orient are'

THE READING

At the beginning of the reading you may like to say

Alleluia , Alleluia

The word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory.

Alleluia

At the end of the reading you may like to say

This is the Gospel of the Lord ALL: Praise to you , O Christ

SERMON

THE CREED OF EPIPHANY

I believe in God, the creator of the universe, who spoke, "Let there be light!" and there was light, setting in motion all of creation and blessing it to this day.

I believe in Jesus Christ, the light of the world that shines in the darkness. The darkness cannot overcome it. He embodied humanity in the image of God.

**In kindness, truthfulness, humility and devotion,
He suffered for the greater good.
He was and is the Son of God.
He died on the cross for us, God's saving grace!**

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the guiding light of God in our world. Through his spirit, God penetrates and reveals the darkness of human sin, helps people grow and become the people they are meant to be. I believe in the power of transformation, through God's spirit and light,

**Here in this world and in the world to come.
Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Let us pray

The prayers are then said. This response may be used:

Lord in your mercy **ALL: Hear our prayer**

At the end, the intercessor may say:

Merciful God **ALL: accept these prayers for the sake of your son our Saviour Jesus Christ.**

THE LORDS 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,
the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE CONCLUSION & THE FINAL BLESSING

Arise, and go forth to shine for all the world to see.

We go to spread the good news of light and love, righteousness and justice.

Go now and follow the star that will guide you on your journey this week, this year, and forever.

As the Magi of old, we go forth in trust and excitement, transformed in the presence of the child of light.

May the blessing of the God of light rest upon you and fill you with light. **Amen.**

HAPPY NEW YEAR EVERYBODY