



Holy Trinity Episcopal Church

446 Hamilton St. Southbridge, Massachusetts 01550
A parish in the Episcopal Diocese of Western Massachusetts

The Feast of the Epiphany

Family Worship

January 5, 2025

11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

*See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?
I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland. [Isaiah 43:19]*

Pastor Dan Purtell, Celebrant & Preacher

Anne Bouvier-Monroe, Minister of Music

Tamsin Lucey, Eucharistic Minister

The flowers are also given in Thanksgiving for God's Blessings by Anne & Dave Monroe.

Prelude "Little Town of Bethlehem"

Setting by Brickman

Introit "The Magi who to Bethlehem did go"

Green Hymnal #71 VS. 1

Processional Hymn "The First Noel"

Blue Hymnal #109

Opening Acclamation

Christ has come to be among us.

Come, let us adore Him.

The precious gifts that the Magi brought to Jesus Christ are signs of divine mysteries.

By gold the power of the King is signified, by frankincense His great priesthood, by myrrh his humanity.

The Magi worshipped our Creator, and of their treasures they brought to Him gifts.

We offer to Christ this day the treasures of our hearts and our lives.

We offer to Christ this day all that we are, and all that we will become this year. Amen.

Song of Praise "Angels we have heard on high"

Blue Hymnal #96

Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray:

O God, by the leading of a star you manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: Lead us, who know you now by faith, to your presence, where we may see your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

The First Lesson: A Reading from Isaiah 60:1-6

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

For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you,

and his glory will appear over you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms.

Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you.

A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.

The Word of the Lord **Thanks be to God**

Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14

- 1 Give the King your justice, O God, * and your righteousness to the King's Son;**
- 2 That he may rule your people righteously * and the poor with justice;**
- 3 That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, * and the little hills bring righteousness.**
- 4 He shall defend the needy among the people; * he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.**
- 5 He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, * from one generation to another.**
- 6 He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, * like showers that water the earth.**
- 7 In his time shall the righteous flourish; * there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.**
- 10 The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay tribute, * and the kings of Arabia and Saba offer gifts.**
- 11 All kings shall bow down before him, * and all the nations do him service.**
- 12 For he shall deliver the poor who cries out in distress, * and the oppressed who has no helper.**
- 13 He shall have pity on the lowly and poor; * he shall preserve the lives of the needy.**
- 14 He shall redeem their lives from oppression and violence, * and dear shall their blood be in his sight.**

Silence

The Second Lesson: A reading from Ephesians 3:1-12

This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles-- for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

The Word of the Lord **Thanks be to God**

Sequence Hymn "Now the star of Christmas"

Insert, VS 1&4

The Holy Gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ According to Matthew 2:1-12

Response: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

`And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'"

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went

the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Response: Praise to you Lord Christ**

Epiphany Pageant

The Family Worship Players

Opening Scene Carol: **"We Three Kings of Orient are"**

Blue Hymnal #128 VS 1

Second Scene Carol: **"We Three Kings of Orient are"**

Blue Hymnal #128 VS 2

Third Scene Carol: **"We Three Kings of Orient are"**

Blue Hymnal #128 VS 3

Fourth Scene Carol: **"We Three Kings of Orient are"**

Blue Hymnal #128 VS 4

Fifth Scene Carol: **"We Three Kings of Orient are"**

Blue Hymnal #128 VS 5

Sermon Hymn "Away in a manger"

Blue Hymnal #101 vs #3

The Nicene Creed

BCP, p. 358

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.

Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People

I ask your prayers for the Church, God's greatest gift to us. For all who worship and serve this day. For the wisdom and teaching of our bishops, priests, deacons, and laypeople.

As Christ loved us, **We walk in love.**

I bid your prayers for our Nation and for all nations; for all refugees, for an end to hostilities, for a spirit of goodwill and a commitment to peace. We pray for our citizens as we elect leaders, and we pray for leaders who serve with wisdom and compassion.

As Christ loved us, **We walk in love.**

I ask your prayers for our neighbors, for the mission of our church and the ways we change the world with our gifts.

As Christ loved us, **We walk in love.**

Holy God, we acknowledge the traditional, ancestral and unceded land of the Nipmuc people upon which we are worshipping, praying and visiting today.

As Christ loved us, **We walk in love.**

I invite your prayers for those who are sick, who are isolated, who are in despair, especially for those facing the devastation caused by the hurricanes. We pray for caregivers and healers who care for those we love. We pray for those on our parish prayer list, and those we name now either silently or aloud... *Pause*

As Christ loved us, **We walk in love.**

I ask your prayers for the dead and the dying, and for those who mourn. We pray for those we name now silently or aloud.

Pause

As Christ loved us, **We walk in love.**

I invite your celebrations, remembrances, and the naming of our many blessings, innumerable and filled with grace. *Pause*

May we be inspired to share our wealth, works, and wisdom with our neighbors and our Church

As Christ loved us, **We walk in love.**

Concluding Collect

Hear the prayers of your people, O God, and inspire us with gratitude and abundance as we share our many gifts with You and with the world You made. Amen.

Prayer for the Parish

O Great Creator, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, by your grace, may we be so filled with your love that the Light of the World shines from within us. May all with whom we come into contact experience your love and mercy. That in thought, word and deed we may proclaim the Good News of salvation in Jesus Christ. And when we stray from what is what is good and righteous in your sight, by your mercy may we repent and begin anew. All this we ask in the name of Jesus our, Savior. AMEN

Prayer for the Partnership between Holy Trinity and Bethlehem Lutheran:

O God, we ask for your blessing to guide us in building and rejoicing in our partnership. Strengthen the bonds of faith and fellowship between our people and give us the grace to fulfill your purpose. Amen.

Confession of Sin & Absolution

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Peace

"God Moments"

Announcements

Offertory Anthem "How far is it to Bethlehem?"

Knowles

Presentation Hymn "What can I give him?"

Blue Hymnal #112 vs 1&4

The Holy Communion

BCP, 369

Eucharistic Prayer C

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 God thanks and praise.**

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise. **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home. **By your will they were created and have their being.**

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill.

You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another. **Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.**

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace. **By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.**

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

Sanctus

Blue Hymnal S # 130

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving, **We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.**

Lord God of our Fathers: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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, forever and ever. Amen.

Fraction Anthem

Blue Hymnal S #164

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Communion Music: "What child is This?"

Setting by Niedmann

Post Communion: "Once in Royal David's city"

Blue Hymnal #102, VS 1&2

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Let us pray: *in unison*

Create in us a new heart and a new vision, O God, that the gifts of your Spirit may work in us and renew the face of the earth. Give us the grace to transform our lives so that we reflect your glory in Creation; through Jesus Christ our Savior who is alive with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. Amen.

The Blessing

May God, who has bound us together in the company of the elect, in this age and the age to come, attend to the prayers of his faithful servants on your behalf, as he hears your prayers for them. **Amen.**

May God, who has given us, in the lives of his saints, patterns of holy living and victorious dying, strengthen your faith and devotion, and enable you to bear witness to the truth against all adversity. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you forever. **Amen**

Recessional Hymn "What star is this, with beams so bright"

Blue Hymnal #124, VS: 1-3, and 5

Dismissal

Postlude "Bon Joseph Ecoutez Moi"

Dandrieu

Music reprinted and streamed under Onelicense.net #A722242

Announcements

Food Pantry for January: Donations will go to The Bridge Fridge

St Luke's Guesthouse needs volunteers to answer phones. Please call Tricia Gay at 774-230-3589 if you are available to give a few hours of time.

Food Share, Inc. welcomes volunteers during their hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 10-11:15 am.

Prayer shawls are available in the back of the church.

Mark your calendars:

- **Annual Meeting is January 26th** and the snow date is February 9th. Service and meeting will be held in the Parish Hall. All are encouraged to attend.
- **The Bishop's Visitation to Holy Trinity will be May 18, 2025**