



Order of Worship

January 5th, 2020



Epiphany of the Lord

*This liturgy was written by the Rev. Dr. Scotty J. Williams
and was celebrated in St. Gallen, Switzerland at
All Souls Protestant Church which is now dissolved.*

LITURGY

January 5, 2020

Epiphany of the Lord

PRELUDE

“Gather Us In”

WELCOME

+ CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 72:1-4;8;11;18-19

Pastor: Give the king Your justice, O God, and Your righteousness to the royal son!

People: May he judge Your people with righteousness, and judge Your poor with justice!

Pastor: Let the mountains bear prosperity for the people, and let all the hills, in righteousness!

People: May he defend the cause of the poor, give deliverance to the needy, and crush those who oppress them!

Pastor: May he have dominion from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth!

People: May all kings fall down before him, and all the nations serve him!

Pastor: Blessed be the LORD, our God, Who alone does wondrous Things!

People: Blessed be His glorious name forever; may the whole earth be filled with His glory!

ALL: Amen and Amen!

† SONG OF APPROACH

“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

G C Am D Em $\frac{G}{D}$ D7 G

1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
 2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
 3 To all life thou giv - est, to both great and small;
 4 Great Fa - ther of glo - ry, pure Fa - ther of light,

G C Am D Em $\frac{G}{D}$ D7 G

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
 nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;
 in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;
 thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;

G $\frac{D}{F\#}$ G Em $\frac{G}{B}$ D

most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
 thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove
 we blos - som and flour - ish as leaves on the tree,
 all praise we would ren - der, O help us to see

G C Am D Em $\frac{G}{D}$ D7 G

al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise.
 thy clouds, which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
 and with - er and per - ish— but naught chang - eth thee.
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee.

† PRAYER OF ADORATION / THE LORD'S PRAYER

Leader: Holy God, though You are the Lord of all things, You are also our loving Father, and though Jesus is the King of kings, He is also our Brother and friend. Therefore, we come to You with boldness by Your Spirit, and we know You will receive us and the prayer we offer here today.....

ALL. 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, and the power, and the glory,

Forever and ever. Amen.

† SONG OF ADORATION

“Hast Thou Heard Him”

Hast thou heard Him, seen Him, known Him?
 Is not thine a captured heart?
 Chief among ten thousand own Him,
 Joyful choose the better part.

**Captivated by His beauty,
 Worthy tribute haste to bring.
 Let His peerless worth constrain thee,
 Crown Him now unrivaled King.**

What can strip the seeming beauty,
 From the idols of the earth?
 Not a sense of right or duty,
 But the sight of peerless worth.

**Captivated by His beauty,
 Worthy tribute haste to bring.
 Let His peerless worth constrain thee,
 Crown Him now unrivaled King.**

Tis that look that melted Peter,
 Tis that face that Stephen saw,
 Tis that heart that wept with Mary,
 Can alone from idols draw.

**Captivated by His beauty,
 Worthy tribute haste to bring.
 Let His peerless worth constrain thee,
 Crown Him now unrivaled King.**

† CONFESSION OF SIN

Pastor: To the One Whose look melted Peter in his denial, to the One Whose face Stephen saw within his sufferings, to the One Whose heart wept with Mary in her grieving, and to the One Who beckons us to cast aside our idols. To Jesus we confess:

ALL: O Gracious Lord, we confess to You and to one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have claimed Your Kingdom as our own, and turned from Your authority. And we have taken crowns that are meant for You, and sought to place them on our heads. Lord, we crown You King and ask that You forgive us. In Your holy name, we pray. Amen.

(Confess in Silence)

† SONG OF CONFESSION

“Trisagion”

Holy God,
 Holy and Mighty,
 Holy Immortal One.
 Have mercy, Have mercy on us.

† CONFESSION OF FORGIVENESS

Pastor: Brothers and Sisters, if we confess our sins, Christ our King is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of His holy Church, I declare to you the entire forgiveness of all of our sins. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

**ALL: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven and made righteous!
 Thanks be to God!**

† **CONFESSION OF FAITH** from St. Ignatious of Antioch (107 AD)

Pastor: Friends, what do we believe about Jesus Christ?

ALL: He was descended from the family of David and born of Mary.
He was a man.

He truly was born both of God and of the Virgin Mary.
He was God.

He truly ate and drank, truly suffered under Pontius Pilate,
and was truly crucified and died.
He suffered for us.

He was also truly raised from the dead and rose after three
days as His Father raised Him up.
He rose for us.

After having spent forty days with the Apostles, He was
received up to the Father, and sits at His right hand, waiting
until His enemies are put under His feet.
He reigns over us.

Amen.

† **PASSING OF PEACE**

Pastor: Friends, the peace of the Lord be with you!

People: And also with you!

Pastor: Please take this time to offer the peace of Christ to those
around you.

† **SONG OF PEACE**

“We Three Kings Of Orient Are”

Cantor: We three kings of Orient are;
Bearing gifts we traverse afar,
Field and fountain, moor and mountain,
Following yonder star.

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

Cantor: Born a King on Bethlehem's plain,
Gold I bring to crown Him again,
King forever, ceasing never,
Over us all to reign.

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

Cantor: Frankincense to offer have I;
Incense owns a Deity nigh;
Prayer and praising, voices raising,
Worshiping God on high.

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

Cantor: Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume
Breathes a life of gathering gloom;
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,
Sealed in the stone-cold tomb.”

**ALL: O star of wonder, star of night,
Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to thy perfect light.**

Cantor: Glorious now behold Him arise;
King and God and sacrifice:
Alleluia, Alleluia,
Sounds through the earth and skies.

**ALL: O star of wonder, star of night,
Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to thy perfect light.**

+ SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 18:1-12 (ESV)

The Visit of the Wisemen

Lector: Children of God and friends of Christ, hear these words from
the Gospel of Matthew:

¹ Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, ² saying, “Where is He who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw His star when it rose and have come to worship Him.”

³ When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴ and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. ⁵ They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:

⁶ ““And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a Ruler Who will shepherd my people Israel.””

⁷ Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. ⁸ And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship Him.” ⁹ After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy.

¹¹ And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary His mother, and they fell down and worshiped Him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered Him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. ¹² And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

Lector: This is the Word of God for you, the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

Rev. Dr. Scotty J. Williams

+ WORSHIP IN GIVING

If you are our guest today, please feel under no compulsion to give, but if you choose to give we thank you and pray that you are blessed.

+ DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise *him, all crea-tures
here be-low; praise *him a-bove, ye heaven-ly host; praise
Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost. A-men.

+ INVITATION TO THANKSGIVING (Eucharist)

Pastor: In the ancient Church a greeting was given at the breaking of bread, and like those before us I greet you with the joy of God. Friends, the Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Pastor: Let us pray...It is our duty and delight that we should everywhere and always offer thanks and praise to You, O God, through Jesus Christ, Who calls us to follow His way of humble service and love. And so with the Church on earth, all creation and the hosts of heaven, we praise Your name and join their unending hymn....

+ SANCTUS

words by Reginald Heber, 1826; music by John B. Dykes 1861

Ho-ly, Ho-ly, Ho-ly! Lord God Al-might-y!
All, Thy works shall praise Thy Name in earth, and sky, and sea;
Ho-ly, Ho-ly, Ho-ly! Mer-ci-ful and Might-y!
God in three Per-sons bless-ed Trin-i-ty.

† WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND INSTRUCTION

Pastor: On the night He was betrayed our Lord Jesus took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, “Take this and eat of it; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me until I come again.”

And in the same way, after supper, He also took the cup, and said, “Take this and drink of it; this cup is the new covenant in my blood, poured out for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink of it, in remembrance of me.”

Gracious Father, we thank You for sending Your Son Jesus Christ, Who gave His life for us on the cross and shows us the way to live. Send down Your Holy Spirit upon these Your gifts of bread and wine that they might be for us His body and His blood. Amen.

Friends, in the breaking of His body, Christ received our brokenness and gave us the blessings of heaven. Therefore, let us proclaim the mystery of faith in Him.

ALL: Christ has died! Christ is risen! Christ will come again!

Pastor: Behold the gifts of God for you, the people of God. Let us keep the feast!

DISTRIBUTION

We welcome all baptized Christians and those who wish to follow Jesus to come to the Table and receive Communion. We take the elements by *intinction* or dipping the bread into the cup, so once you receive the bread please hold on to it that you might dip it into the cup. To ensure that all can partake our bread is gluten-free, and we use grape juice.

† SONG OF THANKSGIVING

“Gather Us In”

Here in this place new light is streaming,
Now is the darkness vanished away,
See in this space our fears and our dreamings,
Brought here to You in the light of this day.

**Gather us in - the lost and forsaken,
Gather us in the blind and the lame;
Call to us now, and we shall awaken,
We shall arise at the sound of our name.**

We are the young our lives are a mystery
We are the old who yearn for Your face,
We have been sung throughout all of history,
Called to be light to the whole human race.

**Gather us in the rich and the haughty,
Gather us in the proud and the strong;
Give us a heart so meek and so lowly,
Give us the courage to enter the song.**

Here we will take the wine and the water,
Here we will take the bread of new birth,
Here You shall call Your sons and your daughters,
Call us anew to be salt for the earth.

**Give us to drink the wine of compassion,
Give us to eat the bread that is You;
Nourish us well, and teach us to fashion
Lives that are holy and hearts that are true.**

† PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Pastor: Friends, as we prepare to leave this place of rest, and go back into a restless world, let us pray to the Lord with all our hearts, souls, and minds saying....

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the peace from above, for the loving-kindness of God, and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord have mercy.

Pastor: For the peace of the whole world, for the freedom of the oppressed, for the wisdom of all rulers, for the unity of all people, for those who are suffering and feel cut off from others, and for those in need of hope. We think especially of the United States and Iran, which have entered into a hostile conflict, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord have mercy.

Pastor: For the peace of the Church and the unity of all believers. For the unity of Protestants, Catholics, Orthodox Christians, and those without denominations, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord have mercy.

Pastor: For the peace of Switzerland and all who live here, for the Bundesrat and all leaders of government, and for the Kirchenbund and all leaders of our Kantonalkirche, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord have mercy.

Pastor: And for the life that we are called to live. May we walk in faith, hope, and love until we see Christ our King face to face, let us pray to the Lord.

ALL: Lord have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord have mercy.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Merciful Father, we thank You for Your grace at the Table of Jesus, where a bit of bread and a cup of wine give blessed assurance in a broken world. May You keep us by Your grace each day, and may we share it with the world in the hope of Your Kingdom. Your rule and reign and guidance on earth, which inspire us to songs of praises. We ask all this through Jesus Christ, our Savior and King, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, as one God, both now and forever.

ALL: Amen.

† SONG OF SENDING

“Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine”

1 Bless-ed as - sur - ance: Je - sus is mine! Oh, what a fore - taste of
 2 Per - fect sub - mis - sion, per - fect de - light, vi - sions of *rap - ture now
 3 Per - fect sub - mis - sion: all is at rest, I in my Sav - ior am

glo - ry di - vine! Heir of sal - va - tion, pur - chase of God, born of his
 burst on my sight; an - gels de - scend - ing bring from a - bove echo - es of
 hap - py and blest; watch - ing and wait - ing, look - ing a - bove, filled with his

Spir - it, washed in his blood.
 mer - cy, whis - pers of love. This is my sto - ry, this is my
 good - ness, lost in his love.

song, prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long; this is my
 sto - ry, this is my song, prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long.

† BENEDICTION

Irish Blessing

Pastor: May the road rise to meet you,
 May the wind be always at your back,
 May the sun shine warm upon your face,
 May the sweet and fragrant rain of God's blessing fall
 soft upon your lives,
 And until we meet again, brothers and sisters, family
 and friends in Christ
 May Almighty God (the Father, the Son, and the Holy
 Spirit) hold you in the hollow of His hand.

† CONGREGATIONAL AMEN

Threefold (Danish) Amen

A - men. A - men. A - men.