

ST. JOHN'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
"Bringing People to Christ and Christ to People"

January 4, 2026

9:45 a.m.

Epiphany of the Lord

PRELUDE (*Please prepare your hearts and minds for worship.*)

LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES

WELCOME – Large print bulletins and a hearing assistance system are available. See an usher.

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (**Please rise in body or spirit.*)

Leader: O come, let us worship the Lord and consider what wondrous things God has done:

People: **The Magi who study the heavens follow a guiding star!**

Leader: O come, let us worship the Lord and consider what wondrous things God has done:

People: **The peoples who live in the shadows see a glorious light!**

Leader: O come, let us worship the Lord and consider what wondrous things God has done:

People: **The Christ who embodies the Word unveils the hidden plan, making us joint heirs of the promise of salvation through the gospel!**

Leader: O come, let us worship the Lord,

People: **for God has done wondrous things!**

***HYMN** *We Three Kings* (vs 1, 2, 5)

UMH 254

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 60:1-6

"Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you. ²See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples, but the Lord rises upon you and his glory appears over you. ³Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. ⁴"Lift up your eyes and look about you: All assemble and come to you; your sons come from afar, and your daughters are carried on the hip. ⁵Then you

will look and be radiant, your heart will throb and swell with joy; the wealth on the seas will be brought to you, to you the riches of the nations will come. ⁶Herds of camels will cover your land, young camels of Midian and Ephah. And all from Sheba will come, bearing gold and incense and proclaiming the praise of the Lord.

The Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE FOR YOUNG CHRISTIANS

WORSHIP WITH TITHES AND OFFERINGS

***DOXOLOGY**

UMH 95

**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.**

***BLESSING THE OFFERING**

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

HYMN OF PREPARATION *The First Noel* (vs 1-3) UMH 245

SCRIPTURE

Ephesians 3:1-12

For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles— ²Surely you have heard about the administration of God's grace that was given to me for you, ³that is, the mystery made known to me by revelation, as I have already written briefly. ⁴In reading this, then, you will be able to understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, ⁵which was not made known to people in other generations as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to God's holy apostles and prophets. ⁶This mystery is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members together of one body, and sharers together in the promise in Christ Jesus. ⁷I became a servant of this gospel by the gift of God's grace given me through the working of his power. ⁸Although I am less than the least of all the Lord's people, this grace was given me: to preach to the Gentiles the boundless riches of Christ, ⁹and to make plain to everyone the

administration of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things. ¹⁰His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms, ¹¹according to his eternal purpose that he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord. ¹²In him and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence.

MESSAGE “Arise and Shine”

COMMUNION

UMH 13

HYMN *Go Tell It On the Mountain*

UMH 251

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL BENEDICTION** *He is Exalted*

Red Folder #2070

EXTINGUISHING OF ALTAR CANDLES

POSTLUDE

❧ ANNOUNCEMENTS ❧

REMEMBERING those who may not be able to be present on Sunday mornings – See insert

ONE BOARD MEETING – January 12 at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom. Please see Linda Stark for the link to join the meeting. Everyone is welcome!

FIRST BAPTIST FOOD BANK – Requests include canned meats, spaghetti noodles and sauce, jelly, baby diapers, boxed juices, and macaroni and cheese.

PRAYER CHAIN – Call or text Pat Kern at 443-783-6423

NEWSLETTER – Submit information to Paul Nelson at pnelson37@gmail.com by the 23rd of each month.

SOCIAL HOUR – See Buddy Pennewell or Cathy Grim to help.

Music Director: Mike Nelson
Videographer: Roger Vandegrift
Liturgists: Nancy Wachter

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