

Sunday, January 8, 2017

Eleven O'Clock A.M.

First Sunday of Epiphany & Baptism of Jesus

Prelude *When the Savior Jesus Christ* F. Dandrieu

Welcome

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Call to Worship

Leader: Have you seen the star?

God, who created all things, has come to earth.

People: We have heard of a baby born in Bethlehem.

We have seen evidence that God is with us.

Leader: Have you allowed God to reign in your life?

Have you laid your gifts before the Holy Child?

People: We have noticed the generous travelers from the east.

They inspire in us a willingness to share.

Leader: God's call to us is for justice, beyond generosity.

Are you ready for God's eternal purpose in Christ?

People: God's peacemaking is our mandate.

We will follow the road of justice and grace.

Invocation

*Hymn No. 185

We Three Kings of Orient Are

First Reading

Isaiah 60:1-6

Pew Bible Pg. 602

***Prayer of Confession**

We remember the Magi, who set out with singular focus on the promise of the heavens. We remember that they stayed determined on their journey, not swayed by Herod's power and promises. We remember how they adored the child; wisdom and wealth falling to their knees before a poor infant. We also recognize that often we start out well, but stray from your path, detoured by our fleeting fears and desires. Despite our beginnings, we lose sight of you. And we remember that too often we squander our adoration and fail to see the Christ in our midst. O God, bright guide for our lives, call us into focus today as we seek your presence once again. Amen.

*Assurance of Pardon

Leader: God gives a holy presence, and forgiveness, and new hope, in the Christ. God has a promise: "I am with you." Friends, believe the goodnews of God.

People: By God's grace, we are made whole.

***Gloria Patri**

Ode to Joy

**Glory be to God, Creator, Glory be to God the Christ,
Glory be to God the Spirit, ever present, ever One;
From the time of our beginnings, life beyond death's claim on us;
Life and Light and Love unending, we are precious in your sight. Amen.**

Anthem

There Shall a Star Come Out of Jacob

F. Mendelssohn

Second Reading

Psalm 29

Pew Bible Pg. 438

*Hymn No. 181

As With Gladness Men of Old

Call to Give

Offertory

We Hail Thee With Rejoicing

Schulz/Mozart

Aurora Foster, soprano & Madeleine Wallace, soprano

***Doxology**

Lasst Uns Erfreuen

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God all creatures here below. Alleluia, Alleluia.
Praise God above, you heavenly hosts:
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.**

Prayers of the People & Lord's Prayer

Third Reading

Matthew 2:1-12, 3:13-17

Pew Bible Pg. 783

Sermon

Shining Star & Descending Dove Rev. Elizabeth Mangham Lott

*Hymn No. 190

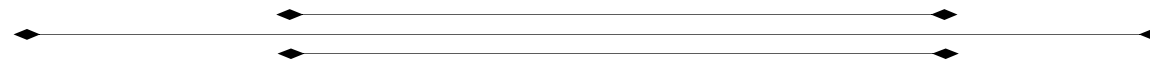
Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

Announcements & Benediction

Postlude

God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen

arr. N. Goemanne
English Carol



*Congregation Standing