



Zion Goshert's United Church of Christ

Worship ~ Epiphany
Sunday, January 9, 2021

Pastor: Bruce Farrell
Ministers: All the Faithful Members

1588 Mount Zion Road, Lebanon, PA 17046 717-865-3286 www.ziongosherts.org

*Please stand if you are able. Congregation, please speak the words in **bold**.

PRELUDE

Tara Zimmerman

WELCOME

The ringing of the bell

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

[Isaiah 60:1-6, Matthew 2:1-12]

Pastor: Darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over people, but the Lord has risen and His glory has appeared. Arise, assemble, shine; come to adore Jesus, God's only Son. Lift up your eyes and look about you for your Light has come. Look and be radiant.

People: Our hearts throb and swell with joy. We are overjoyed. We bow down and worship You, Jesus. We open our treasures to bring You gifts.

All: We come to proclaim the praise of the Lord, the Ruler, Jesus Christ who shepherds God's people.

***HYMN**

As with Gladness

**¹ As with gladness those of old did the guiding star behold.
As with joy they hailed its light, leading onward, beaming bright.
So, most gracious Lord, may we evermore Your splendor see.**

**² As with joyful steps they sped, Savior, to Your lowly bed.
There to bend the knee before Christ, Whom heaven and earth adore.
So may we with willing feet ever seek Your mercy seat.**

**³ As they offered gifts most rare at that cradle plain and bare,
so may we with holy joy, pure and free from sin's alloy,
all our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to You, our heavenly King.**

**⁴ Holy Jesus, every day keep us in the narrow way,
and when earthly things are past, bring our ransomed lives at last
where they need no star to guide, where no clouds Your glory hide.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE: What gift can you bring Jesus?

SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 72:1-7, 10; Matthew 2:1-12

CONFESSION

We focus on the darkness and storms around us rather than looking to see You, Jesus, our Light and glory.
We tend to keep our eyes downcast rather than looking at the evidence of Your care around us.
Our emotions about You can be rather flat: no heart throbbing, no swelling with joy, no radiance.
We can be stingy with our gifts, not to mention our praise.
We don't always follow the Star, giving of our time and treasure and safety.

Assurance of Pardon

They opened their treasures and presented Him with gifts of ... myrrh.

[Matthew 2:11]

SERMON: Day of the King

ANTHEM

Tara Zimmerman

SONG

Shine Jesus, Shine

**Lord, the light of Your love is shining, in the midst of the darkness, shining.
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us. Set us free by the truth You now bring us. Shine on me, shine on me.**

**Shine, Jesus, shine. Fill this land with the Father's glory. Blaze, Spirit, blaze. Set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow. Flood the nations with grace and mercy. Send forth Your Word, Lord, and let there be light.**

GOD'S WORD ON GIVING

[Matthew 2:11]

They saw [Jesus] and bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented Him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

PRAYERS for the people and pastoral prayer

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father Who is in heaven, hallowed be Your Name.
Your kingdom come; Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

*HYMN

Arise, Your Light Has Come

**¹ Arise, your Light has come! The Spirit's call obey.
Show forth the glory of your God which shines on you today.**

**² Arise, your Light has come! Fling wide the prison door.
Proclaim the captive's liberty, good tidings to the poor.**

**³ Arise, your Light has come! All you in sorrow born,
bind up the brokenhearted ones and comfort those who mourn.**

**⁴ Arise, your Light has come! The mountains burst in song!
Rise up like eagles on the wing, God's pow'r will make us strong.**

BENEDICTION

[from Psalm 72:1-7]

God's Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, is just and righteous. He brings prosperity to you. He defends the afflicted, saves the needy children, crushes the oppressor. He endures forever. Leave here as little Christs, God's ambassadors, bringing joyful, gentle showers of justice and righteousness to all the earth.

NOTES ON PARISH LIFE

POSTLUDE

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him."

Matthew 2:1-2

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