

Dear Congregation,

Below is this week's home worship guide. It has been created for general use— but especially for those who cannot attend worship services in person. Links are provided for suggested worship hymns, and for the morning sermon.

Note that the Worship Guide is being published **Sunday** afternoon. The sermon was recorded during the worship service in our sanctuary this morning.

Sunday, January 03, 2021

Call to Worship: Psalm 107:1—3

^[1] Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever!
^[2] Let the redeemed of the LORD say so,
whom he has redeemed from trouble
^[3] and gathered in from the lands,
from the east and from the west,
from the north and from the south. (ESV)

Opening Prayer:

Almighty 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 forever. Amen

Songs for Worship: Titles & Links Below

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YcKIYUL5B0E&ab_channel=MartijndeGroot

We Three Kings

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BaheOgdGKJQ&ab_channel=WorshipVideos

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 60:1—6

^[1] Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

^[2] For behold, darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples;
but the LORD will arise upon you,
and his glory will be seen upon you.

^[3] And nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your rising.

^[4] Lift up your eyes all around, and see;
they all gather together, they come to you;
your sons shall come from afar,
and your daughters shall be carried on the hip.

^[5] Then you shall see and be radiant;

your heart shall thrill and exult,
because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you,
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.

^[6] 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 bring good news, the praises of the LORD. (ESV)

Sermon

The Journey of the Wise

Shawn Carafa

<http://www.atticapres.org/Sermons/2021/2021-01-03.mp3>

Sermon Text

Matthew 2:1—12

^[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. (ESV)

Benediction:

Ephesians 3:20—21

^[20] Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly
than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us,
^[21] to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus
throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen. (ESV)

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