

# — ST. MICHAEL'S — EPISCOPAL CHURCH



January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2026

## THE FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY

### PRELUDE MUSIC & WELCOME

*Officiant*      The Glory of the Lord has been revealed.

*People*      **And all the people shall see the saving grace of  
our God.**

*Officiant* Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Officiant*      The Lord be with you.

*People*      **And also with you.**

*Officiant*      Let us pray.

O 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 for ever. **Amen.**

**A reading from the book of Isaiah (60:1-6)**

Arise, shine; for your light has come,  
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.  
For darkness shall cover the earth,  
and thick darkness the peoples;  
but the Lord will arise upon you,  
and his glory will appear over you.  
Nations shall come to your light,  
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.  
Lift up your eyes and look around;  
they all gather together, they come to you;  
your sons shall come from far away,  
and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms.  
Then you shall see and be radiant;  
your heart shall thrill and rejoice,  
because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you,  
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.  
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 proclaim the praise of the Lord.

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**Please pray Psalm 72:17, 10-14 responsively by half-verse.**

1 Give the King your justice, O God, \*

**and your righteousness to the King's Son;**

2 That he may rule your people righteously \*

**and the poor with justice;**

3 That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, \*

**and the little hills bring righteousness.**

4 He shall defend the needy among the people; \*

**he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.**

5 He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, \*

**from one generation to another.**

6 He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, \*

**like showers that water the earth.**

7 In his time shall the righteous flourish; \*

**there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.**

10 The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay tribute, \*

**and the kings of Arabia and Saba offer gifts.**

11 All kings shall bow down before him, \*

**and all the nations do him service.**

12 For he shall deliver the poor who cries out in distress, \*

**and the oppressed who has no helper.**

13 He shall have pity on the lowly and poor; \*  
**he shall preserve the lives of the needy.**

14 He shall redeem their lives from oppression and violence, \*  
**and dear shall their blood be in his sight.**

### **PROCLAMATION OF THE GOSPEL MATTHEW (2:1-12)**

*Officiant* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

`And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;  
for from you shall come a ruler  
who is to shepherd my people Israel.'"

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king,

they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

*Officiant*            The Gospel of the Lord.

*People*              **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

### CANDLE LIGHTING AND SILENT PRAYER

You are invited to light a candle and observe a period of silent personal prayer time.

### THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Officiant* God of Love, arise, and shine in our hearts as we offer our prayers and praises to you saying, Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

*Reader* Grant to the church wisdom to discern the presence of God in our midst and the courage to follow wherever it leads us. We especially pray for Archbishop of Canterbury elect Sarah Mullally, Sean, our Presiding Bishop, Megan our Bishop, Megan, Katie, Mike, Rod, and Jesse, our clergy. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bestow your blessing upon our nation, give our leaders loving hearts and concern for the least among us and embolden us to act out our faith in our common life. We pray especially for Christine, our head of school, for all the staff, teachers and students at St. Michael's Day School and Starr King TK-8. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Be with us today and every day that your glory might show forth in our lives. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We give thanks for the glories and abundance of creation, help us to cultivate gratitude in our hearts and souls that we might harvest generosity and love. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Be present for all who suffer in body, mind or spirit, give courage to the fearful, hope to the despairing, healing to the sick, wholeness to the injured, and comfort to the dying. Especially we pray for **Holly, Nancy, Sara, Dorothy, Kathy, Dawn, Jane, Jennine, Avery, Lynn, Debbie, Dan, Jon, Sarah, Jennifer, Michael, Andrea, Chris, Liz, Mike, Tina, Mary, Kay, Hunter, and Billie.** Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray that the dead might rest in your eternal care and that we too may enter into the glory of your presence in your new kingdom. We especially pray for the repose of the soul of Marguerite Clugston and Nina Soto and for peace and comfort to their families and loved ones. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For what else or whom else shall we pray? (*A time of silence is kept.*) Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

*Officiant* Manifest God may the example of Christ be our guide and His love the beacon of hope that ever draws us forward towards becoming the people you created us to be. **Amen.**

## **THE PEACE**

*Officiant* The peace of Christ be always with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

## **SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER \***

*Officiant* In union, O Lord, with the faithful at every altar of your Church where the Holy Eucharist is celebrated, we desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. We present to you our souls and bodies with the earnest wish that we may always be united to you, and, since we cannot now receive you sacramentally, we beseech you to come spiritually into our hearts. We unite ourselves with you and embrace you with all the love of our souls. Let nothing ever separate you from us. May we live in you, and may you live in us, both in this life and in the life to come.

**Amen.**

*\*Julian of Norwich liturgy*

*Officiant* Together, let us pray the prayer Jesus taught us.

**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, for ever  
and ever. Amen.**

## **BLESSING**

*Officiant* The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding,  
keep our hearts and minds in the knowledge and love  
of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the  
blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the  
Holy Spirit, be amongst us, and remain with us always.  
**Amen.**

*Officiant* Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord!

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**CONCLUDING REMARKS, DISCUSSION, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND  
CHECK IN.**