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January 4, 2014

Communion

(Portions of the service that are in **BOLD** are to be said by all. All points marked \* those who are able are invited to stand.)

## Approach

Words of Welcome

Isaiah 60: 1-6 - The Prophecy

\* Hymn VU #79 – "Arise, Your Light is Come"

Prayer of Approach

God of stars and desert wanderers, we are here on a journey of our own. We have followed a light: a habit formed long ago, a resolution made recently, an ache for a better way of life. We trust that the light will bring understanding and patience to our cluttered, chaotic lives. We imagine the light will purge the shadows of doubt and evil that disrupt our peace. In Jesus, light penetrated this world revealing God's love and forgiveness. Allow us to bask in that hope-filled light in our time of worship. AMEN

\* Hymn VU #82 – "A Light is Gleaming"

Matthew 2: 1-12 – The Reality

\* Hymn VU #81 – "As With Gladness Men of Old"

Theme – "God's plan: micromanaging at its best!"

## The Response

**Announcements** 

\* Offering / Response (VU #93 vs. 4)

When heaven's bright with mystery
And stars still lead an unknown way,
When love still lights a gentle path
Where courts of power can hold no sway,
There with the Magi, let us kneel,
Our gifts to share, God's world to heal

Celebration of Communion

One: May our uncommon God be with you!

All: And also with you!

One: Lift up your hearts to God, my friends.

All: We are overwhelmed with joy as we open them

to God's brightness each day.

One: Children of God, come and sing praises

All: We come from near and far away

to give glory to our God.

...Holy, holy, holy are you, God our God...

...Christ died, the shadows embracing him; Christ arose, your glory illumining the way; Christ will come, to walk beside us to your Light...

Invitation

Post-Communion Prayer

Lord God, may we, with the Wise Men, be drawn by your light, and recognise the glory of your presence in your Son, the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

\* Hymn VU #92 – "In the Darkness Shines the Splendor"

Benediction / Response (VU #84 vs. 4)

O Light of Nations, fill the earth; Our faith and hope and love renew. Come, lead the peoples to your peace, As stars once led the way to you.

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Rev. Dr. Sharon Wilson, Minister Luci Toews, Church Administrator Myrna Hagues, Organist Helen Smallwood, Liturgist Patrick Woodbeck, Associate Minister Laura Steidl, Music Director Jessica Steidl, Joyful Noise Director Gina Grant, Custodian

Douglas Gauthier & Gloria Waldron, Nursery Care Givers

Ushers: Sylvia Cassie and Deanna Kernaghan Greeters: Joyce Muir and Dorothy Galston Communion Servers: Darlene Scott, Evelyn Day, Thelma Mallard and Maxine Pattle