

January 8, 2017

(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

Gathering Hymn – "We Three Kings" (words on screen)

Call to Worship

One: Gracious and all loving God,

All: You call to us across deep waters and dark places.

One: Yours is the light which guides us All: And the voice which we follow.

One: We pray that you would reveal yourself to us as we worship you.

All: May those without hope be encouraged; those who are sad,

cheered; those who are seeking, find you; and may all

things be according to your will.

One: In the name of your beloved Son, the newly given light of the

world we come to worship.

AII: AMEN

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

Prayer of Approach and Confession

We can be found kneeling in the darkness, waiting until we see God's light emerge. Let us wait with hope filled hearts, as Christ's image grows within us and shows us life. Let Him speak to us and teach us love, until we open our hearts to be his home. Although we wait God, we know that we are incredibly stubborn. We have entered the season in which Your Light has been given to the world, your blessings have been poured out on the world, and yet all we can think about is our own problems, our own needs, our own desires. Help us to desire you, loving God. Help us to yearn for your presence. Again let us receive the blessings offered in creation, in the birth of Jesus, so that we might truly find ourselves living in the light. We ask this in Jesus' name. AMEN

Children's Time / The Lord's Prayer

Hymn – "Brightest and Best of the Sons of the Morning" (words on screen)

The Word

Scripture Reading – Isaiah 60: 1-6
Matthew 2: 1-12

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

THANKS BE TO GOD!

Meditation – "A New Year, Same Old Star?"

(a quiet time for your personal reflection and prayer)

Anthem - "Wise Men Saw the Light"

The Response

Announcements / Minute Person – Gwen Polak

* Offering / Response

What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb,
If I were a wise man, I would do my part;
Yet what I can I give him – give my heart.

Pastoral Prayer

- * Hymn VU #79 "Arise, Your Light is Come"
- * Benediction / Response (MV #211)

Go now in peace, Guided by the light of Christ, So you may be nourished By the Word of Life.

**

Patrick Woodbeck, Student Minister Luci Toews, Office Administrator Anne Thoroughgood, Liturgist Laura Steidl, Music Director Myrna Hagues, Organist Gina Grant, Custodian

Ushers: Edna Erickson and Ruth Klein Greeters: Shirley Goossen and Sylvia Mann