



“And I heard a loud voice
from the throne saying,
‘Look! God’s dwelling place is
now among the people, and he
will dwell with them.’”

REVELATION 21:3



Christmas Season: Arrival
“The King Has Come”
January 4, 2026

Scan to check out our website.



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PRELUDE / COUNTDOWN
WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS
WELCOME OF GUEST
PASSING THE PEACE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist

(Based on Matthew 2:1-12, Isaiah 60:1-6)

Liturgist: Light! Light, light and more light! Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of God has risen upon you.

Congregation: Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising.

Liturgist: When Jesus was born in Bethlehem, wise men came from the East, saying: Where is he who is born king of the Jews?

Congregation: For we have seen his star in the East and have come to worship him.

Liturgist: The wonderful light of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

Congregation: And also with you.

*HYMN OF PRAISE

Angels from the Realms of Glory (v. 1-4)

UMH #220

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Apostles' Creed

Liturgist

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into Hell; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

*GLORIA PATRI

UMH #70

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 2:1-12 (NKJV)

Liturgist

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 have seen His Star in the East and have come to worship Him."

3 When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. 4 And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born.

5 So they said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it is written by the prophet:

6 'But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,

Are not the least among the rulers of Judah.

For out of you shall come a Ruler

Who will shepherd My people, Israel.'"

7 Then Herod, when he had secretly called the wise men, determined from them what time the star appeared. 8 And he sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the young Child, and when you have found Him, bring back word to me, that I may come and worship Him also."

9 When they heard the king, they departed; and behold, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came and stood over where the young Child was. 10 When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceedingly great joy. 11 And when they had come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary His mother and fell down and worshiped Him. And when they had opened their treasures, they presented gifts to Him: gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

12 Then, being divinely warned in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed for their own country another way.

Liturgist: This is the word of God for the people of God.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Pastor

CHILDREN'S PRAYER

Dear Jesus, Thank You for the wonderful story of the three wise men who traveled far to bring You gifts. Help us remember to seek You with open hearts, just like they did, and to share kindness and joy with everyone we meet. May Your love guide us each day. Amen.

NEW TESTAMENT READING: Revelations 21:3-4 (NKJV)

Liturgist 3 And I heard a

loud voice from heaven saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God. 4 And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away."

Liturgist: This is the word of God for the people of God.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

MISSION MOMENT

PRESENTATION OF PRAYERS AND PRAISE

Prayer cards are on the information table. If you have a prayer request that you would like to share with the congregation, please fill out a card and pass it toward the center aisle as we are singing the Hymn of Preparation. The pastor will collect them during the hymn and pray over cards at the chancel rail.

HYMN OF PREPARATION

What Child is This (v. 1-3)

UMH #219

PASTORAL PRAYER

Pastor

SERMON

Pastor

Title: The King Has Come

Theme: Christmas Season: Arrival

Main Idea: Jesus' arrival wasn't just a historical event—it was a life-changing turning point for all humanity, offering salvation, hope, and the presence of God with us.

RECEIVING OF TITHES AND SACRIFICES (Celebrating our Gifts)

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Generous God, we are reminded through scripture of the spiritual gifts that you give. We know that these are not for us to hold onto but are gifts for us to share – gifts from you meant for giving. As we offer our tithes and offerings, prompt us to commit more than dollars, but to see the gifts you have written on our hearts and to share generously of these as well! We pray these words in the name of Jesus, in whose way we follow, for whose love we are eternally grateful. Amen.

COLLECTION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God, From Whom All Blessings

UMH #95

HOLY COMMUNION

*HYMN OF CELEBRATION

We Three Kings (v. 1-5)

UMH #254

*COMMISSION / BENEDICTION

Pastor

May this holy season be for each of us a time of moving beyond what is “reasonable” and toward the star of wonder; moving beyond grasping tight to what we have to unclenching our hands and letting go, following the Light where it leads; Moving beyond competition toward cooperation, seeing that all humans are sisters and brothers; moving beyond the anxiety of small concerns towards the joys of justice and peace. May the transforming acceptance of Mary and Joseph, the imagination of the shepherds, and the persistence of the wise men guide us as we seek the Truth, always moving toward the Divine promise. Always aware God can be hidden in the frailest among us, always open to the unexpected flash of Grace, to the showing forth of that Love that embraces us all...and all of God's Children said...Amen.

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Love and Fellowship

See screen

POSTLUDE

**Please stand as you are able*