

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.

### **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

#### **Prayer over the Gifts**

Gracious God,  
**accept the offering of your Church,  
the hearts of your people  
joined in praise and thanksgiving,  
in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.**

#### **Prayer After Communion**

God of all the nations of the earth,  
**guide us with your light.  
Help us to recognize Christ as he comes to us  
in this eucharist and in our neighbours.  
May we welcome him with love,  
for he is Lord now and for ever. Amen.**

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

### **The Epiphany of the Lord - (White or Gold)**

#### **Readings**

##### **Collect**

Eternal God,  
**who by a star led wise men to the worship of your Son. Guide by your light the nations of the earth, that the whole world may know your glory;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God,  
now and for ever. Amen.**

##### **First Reading**

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.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalms 72:1-7, 10-14**

REFRAIN: *"All kings shall bow down before him, and the nations do him service"*



Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the king's son;  
**That he may rule your people righteously and the poor with justice;**  
That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, and the little hills bring  
righteousness. R  
**He shall defend the needy among the people; he shall rescue the poor and crush the  
oppressor.**  
He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, from one generation to another.  
**He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, like showers that water the earth.**  
In his time shall the righteous flourish; there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall  
be no more. R  
**The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay tribute, and the kings of Arabia and Saba  
offer gifts.**  
All kings shall bow down before him, and all the nations do him service.  
**For he shall deliver the poor who cries out in distress, and the oppressed who has no  
helper. R**  
He shall have pity on the lowly and poor; he shall preserve the lives of the needy.  
**He shall redeem their lives from oppression and violence, and dear shall their blood be in  
his sight. R**

### Second Reading

A READING FROM THE LETTER OF PAUL TO THE EPHESIANS 3:1-12

This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you  
Gentiles - for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace  
that was given me for you, and how the mystery was made known to me by  
revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, a reading of which will enable you  
to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. In former generations

this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed  
to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that is, the Gentiles have  
become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in  
Christ Jesus through the gospel. Of this gospel I have become a servant  
according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his  
power. Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me  
to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to make  
everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who  
created all things; so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich  
variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly  
places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out  
in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and  
confidence through faith in him.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### Gospel

THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST  
ACCORDING TO MATTHEW 2:1-1

**Glory to you, Lord Jesus 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