

# EPIPHANY SUNDAY

## JANUARY 4, 2026

### WE GATHER IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD

**Preparing for Worship:** On Epiphany, we gather to celebrate the light of Christ revealed to the nations (Gen.10), a light that no darkness can overcome. The Bible teaches us that **God's salvation is not hidden but made known to all people, of all ages**, drawing all people to receive and worship the newborn King. As we prepare our hearts, minds, and souls for worship, may we follow the light of Christ with joy, faith, and renewed commitment to worldwide evangelism.

**Prelude** Janice Hedberg-Boyce, Church Accompanist

**Welcome and Greetings in Jesus' Name** Rev. Dr. Ivan E. Greuter

**\*Opening Song (Stand) # 193 "As with Gladness, Men of Old"** DIX

**\*Opening Prayer (Stand)** Rev. Dr. Ivan E. Greuter

**Song** "Light of the World- Sing Hallelujah" Worship Team

**Call to Worship:**

#### **The Lighting of the Candles for the Wise Men:**

**LEADER:** Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

**PEOPLE:** The light of Christ shines in the darkness and draws all people to God.

**LEADER:** Nations come to the light, and kings to the brightness of its dawn.

**PEOPLE:** We rejoice that God's salvation is for all - near and far, known and unknown.

**LEADER:** Guided by a star, the wise ones journeyed from distant lands to seek the child born King.

**PEOPLE:** They brought gifts and worship, and their joy overflowed with praise.

**LEADER:** In Christ, the mystery is revealed: God's grace is shared with all people, and all are invited into God's promises.

**PEOPLE:** We celebrate the light made known in Jesus Christ.

**LEADER:** As we light this candle, we give thanks for Christ, the Light of the world.

**ALL:** Shine in us, O God, that we may reflect your light, proclaim your justice, and walk in the joy of your salvation. Amen.

**Song of Faith # 191 "The Birthday of a King"** NEIDLINGER

#### **WE HEAR THE WORD OF THE LORD**

Scripture Reader: Matt Smith

**Isaiah 60:1-6**

#### **The First Reading**

**The Second Reading** **Ephesians 3:1-12**

Gospel Reader: Deacon Sonia Roling

**\*The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ (Stand)** **Matthew 2:1-12**

**\*Responsorial (Stand) # 215 "We Three Kings"** **KINGS OF ORIENT**

**\*Greeting and Sharing Peace with Family and Neighbors (Stand)**

**The Children's Sermon** (Children's Church for Students Preschool–3<sup>rd</sup> Grade)

#### **Announcements & Prayers of the People**

**Presentation of Tithes, Gifts, and Donations** – As the Magi brought gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh to honor the Christ Child, so we now bring our offerings to the Lord. Let us give generously, offering not only our treasures but our lives in worship to the One who is worthy of receiving honor, glory and praise.

**Offertory** "Amen, Go Tell It On the Mountain " Chancel Choir

**A Prayer of Illumination & Message** "Outwitting Evil"  
The Reverend Doctor Ivan E. Greuter, Senior Minister

#### **WE FEAST AT THE TABLE OF THE LORD**

**Invitation to the Table of the Lord<sup>†</sup>** (Servers Prepare)

**Communion Song** "I Wonder as I Wander"

**Words of Institution and The Lord's Prayer – 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever.

### Holy Communion: The Lord's Supper

Breaking of Bread  
Passing of the Cup

*The Body of Christ; The Bread of Heaven  
The Blood of Christ; The Cup of Salvation*

### WE RESPOND TO THE HOLY SPIRIT IN FAITH AND SERVICE

**Invitation to Faith and Fellowship** – If the Spirit of God is moving you to receive God's forgiving love in Jesus, calling you to be a follower of Jesus in the waters of baptism or encouraging you to join this Christian Church, please come forward during this song.

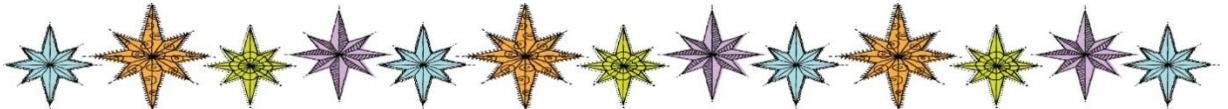
\*Hymn (Stand) #                    "Away in the Manger"

\*Spoken Benediction

Rev. Dr. Ivan E. Greuter

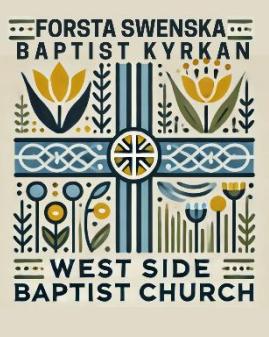
Postlude

Janice Hedberg-Boyce, Church Accompanist



**HOW TO JOIN THIS CHRISTIAN CHURCH - COME FORWARD** – Any person professing faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, and accepting the Baptist principles, practices, and the covenant of this church, may join this Christian church. Persons interested in affiliating should speak with the Pastor or come forward at a congregation meeting. A person may join by Believer's Baptism, Letter of Transfer from a previous Christian church with prior baptism, or a Satisfactory Statement of Christian Faith.

**OUR MISSION** – We love God and We love People by sharing the Good News of God's forgiving, renewing love in Jesus Christ by word and deed to improve the lives of neighbors. West Side Baptist Church is an independent, autonomous Christian church partnering for mission support with like-minded people of faith in our City, County, State, Nation, and World.



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