

✚ Epiphany Sunday ✚
January 7, 2018 10:00 A.M.

GATHERING IN WORSHIP

Please use the time during the prelude for quiet meditation to prepare yourself for worship.

◆ **Prelude**

◆ **Call to Worship (Responsively)**

Pastor: What if the Lord had not been on our side? Answer, O Israel!

People: If the Lord had not been on our side when our enemies attacked us, then they would have swallowed us alive in their furious anger against us; then the flood would have carried us away, the water would have covered us, the raging torrent would have drowned us.

Pastor: Let us thank the Lord, who has not let our enemies destroy us.

People: We have escaped like a bird from a hunter's trap; the trap is broken, and we are free!

Our help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

◆ **Hymn of Praise** (BH #295) *Come, Christians, Join and Sing*

◆ **Invocation**

The Lord's Prayer (forgive us our sins...)

WORD

Scripture Readings

Jeremiah 31:15-17

Matthew 2:1-12

Matthew 2:13-18, I Peter 4:12-19

◆ **Gloria Patri** (BH #109)

Pastoral Prayer

◆ **Hymn of Preparation** (BH #313) *How Majestic is Your Name*

Message "The Holy Innocents, Martyrs"
Rev. Mark Westlind

RESPONSE

◆ **Hymn of Response** (BH #182) *Break Forth, O Beauteous Light*

Prayer of Confession (In Unison):

Gracious God, we would like to be among those who saw the coming of the Christ Child, those who dropped all that they were doing and traveled to worship the coming of God's love into this world.

Yet, merciful God, we must recognize all the times we are more like Herod.

We confess that at times, through our actions and inactions, we find our own need for control more compelling than the needs of others for health and safety; we cling to the security of our privilege, rather than standing up for the rights of the oppressed; we are complicit in the harming of innocents for the sake of profit, or power, or because we fear to know, and to change, the injustices of this world.

Loving God, we confess our sins against you and one another, and pray that you will fill us with your light, that we may live our lives as true disciples in your name, without counting the cost. Amen.

Time for personal reflection and confession.

Words of Assurance (Responsively):

Pastor: God's light is present in this world;

Present in the Christ child, born to lead us out of darkness;

Present in the star, in all that guides us to love.

People: God's light is in the world, and the darkness did not overcome it. God's grace is in the world, and our mis-steps will not overcome it. We are loved, we are forgiven. Alleluia! Amen.

Passing of the Peace

Life Together

Offering

Offertory *Hallelujah, Light Has Come* **Amy Yassinger, Vocalist**

◆ *Doxology*

◆ Prayer of Dedication

Holy Communion

Invitation to the Lord's Supper

◆ Affirmation of Faith (BH #878)

◆ Words of Institution

◆ Prayer of Consecration

Sharing the Bread and the Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving

SENDING

◆ **Hymn of Dismissal** (BH #345) *Lord, I Want to Be a Christian*

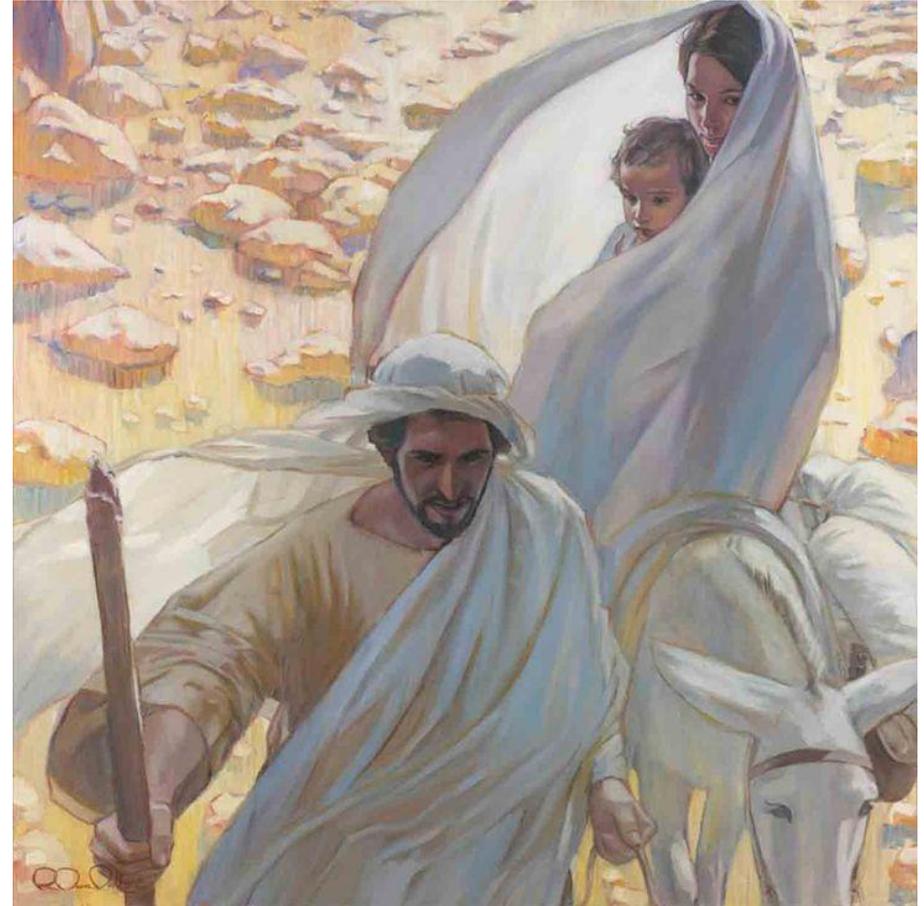
◆ **Benediction**

Postlude

◆ **Indicates those who are able should stand.**

Rev. Mark Westlind.....Interim Pastor
 Stuart Seale.....Director of Music and Worship
 Betty Aardema and Nate Van Der Male.....Organists
 Amanda Fulton.....Director, Noah's Ark Preschool
 Karen Christakos.....Church Secretary
 Joe Michalowicz.....Custodian

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I Peter 4:12-19

¹²Dear friends, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that has come on you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³But rejoice inasmuch as you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed. ¹⁴If you are insulted because of the name of Christ, you are blessed, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you. ¹⁵If you suffer, it should not be as a murderer or thief or any other kind of criminal, or even as a meddler. ¹⁶However, if you suffer as a Christian, do not be ashamed, but praise God that you bear that name.¹⁷For it is time for judgment to begin with God’s household; and if it begins with us, what will the outcome be for those who do not obey the gospel of God? ¹⁸And, “If it is hard for the righteous to be saved, what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?” ¹⁹So then, those who suffer according to God’s will should commit themselves to their faithful Creator and continue to do good.

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WELCOME TO TRINITY

So that we can get to know you better and you can better know us, please complete the tear-off below and place in the offering plate. Thank you!

Date: _____

Name _____

Phone _____

Address _____

NOTES OF INTEREST

Childcare is offered for infants and younger children in the church nursery. If you need directions or more information feel free to ask an usher for assistance.

PRAYER CONCERNS: Greg Goetz, Carol Latimer, Bruce Sladek, Lorraine Sorensen, Linnea Wimpenny.

Thank you to Amy Yassinger for the special music this morning.

Calendar for the Week:

Today:

- 10 A.M. Worship
- 10–11 A.M. Nursery for Infants/Sunday School Pre-K – 6th Grade
- 11:15 A.M. Confirmation Class and High School Youth Group
- 11:30 A.M. Adult Sunday School

This Week:

- Mon.-Fri. 9 A.M. Noah’s Ark Preschool
- Tues. 9:30 A.M. Women’s Bible Study
- Tues. 6:30 P.M. Deacons meeting
- Tues. 7 P.M. Trustees & CE Board meetings
- Wed. 6 P.M. Light supper before “Kingdom” class
- Wed. 6:30 P.M. Pastor Mark’s “Kingdom” class
- Thurs. 11 A.M. Pryme Tymers

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Jan. 14 – Nursery Helpers: Heidi Weszely, Melissa Panush
Greeters: Tom & Pat Klutcharch

Announcements:

Adult Sunday School

Join Greg Goetz today after worship in the Fireside Room as he leads the class on the topic "The Library of Alexandria".

Thank You

Thank you, Trinity family and friends, for your prayers and beautiful cards during my recent illness and surgery. Your thoughtfulness was sincerely appreciated. Gloria Vitro

Today's Scripture:

Jeremiah 31:15-17

¹⁵This is what the LORD says:

"A voice is heard in Ramah, mourning and great weeping, Rachel weeping for her children and refusing to be comforted, because they are no more."

¹⁶This is what the LORD says:

"Restrain your voice from weeping and your eyes from tears, for your work will be rewarded," declares the LORD. "They will return from the land of the enemy.

¹⁷So there is hope for your descendants,"

declares the LORD. "Your children will return to their own land.

Matthew 2:1-12

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Mag from the east came to Jerusalem ²and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him."

³When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him.⁴When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵"In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied, "for this is what the prophet has written:

⁶"'But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;

for out of you will come a ruler

who will shepherd my people Israel.'"

⁷Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. ⁸He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him."

⁹After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. ¹¹On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

Matthew 2:13-18

¹³When they had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. "Get up," he said, "take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him."

¹⁴So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt, ¹⁵where he stayed until the death of Herod. And so was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophet: "Out of Egypt I called my son." ¹⁶When Herod realized that he had been outwitted by the Magi, he was furious, and he gave orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity who were two years old and under, in accordance with the time he had learned from the Magi. ¹⁷Then what was said through the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled: ¹⁸"A voice is heard in Ramah, weeping and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children and refusing to be comforted, because they are no more."