

# EPIPHANY



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

*On this holy night we celebrate the event of the Epiphany in a service of Evening Prayer.  
May these hymns, scripture, and prayer wash over you and bring the Light of Christ to you  
this night and always.*

### *HYMN*

*What star is this, with beams so bright  
more beautiful than the noonday light?  
It shines to herald forth the King,  
and Gentiles to his crib to bring.*

*True spake the prophet from afar  
who told the rise of Jacob's star;  
and eastern sages with amaze  
upon the wondrous token gaze.*

*The guiding star above is bright,  
within them shines a clearer light,  
and leads them on with power benign  
to seek the Giver of the sign.*

*O Jesus while the star of grace  
impels us on to seek thy face,  
let not our slothful hearts refuse  
the guidance of thy light to use.*

*To God the Father, heavenly Light,  
to Christ, revealed in earthly night,  
to God the Holy Ghost we raise our  
equal and unceasing praise.*

*Charles Coffin 1676-1749  
(The Hymnal 1982 #124)*



O God, make speed to save us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

## **O GRACIOUS LIGHT**

O gracious Light,  
pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,  
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun,  
and our eyes behold the vesper light,  
we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,  
O Son of God, O Giver of life,  
and to be glorified though all the worlds.

## **Psalm**

*72:1-7,10-14*

### ***Deus, iudicium***

1 Give the King your justice, O God, \*  
and your righteousness to the King's Son;  
2 That he may rule your people righteously \*  
and the poor with justice;  
3 That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, \*  
and the little hills bring righteousness.  
4 He shall defend the needy among the people; \*  
he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.  
5 He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, \*  
from one generation to another.  
6 He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, \*  
like showers that water the earth.  
7 In his time shall the righteous flourish; \*  
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.  
10 The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay tribute, \*

and the kings of Arabia and Saba offer gifts.

11 All kings shall bow down before him, \*  
and all the nations do him service.

12 For he shall deliver the poor who cries out in distress, \*  
and the oppressed who has no helper.

13 He shall have pity on the lowly and poor; \*  
he shall preserve the lives of the needy.

14 He shall redeem their lives from oppression and violence, \*  
and dear shall their blood be in his sight.

## **THE FIRST LESSON**

*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 SONG OF MARY**

*Magnificat*

My soul doth magnify the Lord,  
And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.

For he hath regarded  
The lowliness of his handmaiden.

For behold from henceforth

All generations shall call me blessed.  
For he that is mighty hath magnified me,  
And holy is his Name.  
And his mercy is on them that fear him  
Throughout all generations.  
He hath showed strength with his arm;  
He hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.  
He hath put down the mighty from their seat,  
And hath exalted the humble and meek.  
He hath filled the hungry with good things,  
And the rich he hath sent empty away.  
He remembering his mercy hath helped his servant Israel,  
As he promised to our forefather,  
Abraham and his seed for ever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

## **THE SECOND LESSON**

*Matthew 2:1-12*

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 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.

## **THE SONG OF SIMEON**

*Nunc dimittis*

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace,  
according to thy word;  
For mine eyes have seen thy salvation,  
which thou hast prepared before the face of all people,  
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles,  
and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

## **THE CREED**

We have faith in God the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named.  
We have faith in God the Son, who lives in our hearts through faith, and fill us with his love.  
We have faith in God the Holy Spirit, who strengthens us with power from on high.  
We faith in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Our Father, who are 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

## **THE SUFFRAGES**

That this evening may be holy, good, and peaceful,  
*We entreat you O, Lord.*

That your holy angels may lead us in paths of peace and goodwill,  
*We entreat you O, Lord.*

That we may be pardoned and forgiven for our sins and offenses,  
*We entreat you O, Lord.*

That there may be peace to your Church and to the whole world,  
*We entreat you O, Lord.*

That we may depart this life in your faith and fear, and not be condemned before the great  
judgment seat of Christ,  
*We entreat you O, Lord.*

That we may be bound together by your Holy Spirit in the communion of Mary, Joseph and all  
your saints, entrusting one another and all our life to Christ,  
*We entreat you O, Lord.*

### **THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

O God, by the leading of a star you manifested your only Son to the peoples of the  
earth: Lead us, who know you now by faith, to your presence, where we may see  
your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with  
you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

### **A COLLECT FOR PEACE**

Most holy God, the source of all good desires, all right judgments, and all just  
works: Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, so that  
our minds may be fixed on the doing of your will, and that we, being delivered  
from the fear of all enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through the mercies  
of Christ Jesus our Savior. Amen.

### **A COLLECT FOR THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST**

Lord Jesus, stay with us, for evening is at hand and the day is past; be our  
companion in the way, kindle our hearts, and awaken hope, that we may know you  
as you are revealed in Scripture and the breaking of bread. Grant this for the sake  
of your love. Amen

O God and Father of all, whom the whole heavens adore: Let the whole earth also  
worship you, all nations obey you, all tongues confess and bless you, and men and  
women everywhere love you and serve you in peace; through Jesus Christ our lord.  
Amen.



### *HYMN*

*As with gladness men of old did the guiding star behold;  
as with joy they hailed its light, leading onward beaming bright;  
so, most gracious Lord, may we evermore be led to thee.*

*As with joyful steps they sped to that lowly manger bed;  
there to bend the knee before him who heaven and earth adore;  
so may we with willing feet ever see the mercy seat.*

*As they offered gifts most rare at the manger rude and bare;  
so may with holy joy, pure and free from sin's alloy,  
all our costliest treasures bring, Christ! To thee, our heavenly King*

*Holy Jesus! every day keep us in the narrow way;  
and, when earthly things are past, bring our ransomed souls at  
last where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glory  
hide.*

*In the heavenly country bright, need they no created light;  
thou its light, its joy, its crown, thou its sun which goes not  
down: there for ever may we sing alleluias to our King.*

*William Chatterton Dix 1837-1898  
(The Hymnal 1982 #119)*



Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all who you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

### **A PRAYER OF ST. CHRYSOSTOM**

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

LET US BLESS THE LORD: THANKS BE TO GOD!

*May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace  
by faith through the power of the Holy Spirit.  
Amen*

*New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Church of Christ in the USA, and used by permission.*

*The Collects, Psalms and Canticles are from the Book of Common Prayer, 1979*