

1-6-19 Epiphany

**KIMBOURNE PARK UNITED CHURCH
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January 6, 2019
Epiphany

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

"Working together to feed God's people mind, body and spirit"



REFLECTION

The star is the symbol of the inward illumination that enlightens souls in order to call them to God.

Columba Marmion

GATHERING

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC AND WELCOME

VU 91 The First Nowell (verses 1 – 3)

CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: We gather in community to rest from our labours, to greet our neighbours, and to open our being to insight and intuition of that greater reality of which we are a part. Adapt. P.H. L’Herrou

Carol: *So let us celebrate the richness and diversity of this life in the presentness of God.*

The community candle is lit.

We pray. We are bold to claim we sense a sacred presence in this place. May it awaken within again the wonder that humbles us, the beauty that informs us, and the creativity that heightens and deepens our living that we may give ourselves in honesty and openness to the larger life before us.

Adapt. C. Wells

ALL: Amen! Let it be so!

VU 87 “I Am the Light of the World”

THE PEACE:

One: Jesus was continuously offering himself to others. As a friend and companion Jesus said, “Peace be with you.” This morning we have the opportunity to offer that divine peace that exists in every cell of our being and so we say, “The peace of Christ be with you.”

ALL: And also with you.

One: Let us offer each other the sign of that peace.

You are invited to share the peace with your neighbours.

INVITATION TO THE CHILDREN TO COME FORWARD

Children of all ages are invited to come forward to sit on the steps.

Video: A Very Special Beginning

MV 47 “Born in Human Likeness”

Meditative Music: “The Old Year Has Passed Away” J.S. Bach

CENTERING

Readings from our broad religious tradition

Selected verses from Psalm 139 Francis Macnab. A fine wind is blowing

God, the Eternal one, you know me:
You know me as I take my rest, and as I rise again.
You know my most distant thoughts.
You trace my journey and all my pathways.
My whole life is open to you.

Before a word comes out of my mouth, you know it.
Your presence seems to every side, behind and before,
and (every now and then) you lay your hand on me.

All this is just too wonderful: how can I possibly understand in?
I know that there is nowhere I can go to escape your Presence ...
Therefore, I find comfort that you know me as you do;
that you test me and try my thoughts.

But watch me lest I take a wrong path.
Lead me forward in a life where I will know for sure
I am accepted and blessed.

Gospel Acclamation: Celtic Alleluia

Cantor: *"We have seen his star in the east, and have come to adore the Lord."*

Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

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

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

"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 be the shepherd of my people Israel"

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

After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen in the east went ahead of them until it stopped over the place

where the child was. When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On 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 and of incense and of myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

MV 110 "First Born of Mary"

First-born of Mary, provocative preacher,
itinerant teacher, outsider's choice;
Jesus inspires and disarms and confuses
Whoever he chooses to hear his voice.

Contemporary Word

VU 82 "A Light is Gleaming" (verse 1)

Litany: "God at Epiphany"

One: In response to the word reflected on, let us stand and share together
a special litany. O God, whose presentness we sense

Men: in the time of dearth,

Women: and in the time of feasting,

Men: in the time of anxiety,

Women: and in the time of opportunity,

Men: in the hour of loss,

Women: and in the hour of given wealth,

Men: in the hour of breaking,

Women: and in the hour when a new foundation is being laid,

Men: in the day of chaos,

Women: and in the day of renewal,

Men: in the day of powerlessness,

Women: and in the day when we witness to a grace that is not our own ...

One: Love in us and in the midst of our community.

**ALL: Stand revealed as light and hope and truth,
that whatever the future brings,
your peace may grow,
your joy inspire,
and your trust in us and in the world
be justified at last.** Adapt. J.M. Hulme

RESPONDING TO GOD'S LOVE

OFFERTORY INVITATION:

One: As 2019 unfolds before us we are reminded to be of good heart, God is with us. Share your time, share your talent and share your money especially this year so that others might experience the good news that God has not forgotten us.

VU 91 "The First Nowell" (verses 4 – 6)

CELEBRATING COMMUNITY

Thanksgiving

One: May it be well with you.

ALL: And also with you.

One: Life is a gift and we its celebration.

ALL: May we rejoice in the beauty that we are. G. Vosper/wwg

Nicole: We give thanks and praise for all that is good in the world.

For that mystery we name God...

For the sage we name Jesus...

For the renewing strength and freedom of the Spirit...

Carol: *God of winter, the unpopular, slandered season,*

God of lightning, wind and storm, God of brisk winter mornings, frosted back lawns and stark hillsides;

of warm socks, coats and gloves, raincoats, umbrellas and warm fires, we open ourselves to all the possibilities life offers us.

So we join our celebration to all people, sing:

ALL: VU 932

Holy, holy, holy are you, God of power and might;

heaven and earth are filled with your glory.

Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed is the one who comes in your name.

Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest!

Bread and Wine

One: We remember the time when Jesus faced difficult decisions and destructive forces:

-in the days and nights of his searching,

-in finding ways to free others from images and ideas that kept them captive and dependent and fearful of God,

-in breaking down social and religious barriers,

-in facing failure,

-in facing death. M. Morwood/pns

Nicole: When we too experience the winter of our lives may we find the courage to let go and trust in your guiding, warming light.

Silence

One: And as we eat together at this table we remember the importance and the words and the actions of all meals in the tradition of Jesus...

He took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to his friends.

Then, he poured a cup of wine, offered thanks for it, and gave it also to his friends.

Carol: *Everyone is welcome to be here.*

ALL: **In this way, we lift up a world of inclusion, where all people live with respect and dignity.**

Carol: *Everyone present will receive a share.*

ALL: **In this way, we lift up a world of generosity, where, as in the examples of Jesus, abundance overcomes scarcity so all are fed.**

Carol: *Everyone is invited now to take a portion, and to see others also receive.*

ALL: **In this way, we lift up a world of sufficiency, where entrenched systems of privilege are challenged, wealth is shared equally, and all are satisfied with enough.**

J. Nelson-Pallmeyer/wsj

Communion

Nicole: So in the meal tradition of Jesus we break and share bread and drink wine, pledging ourselves to allow the spirit that moved in Jesus to move freely in our lives.

Choir: "The Candle Song" G. Kendrick

After Communion

ALL: God of amazing grace, in the cold of the winter months we are grateful for your presentness, warming us. We pray this presence will strengthen us to follow in the way of Jesus, in this city.

SCATTERING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

One: Let us go in faith to ponder in our hearts the mystery and the wonder of this season.

The community candle is extinguished.

MV 209 "Go Make a Difference" Go make a difference. We can make a difference. Go make a difference in the world! (Repeat)

Blessing

One: You are a magnificent blessing just as you are. The world is waiting for you. Go now and share who you are with the world.

VU 974 Amen! Amen! Hallelujah, amen!

Postlude

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Whether you are here for the first time, the 101st time or have been a long standing member we are happy that you are with us this morning.

Our mission is simple-to feed God's people (that's you) mind, body and spirit."

Our doors are open wide and our table welcomes all.

Communion, usually held on the first Sunday of each month, is shared with everyone, of any age, of any belief.

*Should you wish to offer a monetary gift there are **blue envelopes** which can be used and placed on the offering plate.*

*If you have any questions about our community or just want to meet some of our members you are invited to **stay for coffee and "what-nots"** in the hall following the service.*

*To learn more about us visit our website **www.kpuc.org** and/or like our Facebook page www.facebook.com/KimbourneParkUnitedChurch*



Next board meeting will be **Monday January 21, 7:30 PM** in the Jessie Scott room.



Games Night is the 2ND Saturday of each month. The next Games Night is next **Saturday January 12** 5:00-10:00 PM. Everyone is welcome.

ACT!ON SUNDAY

KPUC's commitment to food justice is ACT!ON SUNDAY. It is not instead of worship but rather how we worship. Being part of the KPUC community means that you are part of making every ACT!ON SUNDAY a success.

Sunday January 20 will be our next community breakfast. Let's live out our mission of *"working together to feed God's people mind, body and spirit"*

2019 OFFERING ENVELOPES

Are ready on the **table in the narthex**. If you are not an envelope user and would like a set for 2019 please see Nicole or contact her by phone or email.