

PRELUDE "The Air is Still on Christmas Morn" R. Hanson Karen Rockett, Soprano

*CALL TO WORSHIP (from Matthew 2:1-12, Isaiah 60:1-6) Sandie Benhart, Liturgist

One: Light! Light, light and more light! Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of God has risen upon you.

All: Nations shall come to your light and rulers to the brightness of your rising.

One: When Jesus was born in Bethlehem, wise men came from the East, saying: "Where is he who is born king of the Jews?"

All: For we have seen the star in the East and have come to worship Christ Jesus the Lord.

One: The wonderful light of Christ be with you all.

All: And also with you.



*HYMN 245 "The First Noel" vs. 1-3

*PRAYER FOR EPIPHANY SUNDAY

It was the Magi braving distance and desert, who followed a cosmic light to find Jesus. It is still the light that calls us to the Holy One. The light of beauty that whispers its truth in surprising ways and places. The light of compassion that kneels, and washes road-soiled, life-battered feet. The light of joy that glows even in the darkness of grief and suffering. The light that seeks to shine within us and through us into the dark corners of our world.

Holy God, please lead us, now and always, out of darkness and into the blessed light and holy brightness of Christ. AMEN!

*PASSING THE PEACE

TIME FOR YOUNG CHRISTIANS – CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Rev. Jenny Weber

*GOSPEL SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 2:1-12

Reader: This is the Word of God for the people of God. **All: Thanks be to God.**

MESSAGE "Starshine" Rev. David Aslesen

PASTORAL PRAYER

HYMN 245 "The First Noel" vs. 4-5

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation to the Table and Feast of Christ

Call to Confession, Silent Prayers of Confession & Assurance

Great Thanksgiving

Give thanks to God whose glory appears all around us.

From every corner of the earth let the church praise the Lord.

Blessed is the Holy Child & Holy Redeemer whose radiance fills our souls, sanctuary and world.

In Jesus Christ, Holy Light and Morning Dawn, we are blessed to be the children of God.

In the mystery of grace, Christ becomes bread for the hungry.

We break the bread and rejoice in this gift of steadfast love.

In the mystery of grace, Christ becomes drink for the thirsty.

We drink from the cup and rejoice in this gift of eternal mercy.

Come, Holy Spirit! Illuminate and infuse this sacrament with God's abundant blessing.

Make us one in Spirit to delight in the gift of life, wholeness and service as Christ's church in ministry throughout the earth as we proclaim our faith in the One who taught us to pray saying...

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 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, for ever and ever. Amen.

Breaking the Bread & Sharing the Cup

Anthem "Welcome to Our World" C. Rick Karen Rockett, Soprano

Prayer after Receiving

Holy God, by the grace of our Holy Communion, make us to shine like the sun. With love and wisdom, courage and commitment, may the church bear witness in the New Year and always to the light of Christ in whose name we pray. Amen.

THE OFFERING – SHARING OF OUR BLESSINGS

Offertory "My Lord Has Come" W. Todd Karen Rockett, Soprano

*Doxology, Hymn 94

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!***

*Prayer of Dedication

*CLOSING HYMN 238 "Angels We Have Heard on High"

*BLESSING & SENDING FORTH

POSTLUDE "Fantasia and Fugue in G Minor BuxVW 150" D. Buxtehude

Call to Worship by Bruce Prewer; Prayer for Epiphany Sunday by John van der Laar

BAKER MEMORIAL CHURCH STAFF:

Pastor: Rev. David P. Aslesen; Director of Music Ministry: Jeff Hunt; Director of Faith Formation: Rev. Jenny Weber; Director of Children & Family Ministry: Shelly Stienbarger; Director of Administration & Finance: Steven Wilhelm; Maintenance Manager: Karl Lescelius; Creative Director: Michele Claney; Organist: Stephen Uhl; Director of Children's Music: Kathy Olivarez; Pianist: Sam Wyatt; Church Accountant: Lita Jimenez; Organist Emeritus: Mark Edwards

FOR MORE NEWS AND INFORMATION:

Speak with our pastor, ministry staff, or lay leaders; Call 630.584.6680 or email info@bakermemorialchurch.org. Go to www.bakermemorialchurch.org and check us out on Facebook & Instagram.



JANUARY-FEBRUARY WORSHIP SERIES FOR EPIPHANY



WINTER LIGHT
THE BRIGHTNESS OF CHRIST

EPIPHANY SUNDAY, JANUARY 5, 2025 – 9:30 AM
SERVICE OF WORD & SACRAMENT HOLY COMMUNION

Welcome to BAKER MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

*We are a multigenerational congregation filled with God's love
for the great diversity of God's people. Let us worship!*

- Children are welcome to stay in worship. A play space is located near the Main St. entrance/narthex. Activity bags for children are available at both entrances.
- ReCharge education & faith formation classes for children & adults begin after worship. See the insert with accompanying schedule for location and session information.
- Assisted listening devices & large print hymnals can be obtained from an usher.
- A lift is located near the northwest Cedar Avenue entrance of the Sanctuary.
- Restrooms can be found on the main level.
- An asterisk (*) invites all to rise in spirit & stand as able. Join the **boldfaced** responses.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**