



Living by Faith, Known by Love, A Voice of Hope



First Church in Windsor, UCC

Epiphany Sunday

January 9, 2022, at 10 a.m.

Prelude

Welcome

***Call to Worship** (*from Isaiah 60*)

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

People: **The brightness of God's light shines upon all the nations. All are welcomed to the brightness of God's dawn.**

Leader: God gathers us from far away and carries us. With radiant eyes, with rejoicing hearts, we receive the abundance God gives.

People: **We respond with praise. With our gifts, with our very selves, we worship God.**

***Hymn**

We Three Kings

By John H. Hopkins

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**We three kings of orient are, bearing gifts we traverse afar,
field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.
O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.**

**Glorious now behold him arise, King and God and Sacrifice;
alleluia, alleluia! Sounds through the earth and skies.
O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.**

Prayer of Invocation

O God of wonder, as that star rose and guided the magi, illuminating the place where Jesus was, so now may the light of your Holy Spirit shine in our hearts and minds. As the Word is read and proclaimed, guide us again to Christ, and direct us in new paths of faithfulness. In Christ we pray. Amen.

***Prayer of our Savior**

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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen

Children's Moment

***Passing of the Peace**

A new year has come, and so, having thanked God for another year's journey let us greet one another with a wave of Christian love.

Scripture

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, ²asking, '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.' ³When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They told him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

⁶ "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." '

⁷ Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then 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.' ⁹When 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. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On 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. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Sermon

David Figliuzzi

"There's a Star in the East"

***Hymn**

Love Came Down at Christmas

Words by Christina Rossetti

Music by Maurice Whitney

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**Love came down at Christmas, Love all lovely, Love divine;
Love was born at Christmas, star and angels gave the sign.**

**Worship we the Godhead, Love incarnate, Love divine;
Worship we our Jesus, but where is God's sacred sign?**

**Love shall be our token; love be yours and love be mine;
Love to God and neighbor, love for plea and gift and sign.**

Prayers of the People

Pastoral Prayer

Prayer Response

Lead Me

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**Lead me, guide me, along the way,
for if you lead me, I cannot stray.
Lord, let me walk each day with thee.
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.**

Announcements

Offering Plates are on the tables back of the church. We encourage you to give online [here](#).

*Hymn

Jesus the Light of the World

Words by Charles Wesley
Music by George Elderkin
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**Hark! The herald angels sing, Jesus, the light of the world;
Glory to the Christchild bring, Jesus, the light of the world.**

**We will follow the light, beautiful light,
come where the dewdrops of mercy are bright,
shine all around us by day and by night,
Jesus, the light of the world.**

**Hail the Bearer of God's peace! Jesus, the light of the world;
Hail the Sun of righteousness! Jesus, the light of the world.**

**We will follow the light, beautiful light,
come where the dewdrops of mercy are bright,
shine all around us by day and by night,
Jesus, the light of the world.**

*Benediction

Postlude

Bransle de Champagne

By Francis Poulenc
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The prayers for today's service were adapted and used by permission. *Feasting on the Word, Year A, Vol. 1.* by Kimberly Bracken Long. Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 2013.

*Please stand as you are able
Bolded Font to be read by all