# The Well

# Epiphany Sunday January 4, 2026

#### We Gather

#### Welcome and Announcements

## Opening Celebration

Here I Am to Worship
Light of the world,
you stepped down into darkness,
opened my eyes, let me see.
Beauty that made
this heart adore you,
hope of a life spent with you.

Here I am to worship, here I am to bow down, here I am to say that you're my God. You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy, altogether wonderful to me.

King of all days,
O so highly exalted,
glorious in heaven above.
Humbly you came
to the earth you created,
all for love's sake became poor.

Here I am to worship, here I am to bow down, here I am to say that you're my God. You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy, altogether wonderful to me.

I'll never know how much it cost to see my sin upon that cross. I'll never know how much it cost to see my sin upon that cross. I'll never know how much it cost to see my sin upon that cross. I'll never know how much it cost to see my sin upon that cross.

Here I am to worship, here I am to bow down, here I am to say that you're my God. You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy, altogether wonderful to me.

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## Welcoming One Another

Song

House of the Lord

We worship the God who was. We worship the God who is. We worship the God who evermore will be. He opened the prison doors.

He parted the raging sea.

My God, He holds the victory. Yeah!

There's joy in the house of the Lord.

There's joy in the house of the Lord today.

And we won't be quiet. We shout out Your praise.

There's joy in the house of the Lord.

Our God is surely in this place,

And we won't be quiet. We shout out Your praise.

Oh, oh, oh,

We shout out Your praise.

We sing to the God who heals.

We sing to the God who saves.

We sing to the God who always makes a way.

'Cause He hung up on that cross.

Then He rose up from that grave.

My God's still rolling stones away.

There's joy in the house of the Lord.

There's joy in the house of the Lord today.

And we won't be quiet.

We shout out Your praise.

There's joy in the house of the Lord.

Our God is surely in this place,

And we won't be quiet.

We shout out Your praise.

We were the beggars;

Now we're royalty.

We were the prisoners;

Now we're running free.

We are forgiven, accepted,

Redeemed by His grace.

Let the house of the Lord sing praise.

'Cause we were the beggars;

Now we're royalty.

We were the prisoners;

Now we're running free.

We are forgiven, accepted,

Redeemed by His grace.

Let the house of the Lord sing praise.

There's joy in the house of the Lord.

There's joy in the house of the Lord today.

And we won't be quiet.

We shout out Your praise.

There's joy in the house of the Lord.

Our God is surely in this place,

And we won't be quiet.

We shout out Your praise.

There's joy in the house of the Lord.

There's joy in the house of the Lord today.

And we won't be quiet.

We shout out Your praise.

There's joy in the house of the Lord.

Our God is surely in this place,

And we won't be quiet.

We shout out Your praise.

We shout out Your praise.

There is joy in this house.

There is joy in this house.

We shout out Your praise.

We shout out Your praise.

#### We Hear God's Word

#### Sharing Faith with God's Children

Chris Fulkerson

Care for children up to age 5 is in Room 121. Worship Kits for children, containing crayons and puzzle sheets based on Scripture, may be found in the entrance area.

Song Build My Life

Worthy of ev'ry song we could ever sing, Worthy of all the praise we could ever bring, Worthy of ev'ry breath we could ever breathe, We live for You. We live for You.

Jesus the name above ev'ry other name, Jesus the only one who could ever save, Worthy of ev'ry breath we could ever breathe, We live for You. We live for You.

Holy, there is no one like You.
There is none beside You.
Open up my eyes in wonder,
And show me who You are,
And fill me with Your heart,
And lead me in Your love to those around me.

Jesus, the name above ev'ry other name, Jesus, the only one who could ever save, Worthy of ev'ry breath we could ever breathe, We live for You. We live for You.

Holy, there is no one like You.
There is none beside You.
Open up my eyes in wonder,
And show me who You are,
And fill me with Your heart,
And lead me in Your love to those around me.

I will build my life upon Your love. It is a firm foundation.
I will put my trust in You alone,
And I will not be shaken.

I will build my life upon Your love. It is a firm foundation.
I will put my trust in You alone,
And I will not be shaken.

Holy, there is no one like You.
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Open up my eyes in wonder,
And show me who You are,
And fill me with Your heart,
And lead me in Your love to those around me.

I will build my life upon Your love. It is a firm foundation.
I will put my trust in You alone,
And I will not be shaken.

I will build my life upon Your love. It is a firm foundation. I will put my trust in You alone, And I will not be shaken.

#### Scripture Lesson

#### Matthew 2:1-12

2 In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup> asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his starat its rising and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; <sup>4</sup> and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. <sup>5</sup> They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

<sup>6</sup> '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.'"

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

Message "Home by Another Way" Pastor Duane If you would like to discuss today's message after the service is over, join the Reflections group in Room 114.

Offering Our Gifts

# We Come to the Table

Invitation to the Table

#### Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, as we come to share in the richness of Your table, we confess our reluctance to share Your blessings. We cannot take bread and forget those who are hungry. We cannot drink the cup and forget those who are thirsty. We cannot hear Your words of peace and forget a world at war. We cannot celebrate the feast of Your family and forget our divisions. Put our prosperity at the service of the poor. Put our fullness at the service of the empty. Turn our desire for power into a desire for peace. Heal Your church in every brokenness. Amen.

#### Assurance of Pardon

Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! Glory to God! Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Before the mountains were brought forth, or you had formed the earth, from everlasting to everlasting, you alone are God. You created light out of darkness and brought forth life on the earth. You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, and spoke to us through your prophets.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Holy are you and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.

You sent a star to guide wise men to where the Christ was born; and in your signs and witnesses, in every age and through all the world, you have led your people from far places to his light. By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection, you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

#### Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever.

Amen.

## 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, forever. Amen.

## Giving the Bread and Cup

## Communion Song

#### O Come to the Altar

Are you hurting and broken within, Overwhelmed by the weight of your sin? Jesus is calling. Have you come to the end of yourself? Do you thirst for a drink from the well? Jesus is calling.

O come to the altar.

The Father's arms are open wide. Forgiveness was bought with The precious blood of Jesus Christ.

Leave behind your regrets and mistakes. Come today. There's no reason to wait. Jesus is calling. Bring your sorrows and trade them for joy. From the ashes a new life is born. Jesus is calling.

O come to the altar.

The Father's arms are open wide. Forgiveness was bought with The precious blood of Jesus Christ. O come to the altar. The Father's arms are open wide. Forgiveness was bought with The precious blood of Jesus Christ.

Oh, what a Savior. Isn't he wonderful? Sing, "Alleluia. Christ is risen." Bow down before him For he is Lord of all. Sing, "Alleluia. Christ is risen." Oh, what a Savior. Isn't he wonderful? Sing, "Alleluia. Christ is risen." Bow down before him For he is Lord of all. Sing, "Alleluia. Christ is risen."

O come to the altar.
The Father's arms are open wide.
Forgiveness was bought with
The precious blood of Jesus Christ.

Bear your cross as you wait for the crown. Tell the world of the treasure you've found.

# Prayer after Receiving

#### We Are Sent to Serve

# **Closing Song**

God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen
God rest ye merry, gentlemen.
Let nothing you dismay.
Remember Christ our Savior
Was born upon this day
To save us all from Satan's power
When we were gone astray.
O tidings of comfort and joy,
Comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy.

From God our heavenly Father
This blessed angel came,
And unto certain shepherds
Brought tidings of the same:
How that in Bethlehem was born
The Son of God by name.
O tidings of comfort and joy,
Comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy.

O, star of wonder, star of night, Star with royal beauty bright, Westward leading, still proceeding, Guide us to thy perfect light.

Born a king on Bethlehem's plain. Gold I bring to crown Him again. King forever, ceasing never, Over us all to reign. 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. Hallelujah, Hallelujah! Worshipping God most high.

O, star of wonder, star of night, Star with royal beauty bright, Westward leading, still proceeding, Guide us to thy perfect light.

God rest ye merry, gentlemen, Let nothing you dismay. God rest ye merry, gentlemen, Let nothing you dismay. God rest ye merry, gentlemen, Let nothing you dismay. God rest ye merry, gentlemen, Let nothing you dismay.

The Blessing

