

## Worship – December 27, 2020

Prelude

### **God Gathers His People**

Welcome

\*God Greet Us

\*We Greet Each Other (waving)

\*Call to Worship

\*Opening Song – O Worship the King (PsH #428 v. 1, 3, 5)

#### O Worship the King

1 O worship the King all-glorious above,  
O gratefully sing his power and his love:  
our shield and defender, the Ancient of Days,  
pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise.

3 Your bountiful care, what tongue can recite?  
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light;

it streams from the hills, it descends to the plain,  
and sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.

5 O measureless Might, unchangeable Love,  
whom angels delight to worship above!  
Your ransomed creation, with glory ablaze,  
in true adoration shall sing to your praise!

Text: Robert Grant, 1833, *alt.*; based on Psalm 104 Tune: W. Gardner's *Sacred Melodies*, 1815; *attr.* Haydn

### **We Hear God's Word**

Children's Message – We Three Kings (CL #288 v. 1, 5)

#### We Three Kings

1 We three kings of Orient are;  
Bearing gifts we travers 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.

5 Glorious now behold Him arise,  
King and God an sacrifice;  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Earth to heav'n replies.

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

Text: John H. Hopkins, Jr. Tune: John H. Hopkins, Jr.

Prayer of Illumination

Bible Reading – Matthew 2:1-12

#### **The Magi Visit the Messiah**

2 After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi<sup>1a</sup> from the east came to Jerusalem<sup>2</sup> and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him."

3 When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. 4 When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. 5 "In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied, "for this is what the prophet has written:

6 "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 shepherd my people Israel."<sup>7b</sup>

7 Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared.<sup>8</sup>

He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him."

<sup>9</sup> After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup> When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. <sup>11</sup> 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, frankincense and myrrh. <sup>12</sup> And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

Message: ***Fear of the Stranger***

Prayer

### ***We Respond to God's Word***

\*Song of Response – In Christ There Is No East or West (PsH #540 v. 1, 3-5)

#### **In Christ There Is No East or West**

1 In Christ there is no east or west,  
in him no pride of birth;  
the chosen family God has blessed  
now spans the whole wide earth.

4 So, brothers, sisters, praise his name  
who died to set us free  
from sin, division, hate, and shame,  
from spite and enmity.

3 It is by grace we are assured  
that we belong to him;  
the love we share in Christ our Lord,  
the Spirit works within.

5 In Christ there is no east or west  
he breaks all barriers down;  
by Christ redeemed, by Christ possessed,  
in Christ we live as one.

Text: Michael A. Perry, 1982; *after a line* by John Osenham, 1905. © 1982, Hope Publishing Co. All rights reserved. Used by permission.  
Tune: *Afro-American spiritual; adapt. and harm.* Harry T. Burleigh, 1939

Announcements

Prayer of the People

Offering: Calvin University

### ***God Sends Us with His Blessing***

\*Blessing

\*Sending Song – We Are Called (LUYH #296)

#### **We Are Called**

1 Come! Live in the light!  
Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord!  
We are called to be light for the kingdom,  
to live in the freedom of the city of God.

We are called to act with justice,  
we are called to love tenderly;  
we are called to serve one another,  
to walk humbly with God.

We are called to act with justice,  
we are called to love tenderly;  
we are called to serve one another,  
to walk humbly with God.

3 Sing! Sing a new song!  
Sing of that great day when all will be one!  
God will reign, and we'll walk with each other  
as sisters and brothers united in love.  
We are called to act with justice,  
we are called to love tenderly;  
we are called to serve one another,  
to walk humbly with God.

2 Come! Open your heart!  
Show your mercy to all those in fear!  
We are called to be hope for the hopeless  
so hatred and blindness will be no more.

Words and Music: David Haas © 1988 GIA Publications, Inc.

Accompanist: Anna

Singers: Derk, Sandy

Sound: Jeff

Video: Gwen

PowerPoint: Doug