

LISBON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

January 7, 2024

Epiphany

PRELUDE and TIME OF QUIET REFLECTION

WORDS OF GREETING

A Time of Praise

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We enter this place of worship in search of light to guide our way.

PEOPLE: We come because we have seen the light from afar and want to worship the Christ Child.

Leader: May God bless our time of worship and our continuing journeys of faith.

PEOPLE: May a faithful journey be our gift to the Christ Child in this new year.

*OPENING HYMN *We Three Kings* # 254

UNISON PRAYER Everlasting God, the radiance of all faithful souls, you brought the nations to your light and kings to the brightness of your rising. Fill the world with your glory, we pray, and show yourself to all the nations, through him who is the true light, the bright and morning star, Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Amen.

RESPONSIVE PSALM Psalm 72 (Response One) # 795

Act of Confession and Pardon

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION Holy Source of righteousness and peace, we have failed to share the good news

of your love and grace. We have not been generous with one another, finding fault instead of extending compassion. We have not loved one another as Christ loves us, assigning blame instead of seeking understanding. Forgive our selfish ways, and help us live in the light of your righteousness and justice throughout this new year. Amen.

TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Leader: The Holy One reaches out to us in compassion, filling us with radiant love. In the light of Christ, the Bright and Morning star, you are forgiven.

**PEOPLE: In the light of Christ, you are forgiven.
Thanks be to our loving God. Amen.**

Hearing God's Word

OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 60.1-6 (pg. 690)

CHORAL ANTHEM

EPISTLE READING Ephesians 3.1-12 (pg. 193)

GOSPEL READING Matthew 2.1-12 (pg. 2)

SERMON *Following the Star*

*HYMN *The First Noel* # 245

Responding To God's Word

A TIME OF PRAYER

Joys and Concerns and Time of Silent Prayer
An Epiphany Prayer (insert)
The Lord's Prayer and Choral Prayer Response

RECEIVING OUR GIFTS AND OFFERINGS

Offertory
*Doxology # 95
*Prayer of Dedication

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION (insert)

*CLOSING HYMN *Go, Tell It On the Mountain* # 251

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORDS OF BENEDICTION

Leader: Follow the kings of old and search for God's Son.

PEOPLE: We go forth, following the Light of the World.

Leader: Follow the magi in search of the Child of Peace.

**PEOPLE: We go forth, proclaiming hope and blessing to
the poor and the needy.**

Leader: Follow the star to behold the glory of God.

**PEOPLE: We go forth with the promise of new life in
Christ every day of this new year.**

BENEDICTION IN SONG

Sent Forth By God's Blessing (vs 1) # 664

*POSTLUDE

Today's Worship Leaders

Trudy Duval, Lay Reader
Verne Smith, Video Production Manager
Debbie Greim, Organist and Choir Director
Rev. Elizabeth J. Bachelder Smith, Pastor



Lisbon United Methodist Church
welcomes, nurtures, and serves
all people
with the love of Christ.