



ALKI UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

January 5, 2025
Order of Service
for the Worship of God

Epiphany Sunday

Words for the Beginning: *The Road isn't Straight*

Gathering Music DJ Wilson, Interim Music Director

Prelude

Welcome and Land Acknowledgment Rev. Emily Tanis-Likkel

Centering Song Adapted from *Arise, Shine* by Keith Amano
“Lift your eyes, ___ Look a-round, ___ Re-Joice! ___”

Call to Worship Emily H, Liturgist (responsive)

How did you get here?

Left side of the room: I walked, eyes looking up, following the star.

Right side of the room: I ran, lunging for a love that is bigger than me.

Left side of the room: I tumbled and fell, tender step after tender step.

Right side of the room: I ambled like a river, caught up in God's flow.

I crawled, kissing the earth below me.

Tell me again. How did you get here?

I am here by God's grace and love's pull.

Welcome home.

This is God's house.

There is room for you here.

Let us worship our gracious God.

Opening Song #164, *Arise, Your Light is Come*

Prayer for Transformation

Scripture *New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition*
Isaiah 43:16-21

Thus says the LORD, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters,
who brings out chariot and horse, army and warrior;

they lie down; they cannot rise; they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:

Do not remember the former things or consider the things of old.

I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth; do you not perceive it?

I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.

The wild animals will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches,
for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert,
to give drink to my chosen people, the people whom I formed for myself
so that they might declare my praise.

Matthew 2:1-12

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, magi from the east came to Jerusalem, asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star in the east and have come to pay him homage.” When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him, and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it has been written by the prophet:

‘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.’ ”

Then Herod secretly called for the magi and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. 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.” When they had heard the king, they set out, and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen in the east, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. 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. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Sermon

Quiet Meditation

Song

Christ, Be Our Light

Bernadette Farrell

Prayers of the People

Time, Talent & Treasure

Celebrations

Mission Updates

Offering Invitation

Online: Please donate generously through alkiucc.org, through a mailed donation to the church office or through text-to-give by texting the word “AlkiUCC” to 44321; a donation link will come back to you. Your support for Alki UCC is more important than ever.

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God for all that love has done;
Creator, Christ and Spirit, One.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Prayer of Dedication

Holy Communion and Receiving Star Words

Sharing the Meal

You are invited to partake of your own Bread and Cup.

Closing Song *Go Tell it on the Mountain. #154*

Benediction

Sending Music

Service liturgy adapted from A Sanctified Art
Order of Worship Subject to Change
Image: "Star of Bethlehem
by Hannah Garrity
Music Covered by One License.net #A-7 10529
Portions of today's service are recorded for posting
on Alki UCC's YouTube channel.

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