

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. *And also with you.*  
Lift up your hearts. *We lift them to the Lord.*  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*It is right to give our thanks and praise.*

Therefore we praise you, joining the song  
of the universal church and the heavenly choir:

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

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

COMMUNION MUSIC

On My Knees

Stefen Kane

STAR WORDS FOR 2022

\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*Loving and gracious God, from east and west, from north and south,  
you have gathered us at your table, called us your beloved,  
and fed us from your body.*

*Transform us to be your body in the world, and fortify us by your Spirit,  
so that we may serve you and our neighbors with great joy. Amen.*

— *Sending* —

\*Hymn #135 Rise Up, Shepherd, and Follow (There's a Star in the East)

\*Blessing and Charge

Postlude

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Joshua Allen



Rev. Michele R. Goff.....Pastor  
Joshua Allen.....Music Director  
Debbi Ricci.....Admin Assist.



*Serving God,  
Honoring Creation,  
Embracing Differences*



Copyrights: All music used is under OneLicense.net #A-736032 & CCLI License #A-1844922



January 2, 2022  
Epiphany of the Lord

(\*) Please rise in body or in spirit.

*Bold italic letters* indicate congregational response

— *Gathering* —

PRELUDE

And the Glory of the Lord (From Handel's *Messiah*)

Joshua Allen

WELCOME

Rev. Michele Goff

INTROIT

Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light

Joshua Allen

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist: Carol Scoggins

Arise, shine!

Your light has come!

*Arise, shine!*

*The glory of the Lord has appeared among us!*

\*PRAYER OF THE DAY

\*HYMN #127 Jesus, the Light of the World (Hark, The Herald Angels Sing)

CONFESSION

*Eternal God, wondrous star,  
light no darkness can overcome,  
drive out the sin in our hearts. Forgive us for turning from your way,  
for denying your truth, for resisting the life you would have us live.  
Refresh us and restore us.  
Focus us on the brilliant light of Jesus Christ  
that we may see him more clearly and follow him more nearly,  
this day and every day.*

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

This is good news! *In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!*

— *Word* —

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

HEBREW SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 60:1-6

Bible p. 649, LG. p. 844

Treasure these words and ponder them in your heart.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us. *Thanks be to God.*

GOSPEL

Matthew 2:1-12

Bible p. 1-2, LG. p. 2

The mystery of the ages, revealed to the prophets and apostles. Hear the word of the Lord.

The mystery of the ages, revealed to all. *Thanks be to God.*

SERMON

“Following Stars, Making Connections”

Rev. Michele Goff

DESCRIPTION OF PRAISE

\*HYMN #110

Love Has Come

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH – APOSTLES’ CREED

*I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;  
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead, and buried;  
he descended into hell;  
the third day he rose again from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth on the right hand  
of God the Father Almighty;  
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.*

*I believe in the Holy Ghost;  
the holy catholic church;  
the communion of saints;  
the forgiveness of sins;  
the resurrection of the body;  
and the life everlasting. Amen.*

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Loving God,  
you cause rain to fall on the just and the unjust.  
Hear our prayers for your church and world:  
for the hungry and the overfed,  
*may we have enough;*  
for the mourners and the mockers,  
*may we laugh together;*  
for the victims and the oppressors,  
*may we share power wisely;*  
for the peacemakers and the warmongers,  
*may clear truth and stern love lead us to harmony;*  
for the silenced and the propagandists,  
*may we speak our own words in truth;*  
for the unemployed and the overworked,  
*may our mark on this earth be kindly and creative;*  
for the troubled and the secure,  
*may we live together as wounded healers;*  
for the homeless and the pampered,  
*may our homes be simple, warm, and welcoming;*  
for the vibrant and the dying,  
*may we all die to sin and live to love. Amen.*

LORD’S PRAYER

*Our Father, who art in heaven... debts/debtors... and the glory, forever. Amen.*

PRAYER RESPONSE #192

Shine, Jesus, Shine

Shine, Jesus, Shine; fill this land with the Father’s glory.

Blaze, Spirit, blaze; set our hearts on fire.

Flow, river, flow; flood the nations with grace and mercy.

Send forth your word, Lord, and let there be light.

— *Eucharist* —

INVITATION TO OFFERING

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*God Most High, receive the gifts of our lives as an offering of gratitude for your grace.  
Overshadow us with your Holy Spirit and let it be with us according to your word,  
for nothing is impossible with you. Amen.*