

St. Andrew's By-the-Sea
Epiphany • Festival of Light
Wednesday, January 6, 2021
6 o'clock in the evening



Star of Bethlehem photo taken from the Blue Ridge Parkway
12.21.2020 by Wayne Howard (500mm Canon 1dx uv filter off).

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

The Word of God

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Gracious God, as a shining star once guided the magi to the birthplace of the infant Jesus, so enable those who are gathered here to be your light in the world; through Jesus Christ we pray.

Amen.

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

The Collect for Epiphany

Old Testament

Isaiah 60:1-6

A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his

glory will appear over you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel

Matthew 2:1-12

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, 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 wise men 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 at its rising, 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.

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Lighting recalling Christ's Light from 1st century to today

The Peace

BCP 360

Holy Communion [Common Worship]

Offering:

Lord, accept your people's gifts, not gold, frankincense, or myrrh, but hearts and voices raised in praise of Jesus Christ, our light and our salvation.

The Lord is here

God's Spirit is with us.

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.

It is always right to give you thanks, God our Creator, loving and faithful, holy and strong. You made us and the whole universe and filled your world with life.

You sent your Son to live among us, Jesus our Savior, Mary's child. He suffered on the cross; he died to save us from our sins; he rose in glory from the dead. You sent your Spirit to bring new life to the world, and clothe us with power from on high.

And so we join the angels to celebrate and say:

**Holy, 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.**

Father, on the night before he died, Jesus shared a meal with his friends. He took the bread, and thanked you. He broke it, and gave it to them, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this to remember me.

After the meal, Jesus took the cup of wine. He thanked you, and gave it to them, saying: Drink this, all of you. This is my blood, the new promise of God's unfailing love. Do this to remember me.

Great is the mystery of faith:

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

Father, as we bring this bread and wine, and remember his death and resurrection, send your Holy Spirit, that we who share these gifts may be fed by Christ's body and his blood. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

The Breaking of the Bread

Followed by silence.

Invitation to the Table. Christ is fully present in the bread alone. For a blessing only, cross your arms over your chest.

Prayer After Communion

Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual body and blood of you son our Lord Jesus Christ: we pray that you will bless this church and all who worship and work and visit here with your gracious presence, that your love may be our inspiration, your wisdom our guide, your truth our light, and your peace our benediction; through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

Blessing: May God the Father, who led the wise men by the shining light of a star to find the Christ, the Light from light, lead you also in your pilgrimage to find the Lord. So go now... And the blessing....

Dismissal: Lord, watch over our coming in and our going out to share the light of Christ, from this time forth and forevermore. Alleluia.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia.

Invitation to Chalk