

ARISE, FOR LIGHT HAS COME!
EPIPHANY SUNDAY

JANUARY 4, 2015

Worship – 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School – 10:50 a.m.

PRELUDE

Carol Buller, Accompanist

WELCOME

*January's song***
Carmen Shelly, Worship Leader

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP *The Work of Christmas* Forrest, arr. Kaufman
Men's Ensemble

CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: Magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt God's name together.

**C: From the rising of the sun to its setting,
the name of the Lord be praised!**

L: Nations shall come to the light, and kings to the brightness of God's dawn.

**C: They shall bring gold and frankincense,
and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.**

*All: Arise, shine; for our light has come,
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon us.*

*HYMN (see insert)

Arise, your light is come!

INTRODUCTION TO EPIPHANY

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 2:1-12

SERMON

Seeking alternative routes

HYMN SJ #54

Longing for light

COMMUNION SERVICE

- Words of Institution and Invitation
- Sharing Bread and Cup

Please come forward by the center aisle, take the bread and dip it in the cup of juice. Return by the side aisle. To receive a blessing in lieu of partaking in the bread and cup, please present yourself with hands folded. Gluten free crackers and grapes are also available.

- *Hymn of Response #177 *Creator of the stars (stand for final stanza)*

COMMUNITY BUILDING TIME

INTRODUCTIONS

We are glad you are here. Once the attendance register reaches the center aisle, please pass it back to the outer aisle.

SHARING JOY

SHARING CONCERNS

PRAYING TOGETHER

Slips of paper are available in the attendance register for those who wish to offer joys and concerns silently and anonymously. These papers, if put in the offering plate, will be placed in the prayer bowl at the front of the sanctuary.

L: Creator of Light, thank you for gathering us to this place of worship in the light of this day.

C: May your light comfort the hearts and minds of all who grieve this day. (silent prayer)

L: May your light surround those who struggle with illness.

C: May your light illumine the hearts and minds of all who help those in need. (silent prayer)

L: Send forth your light of healing and peace into all the world and shine through these financial gifts we now offer, we pray.

All: In the name of Jesus, the light of the world. Amen.

SHARING GIFTS

SHARING ANNOUNCEMENTS

*HYMN #218

As with gladness men of old



Children in K - 5th grade are dismissed for WorshipArts (Room 114), a time for children (K-5th grade) to respond to worship, ask questions and learn more about the language, ritual, movement, sound and art incorporated in worship.

*SENDING FORTH***

L: The Magi saw the star at its rising and knew that God's light had come.

C: They responded by offering their time, energies, gifts, and praise.

All: May we respond to God's light just as fully and freely. Amen.

*POSTLUDE

* Please stand as you are able.

Unless otherwise indicated, hymns are in the blue *Hymnal: A Worship Book*.

Songs designated "SJ" are in the green *Sing the Journey* hymnal.

**Ann Weems, Kneeling in Bethlehem

***The call to worship and sending forth are from *Words for Worship 2*, edited by Diane Zaerr Brenneman, © 2009 by Herald Press, Scottsdale, Pa.

The light sculpture at the front of the sanctuary was created by Arlie Regier and his son Paul.

We have cherished the long tradition of featuring this gift during Advent and Christmas.

This year we will continue enjoying this festival of lights during the season of Epiphany.

Now **Here** God

Here is a place for worship reflections. What are you sensing about God in the here and now? What words, images or questions do you want to take with you into this new week?

RAINBOW MENNONITE CHURCH

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