

Feast of the Epiphany

January 6, 2026

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The revelation of Jesus Christ is good news for all nations. Light pervades the season of Epiphany as God shows many times over who his Son is and why he came to humanity as one of us in the flesh. As the wise men bring precious gifts to the child, we are reminded of the danger of the situation. God's word to the Magi kept the infant Jesus safe for a time, but there will always be enemies of the Gospel.



THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURE TEXTS

Isaiah 60:1-6

The Glory of God Rises

The prophet said that Israel will rise out of the darkness of their exile as the glory of the Lord has risen upon them. No longer will darkness be their reality; radiant light will cover them as exiles return home to Jerusalem and families are reunited.

Psalm 72:1-11 (12-15)

Prayers for Wisdom

The psalmist prayed for wisdom and discernment for the king so that he might rule the people in righteousness, look out for the poor and needy, and punish cruel tyrants. This king is empathetic with his people. When they suffer, he suffers.

Ephesians 3:1-12

The Mystery of Christ

Paul explained the mystery of Christ that was unknown to people before Jesus — that the Gentiles are fellow heirs of the promises of God. The promises of Jesus Christ are extended to all nations through the saving Gospel, and those who were once strangers are now fellow members of the body.

Matthew 2:1-12

Search for the King of the Jews

The Magi came to Jerusalem asking where they could find the babe born in Bethlehem. Threatened by the news of a new Jewish king, King Herod sends them to find the baby and report back to him under the guise of wanting also to “worship” him. Coming to the house where Mary and Jesus were, the wise men honored the child with gifts. But, having been warned in a dream, they kept their experience to themselves.

Suggestions for the Sunday:

Liturgical Color: White

For the Feast of the Epiphany:

- Use the Kyrie.
- Use “Glory to God” as the Hymn of Praise.
- Use the Nicene Creed for the Feast of the Epiphany.
- Some congregations may choose to use these lessons for the Feast of the Epiphany in worship on Jan. 1 instead of the lessons for Christmas 1.
- Use the door blessing found on the Seasonal Page for Epiphany or make copies for families to use at home.

SUGGESTED HYMNS FOR WORSHIP

Hymn Titles:

	LBW	WOV	LSB	ELW	REC	Sola
All Praise to You, O Lord	78	---	---	---	---	web
We Three Kings of Orient Are	---	646	---	---	130	130
As with Gladness Men of Old	82	---	397	302	128	128
Bright and Glorious is the Sky	75	---	---	301	131	131
Arise, Your Light Has Come	---	652	---	314	---	---
Shine, Jesus, Shine	---	651	---	671	---	---
O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright!	76	---	395	308	129	---
Christ Be Our Light	---	---	---	715	---	---
Brightest and Best	84	---	400	303	---	---
The Doxology	---	---	---	---	---	web

The hymn suggestions above can be found in: LBW = Lutheran Book of Worship, WOVS = With One Voice, ELW = Evangelical Lutheran Worship (Augsburg Fortress); LSB = The Lutheran Service Book (Concordia Publishing), REC = The ReClaim Hymnal for Church and Home (ReClaim Resources), and *** means you can find it on SOWeR at “Hymns and Music.”

CONTEMPORARY SONGS

Praise Song Titles

Glory to God
(CCLI# 3189346)
My Life is in Your Hands
(CCLI# 1413688)
This Little Light of Mine
(CCLI# 34680)
Endless Light
(CCLI# 6177300)
Shine, Jesus, Shine
(CCLI # 30426)

The contemporary song suggestions above are noted by their CCLI number. To print these songs, a congregation must have a CCLI license.