

We Offer Our Gifts and Prayers

Offertory Prayer and Offering of our Gifts

Each week at Covenant we receive a monetary offering to support the mission and ministry of the church. This morning's offering will support the General/Building Fund. The General Fund helps keep our church operating and pay for a wide range of denominational ministries while the Building Fund offerings are used to cover major project expenses for the church.

We Share Our Joys & Concerns and Pray for One Another

We Dedicate Ourselves to Holy Living

*Song: "Shine, Jesus, Shine"

**1. Lord, the light of your love is shining
in the midst of the darkness, shining.**

**Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us;
set us free by the truth you now bring us: shine on me, shine on me.**

**Chorus: 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!**

**3. As we gaze on your kingly brightness,
so our faces display your likeness, ever changing from glory to glory,
mirrored here may our lives tell your story: shine on me, shine on me.**

Words & Music: Graham Kendrick © 1987 Make Way Music (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.)

We are Sent with God's Blessing

*Benediction

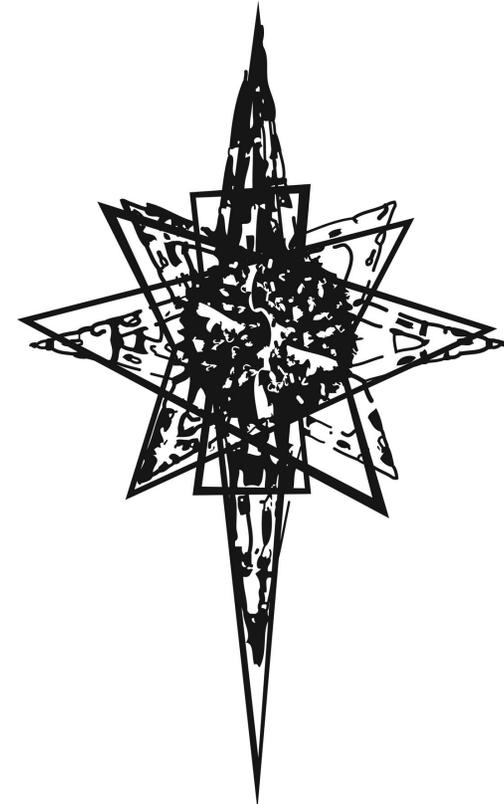
*Closing Song: "My Friends, May You Grow in Grace" LUYH 938

Worship Participants

Pastor: Dr. Scott Culpepper ♦ Piano: Mike Janssen ♦ Guitar: Jaren Brue, Laremy DeVries
Drums: Caleb Smit ♦ Bass: Emilyn Smit ♦ Banjo: Rob Haan ♦ Vocalists: Rebecca DeVries
Worship Leader: Mark Tazelaar
Sound: Doug DeBoer ♦ Projection: Micah Goslinga ♦ CCLI #493458 ♦ OneLicense #A-721171

Epiphany

January 7, 2018



Epiphany

"We know the word: a moment of piercing awareness, the sudden jolt of understanding. Imagine, then, that moment stretched out over a period of time. This is the season of Epiphany, a season celebrating the revelation of the Savior, the light of the word." (Philip F. Reinders, *Seeking God's Face*). Epiphany begins for the church today as we celebrate the visit of the Magi to the Christ child and continues up to the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday. From now until Lent, worshipers grow in an awareness of the significance of the entire life of Jesus and prepare for the call to discipleship that will happen in Lent. (adapted from *The Worship Sourcebook*)

God Gathers Us for Worship

Welcome

Call to Worship (based on Isaiah 60:1-3)

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*Song of Praise: "Arise, Shine, for Your Light Has Come"

**1. Arise, shine, for your light has come and the glory of God is on you.
Arise, see, when the earth grows dark, that the Lord will arise upon you,
the Lord will arise upon you.**

**Chorus: Nations will come to Your light, lift up your eyes and see:
we'll gather together and come to You
and your love will be all that we know.
Your love will be all that we know.**

**2. Arise, come to the open gates for the Father is welcoming you.
Fear not, for the Lord brings peace and redemption to all who believe,
redemption to all who believe. (to chorus)**

**Bridge: The sun will not shine 'cause you'll be all the light that we need,
and violence will end; all the wars that we wage will cease. (2x)
We will glorify your name, we will glorify your name.**

Words & Music: Jered McKenna © 2013 Jered McKenna

*God Greets Us, We Greet One Another

*Songs: "Hark! the Herald Angels Sing"

LUYH 80:1,3

*Prayer of Adoration

*Song: "What Child Is This"

LUYH 95

We Are Renewed in God's Grace

Prayer of Confession

**Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry,
too real to hide, and too deep to undo.
Forgive what our lips tremble to name,**

(Continued on next page)

**what our hearts can no longer bear,
and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment.
Set us free from a past that we cannot change;
open us to a future in which we can be changed;
and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image;
through Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon (based on Psalm 139:11-12, Isaiah 60:1)

Hear the good news of the psalmist's proclamation:
If I say, "Surely the darkness will overwhelm me,
and the light around me will be night,"
even the darkness is not dark to God, and the night is as bright as the day.
The God who promised never to leave us or forsake us
has come to us in Jesus Christ who binds up the brokenhearted,
heals all our infirmities, and relieves our burden of sin.
So arise, shine; for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.
Thanks be to God!

God Speaks to Us Through His Word

Children's Blessing: "I Am the Light of the World"

**I am the light of the world, I am the light of the world.
Whoever follows me will never walk in the dark,
will never walk in the dark, but have the light of life.**

Words: John 8:12, Music: June Fischer Armstrong, © 1991 CRC Publications

Children ages 3 years old through Kindergarten are invited to come to the front of the sanctuary to receive a prayer of blessing before going downstairs to the Multi-Purpose Room for a time of worship designed especially for young children. Our young guests are welcome to participate in this service.

Scripture: Matthew 2:1-12

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Sermon: "A Perfect King for All Peoples"

Dr. Scott Culpepper

*Song of Response: "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"

LUYH 601