

Wellesley Village Church

Congregational † United Church of Christ



Season of Epiphany

*We extend to all a welcome as broad as the outstretched arms of God.
We Are an Open & Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ.
Whoever you are, wherever you are on the journey of life and faith,
we are delighted you are worshiping with us!*

**Sunday, January 10, 2021
10:00am Virtual Service**

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

“How Brightly Shines the Morning Star”
David Carrier, organ

James Woodman

WELCOME & PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Sarah Sarchet Butter

OPENING HYMN

“As with Gladness Those of Old”
David Carrier, organ



1 As with glad-ness those of old did the guid-ing star be - hold;
2 As with joy - ful steps they sped to that low - ly man-ger bed,
3 As they of - fered gifts most rare at that man-ger plain and bare,

As with joy they hailed its light, lead-ing on - ward, beam-ing bright;
There to bend the knee be - fore One whom heaven and earth a - dore;
So may we with ho - ly joy, pure and free from sin's al - loy,

So, true Morn-ing Star, may we ev - er-more your splen-dor see.
So may we with will - ing feet ev - er seek your mer - cy seat.
All our cost - liest trea - sures bring, Christ, to you from whom they spring.

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Michaela McDonald

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

Refrain “Star of Wonder”
David Carrier, organ

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Sean Patrick Coady

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

SONG OF ILLUMINATION "Vom Himmel Hoch da komm' ich her"
("From Heaven Above I Come") *tune, Esaias Reusner*
Catherine Liddell, baroque lute

SCRIPTURE Psalm 72 Sarah Sarchet Butter
Matthew 2:1-12

SERMON "Light for Our Darkness"

RESPONSE SONG "Mary's Soliloquy" *Cecil Effinger*
Lorna Jane Norris, voice
Ed Broms, piano

Mary heard the Angels sing:
"There shall be a little King born to you,
And He shall be Greater than all royalty."

Mary's heart was warm and glad,
Warm and glad,
Planning for her little lad
For her little lad.

Tender lullabies she learn'd
For that One for whom she yearn'd,
For that One for whom she yearn'd.

Tiny garments finely sewn
As she kept vigil alone,
Mary smil'd.
Her Child would be strong and brave
as man should be!

Fears and doubts were cast away,
cast away,
Pain would come, but not for aye,
come but not for aye.

All would be for gain, not loss.
Mary saw beyond the Cross,
Mary saw beyond the Cross.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & LORD'S PRAYER

Pam Emslie

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen**

STEWARDSHIP WITNESS & CALL TO OFFERING

Gary Gillis

OFFERTORY & DOXOLOGY Brass Instrumental
Kevin McDonald, euphonium

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God for all that love has done;
Creator, Christ, and Spirit One.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION & OUR COMMON LIFE

Diane Seaborn

CLOSING HYMN

“Hark the Herald Angels Sing”

David Carrier, organ

Will Farrell, Celeste Godin, Kevin McDonald, Vera Savage, voice

1 Hark! the her-ald an-gels sing, Je-sus, the light of the world;
3 Christ, by high-est heaven a-dored, Je-sus, the light of the world;

Glo-ry to the Christ-child bring, Je-sus, the light of the world.
Christ, the ev-er-last-ing Word, Je-sus, the light of the world.

We will fol-low the light, beau-ti-ful light, come where the
dew-drops of mer-cy are bright, Shine all a-round us by
day and by night, Je-sus, the light of the world.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Hark the Herald Angels Sing". It consists of five staves of music in G major, 3/4 time. The first two staves are for the organ, and the following three are for the voices. The lyrics are printed below the corresponding staves.

BENEDICTION

Sarah Sarchet Butter

POSTLUDE

“How Brightly Shines the Morning Star” (finale)

James Woodman

David Carrier, organ

†††

Remember to join us by Zoom for Coffee Hour following virtual worship at approximately 11 am.

The link is found [here](#) or from the [website home page](#) and the weekly e-news [Village News](#).

An Invitation: Epiphany Small Groups ~January 2021

*Do not be conformed to this world, but
be transformed by the renewing of your minds,
so that you may discern what is the will of God –
what is good and acceptable and perfect. Romans 12:2*

Beloved Church,

God's true light is breaking into the world through Jesus Christ and God's transformative power. The power and light of Christ leads us into Epiphany, a season of light infusing winter days and nights. We invite you to join an Epiphany small group and prepare to be transformed. [Sign up for a small group here >](#)

Come along on this journey, won't you?

Our Vision 2020 groups and longtime tradition of fellowship supper groups gathered folks together to share in conversation and nourishment. While we long to be together around tables (and we will be again!) we offer here a way to set virtual tables together, and enter meaningful conversation along a transformative journey.

Our small groups will use the newly revised book, **Soul Feast** by Marjorie Thompson, to explore ancient Christian spiritual practices through our intentional community.

Together, we will be drawn closer to God and to one another.

[You may order Soul Feast here >](#)

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Leif Hille ~ Moderator

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