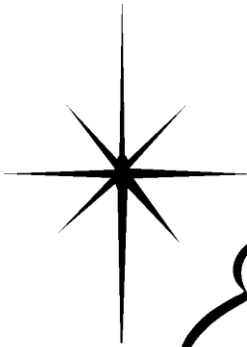


Bethel Presbyterian Church

Sunday, January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019



# *Epiphany*



## ORDER OF WORSHIP

**Announcements**

**Reader**

Charles Nicholson

Catherine Sneddon

### APPROACH TO GOD

#### **Prelude**

#### **Call to Worship**

*Arise, shine, for your light has come and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.*

**Darkness shall cover the earth and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will rise upon you and God's glory will be seen upon you.**

*Nations shall come into God's light, and rulers the brightness of God's new dawn.*

**Violence shall no more be heard in the land, ruin or destruction within our borders.**

*The sun shall be no more your light by day, nor for brightness shall the moon give light to you by night.*

**For the Lord will be your everlasting light, and your God will be your glory.**

#### **Prayer of Adoration & Approach**

God of light, who with a leading heavenly star revealed Christ to the peoples of the earth: lead our hearts now that we, who know you by faith, may come to see your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Our Father...

**Hymn**

*He is born!*

# 169

#### **Prayer of Confession**

God of mercy and loving-kindness, you sent Christ among us as a gift to be the light of the world and to reveal your love to all people. We confess that our sins and pride hide the brightness of your light; we waste our gifts, we ignore cries for justice, and we do not strive for peace. In your mercy, cleanse us and make us new. Amen.

## THE WORD OF GOD

Old Testament		Genesis 1:1-5
Responsive Psalm		29
Children's Hymn	<i>God of the sparrow, God of the whale</i>	# 307
New Testament Epistle Lesson		Ephesians 3:1-12
New Testament Gospel Lesson		Matthew 2:1-12
Solo	<i>Before the world began</i>	
Sermon	<i>Light of Light</i>	

## RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*Hymn*                      *In Christ Alone*

In Christ alone, my hope is found  
He is my light, my strength, my song  
This cornerstone, this solid ground,  
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.  
What heights of love, what depths of peace?  
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!  
My comforter, my all in all  
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone, who took on flesh,  
Fullness of God in helpless babe!  
This gift of love and righteousness,  
Scorned by the ones He came to save.  
'Til on that cross as Jesus died,  
The wrath of God was satisfied  
For ev'ry sin on Him was laid  
Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay,  
Light of the world by darkness slain  
Then bursting forth in glorious day,  
Up from the grave He rose again!  
And as He stands in victory,

Sin's curse has lost its grip on me  
For I am His and He is mine  
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death  
This is the pow'r of Christ in me  
From life's first cry to final breath,  
Jesus commands my destiny.  
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man,  
Can ever pluck me from His hand  
'Til He returns or calls me home  
Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.

In Christ Alone Keith Getty, Stuart Townend  
© 2001 Thankyou Music CCLI # 505652

## **Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession**

### **Offering**

### **Offertory**

### **Doxology**

# 145 vs. 4

What can I give Him, poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb.  
If I were a wise man, I would do my part,  
Yet, what I can I give Him, give my heart.

### **Prayer of Dedication**

### **The Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord: Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell. The third day He arose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

### **Communion Hymn**

**O Holy Father, God most dear**

# 529

**Invitation**

**Prayer**

**Sacrament of Communion**

**Prayer**

**WE GO OUT IN SERVICE**

**Closing Hymn**

*All praise to you, O Lord*

**# 181**

**Benediction**

**Choral Amen**

**Postlude**

**WELCOME**

We welcome everyone to this service of worship this Lord's Day and pray that this will be a time of blessing for all. Everyone is invited to a time of fellowship in the hall following the service. On duty this morning are Beth Matheson and Lorraine Colborne.

**Thank you**

The Christian Education Committee would like to thank the congregation for their generous support of the "Coins for Camp MacLeod" 2018 campaign. \$2045.20 was raised through the jars for Camp MacLeod.

**Nursery**

**Today:** Angela Gillespie and Kim Brown

**Next Sunday** Catherine Sneddon and Eileen MacNeil

**Greeter at the North Door**

Wilrod Morrison

**Greeter at the Choir Room Door**

Duncan K. MacLeod

**Visiting the Hospital this week**

Charles Nicholson 562-3855

Wilrod Morrison 562-3573

**Readings for next week**

Isaiah 43:1-7; Psalm 29; Acts 8:14-17; Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

**Communion Cards are available at the back of the Sanctuary. If you didn't receive one or forgot yours, please pick one up.**

### **This week**

**Tuesday 8:45 am** Men's breakfast will start in the Shaw Room. All men are invited and welcomed to join with us.

### **Advance Notice**

#### **Annual Reports/Meeting**

Groups preparing reports should submit them to the church office no later than **January 21, 2019** [bethelchurch@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:bethelchurch@ns.sympatico.ca) for inclusion in the Annual Report. The Annual Meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 6, 2019 at 7:00 pm.

#### **Bulletin Reflection: Gathered by a Star**

*By the Rev. Torrey Griffiths, Kensington Presbyterian Church and St. John's Presbyterian Church, PEI*

Immediately after Jesus' birth, God gathered a collection of unexpected people to seek out and honour his newborn son. Through angels, poor shepherds were invited to meet the infant child still in the manger. Through a bright star, God reached out and led the wise men from far off lands to celebrate the newborn king.

On Epiphany Sunday we celebrate the coming of these wise men to bring gifts to the Saviour. The wise men did not entirely know what to expect when they set out to follow the star. Yet, when they arrived at the place the star had led them, they entered the house and saw the Christ child and bowed down and worshipped him.

God continues to gather people from all walks of life and from different nations to come and receive the good news of Christ's birth. As Christ's church, our mission is to share this message!

Are we, as followers of Jesus, opening our eyes to the signs God is giving us and helping others to see them as well?

Are we seeking to share the good news of Christ's birth with all, regardless of who they are and where they come from? Let us go out, through the power of the Holy Spirit, and take notice of the angels and stars that call us to Christ.

*"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." (Matthew 2:9-10)*

### **Mission Moments - Every gift matters**

Gifts to *Presbyterians Sharing* reflect the joint efforts and witness of Presbyterians across Canada who live out the gospel message in all aspects of life. Together, we put our faith into action by equipping congregations, ministries and presbyteries; engaging in evangelism, outreach and discipleship; embracing local, national and international mission work; living out God's call to justice; empowering youth; engaging in healing and reconciliation; creating new faith communities and supporting congregations – and so much more! Dr. Nick Bauman, who spent the past 2 years serving as PCC mission staff in Nepal, shares, "Our lives are not our own, but are gifts, and we are entrusted by God to be stewards of these gifts." Gifts to *Presbyterians Sharing* are making a difference, thanks to the generosity of Presbyterians across Canada. Every gift matters!

*Presbyterians Sharing is making a difference*

A memorial gift has been received for the current fund in memory of Parents Lauchie & Erna MacDonald, aunt Marguerite Gillespie, Uncle Henry Gillespie, and Cousin Merle Wright by Brent & Sheila MacDonald

Evening Worship 7:00 p.m.

APPROACH TO GOD

Prelude

Call to Worship

Prayer of Adoration & Approach

Hymn *Unto us a child is born* # 160

Prayer of Confession

THE WORD OF GOD

Old Testament Isaiah 60:1-6

Responsive Psalm 72:1-7;10-14

Hymn *We three kings of Orient are* # 173

New Testament Lesson Acts 19:1-7

New Testament Gospel Mark 1:4-11

Sermon: *A visit from foreigners*

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Solo *Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness*

Prayer of Thanksgiving & Intercession

Offering

Offertory

Doxology # 145 vs. 4

Prayer of Dedication

The Apostles' Creed p. 4

Communion Hymn *I come with joy* # 530

WE GO OUT IN SERVICE

Hymn *The people that in darkness pined* # 171

Benediction

Choral Amen

Postlude