



January 2, 2022 – Livestream
Epiphany Sunday

GATHERING

GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Amy Sell

PRELUDE

Two variations on Hymn 247,
O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright

Michael Burkhardt

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all.

People: We have seen the salvation of our God. Alleluia!

Leader: Christ the Morning Star rises in our hearts.

People: Shout to the Lord, all the earth. Alleluia!

*OPENING HYMN #245

The First Noel

v. 1-3

***The first Noel the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep, on a cold winter's night that was so deep.***

Refrain: Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

***They looked up and saw a star shining in the east, beyond them far;
and to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night. [Refrain]***

***And by the light of that same star three Wise Men came from country far;
to seek for a king was their intent, and to follow the star wherever it went. [Refrain]***

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 60:1-6

¹Arise, shine; for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

²For darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples;
but the Lord will arise upon you,
and his glory will appear over you.

³Nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

⁴Lift up your eyes and look around;
they all gather together, they come to you;
your sons shall come from far away,
and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms.

⁵Then you shall see and be radiant;
your heart shall thrill and rejoice,

because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you,
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.

⁶ A multitude of camels shall cover you,
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;
all those from Sheba shall come.

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

SOLO

Behold that Star

Traditional Spiritual
Mark Gilgallon, baritone

Behold that star! Behold that star up yonder! It is the star of Bethlehem.
There was no room found in the inn, this is the star of Bethlehem,
for Him who was born free from sin, this is the star of Bethlehem. *Refrain*

The wise men came on from the East, this is the star of Bethlehem,
To worship Him the Prince of Peace, this is the star of Bethlehem. *Refrain*

A song broke forth upon the night, this is the star of Bethlehem,
from angel hosts all robed in white, this is the star of Bethlehem. *Refrain*

SECOND LESSON

Ephesians 3:1-12

For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles—

² Surely you have heard about the administration of God's grace that was given to me for you, ³ that is, the mystery made known to me by revelation, as I have already written briefly. ⁴ In reading this, then, you will be able to understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, ⁵ which was not made known to people in other generations as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to God's holy apostles and prophets. ⁶ This mystery is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members together of one body, and sharers together in the promise in Christ Jesus.

⁷ I became a servant of this gospel by the gift of God's grace given me through the working of his power. ⁸ Although I am less than the least of all the Lord's people, this grace was given me: to preach to the Gentiles the boundless riches of Christ, ⁹ and to make plain to everyone the administration of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things. ¹⁰ His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms, ¹¹ according to his eternal purpose that he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord. ¹² In him and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence.

SERMON

The Mystery

Sunil Kotian

*HYMN #613

O Thou Who This Mysterious Bread

***O Thou who this mysterious bread didst in Emmaus break,
return, herewith our souls to feed, and to thy followers speak.***

***Unseal the volume of thy grace, apply the gospel word;
open our eyes to see thy face, our hearts to know the Lord.***

***Of thee communing still, we mourn till thou the veil remove;
talk with us, and our hearts shall burn with flames of fervent love.***

***Enkindle now the heavenly zeal, and make thy mercy known,
and give our pardoned souls to feel that God and love are one.***

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: Let us confess our sins to God with boldness and confidence through faith in Jesus Christ:

**People: Lord of glory,
who exposes our brokenness
in the light of your mercy,
forgive us for rejecting the guidance of your truth,
and refusing to share our best gifts with the poor.
Free us from the darkness of evil
to serve and praise you among the nations. Amen.**

Leader: Hear the Good News:

We have been given the gift of God's grace
by the working of Christ's power.

In the name of Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven.

People: Glory to God. Amen.

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Amy Sell

*DOXOLOGY #94

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!***

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Darren Cushman Wood

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Leader: It is right, and a good and joyful thing,
always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God....
And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**People: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Leader: Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ....
And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving
as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

People: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Leader: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here and on these gifts of bread and cup...
All honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER #895

**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.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

COMMUNION HYMNS

#245

The First Noel

v.4-5

***This star drew nigh to the northwest, o'er Bethlehem it took its rest;
and there it did both stop and stay, right over the place where Jesus lay. [Refrain]***

***Then entered in those Wise Men three, full reverently upon the knee,
and offered there, in his presence, their gold and myrrh and frankincense. [Refrain]***

#254

We Three Kings

v. 1-4

***We three kings of Orient are; bearing gifts we traverse afar,
field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.***

***Refrain: O star of wonder, star of light, star with royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.***

***Born a King on Bethlehem's plain, gold I bring to crown him again,
King forever, ceasing never, over us all to reign. [Refrain]***

***Frankincense to offer have I; incense owns a Deity nigh;
prayer and praising, voices raising, worshipping God on high. [Refrain]***

***Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume breathes a life of gathering gloom;
sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying, sealed in the stone-cold tomb. [Refrain]***

RECEIVING THE BLESSING

As persons are sharing the bread and cup in the sanctuary, extend your hands to receive the blessing of the Holy Spirit. If you would like to receive communion from today's service please contact the church to schedule for a pastor to bring it to your home this week, nricketts@northchurchindy.com

PRAYER

*HYMN OF DEDICATION #254

We Three Kings

v. 5

***Glorious now behold him arise; King and God and sacrifice:
Alleluia, Alleluia, sounds through the earth and skies.***

***Refrain: O star of wonder, star of light, star with royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.***

*THE CHARGE AND BLESSING

Coming up at North:

4-Week Study on Theology and Violence, Tuesdays Jan 11- Feb 1, 6:30-8pm
To sign-up email asell@northchurchindy.com

This week's worship leaders:

Darren Cushman Wood, Senior Pastor
Sunil Kotian, Pastor of Mission & Outreach
Amy Sell, Minister of Discipleship & Formation
John Hague, Jack Haefling and James Horton, Audio Visual
Robert A Schilling, Guest Organist (North's Minister of Worship and the Arts 1961-2002)
Mark Gilgallon, Music Director

Child Care is available for ages 6 weeks to 5 years old in room 102.

Children (K-6) Sunday School in Fellowship Hall

Youth (7-12) Sunday School in Youth Room

Children's Church during 11am service in the Fellowship Hall for all kids grade K-6.