

THE WORD OF GOD

(Sunday Take-home Insert –Epiphany RCL)

Collect

Presider: The Lord is with you.

Assembly: **And also with you.**

Presider: Let us pray together:
Eternal Day Star,
You are the Wisdom
For our life's journey:
You strengthen our hearts
To remain constantly set on you;
You settle our minds
To know true gold amidst a world of glittering falsehood;
You assure our souls
That the path of Christ's compassion
Is the way, the truth, and the life. Amen

A period of silence for reflection follows each lesson and the sermon.

Hebrew Scriptures

Isaiah 60:1-6

Reader: A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

“Arise, shine, for your light has come!
the glory of YHWH is rising upon you!
Though darkness still covers the earth
and dense clouds enshroud the nations,
upon you YHWH now dawns,
and God's glory will be seen among you!
The nations will come to your light
and the leaders to your bright dawn!
Lift up your eyes, and look around:
They're all gathering and coming to you –
your daughters and your sons
journey from afar, escorted in safety;
you'll see them and beam with joy,
your heart will swell with pride.
The riches of the sea will flow to you,
and the wealth of the nations will come to you –
camel caravans will cover your roads,
the dromedaries of Midian and Ephah;
everyone in Sheba will come,
bringing gold and incense
and singing the praise of YHWH.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.
Assembly: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 72: Every Nation on Earth

The Epistle

Ephesians 3-1

Reader: A reading from Paul's letter to the community at Ephesus.

For I, Paul – a prisoner of Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles – am sure that you have heard of God's grace, of which I was made a steward on your behalf; this mystery, as I have briefly described it, was given to me by revelation. When you read this, you can understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, which was unknown to the people of former ages, but is now revealed by the Spirit to the holy apostles and prophets. That mystery is that the Gentiles are heirs, as are we; members of the Body, as are we; and partakers of the promise of Jesus the Messiah through the Good News, as are we. I became a minister of the Good News by the gift of divine grace given me through the working of God's power. To me, the least of all believers, was given the grace to preach to the Gentiles the unfathomable riches of Christ and to enlighten all people on the mysterious design which for ages was hidden in God, the Creator of all. Now, therefore, through the church, God's manifold wisdom is made known to the rulers and powers of heaven, in accord with the age-old design, carried out in Christ Jesus our Savior, in whom we have boldness and confident access to God through our faith in Christ.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.
Assembly: **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn (see hymn board)

We stand as able.

The Gospel

Matthew 2:1-12

Deacon: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.
Assembly: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

After Jesus' birth-which happened in Bethlehem of Judea, during the reign of Herod-astrologers from the East arrived in Jerusalem and asked, "Where is the newborn ruler of the Jews? We observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay homage." At this news Herod became greatly disturbed, as did all of Jerusalem. Summoning all the chief priests and religious scholars of the people, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. "In Bethlehem of Judea," they informed him. "Here is what the prophet has written: 'And you, Bethlehem, land of Judah, are by no means least among the leaders of Judah, since from you will come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" Herod called the astrologers aside and found out from them the exact time of the star's appearance. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, after having instructed them, "Go and get detailed information about the child. When you have found him, report back to me – so that I may go and offer

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homage, too.” After their audience with the ruler, they set out. The star which they had observed at its rising went ahead of them until it came to a standstill over the place where the child lay. They were overjoyed at seeing the star and, upon entering the house, found the child with Mary, his mother. They prostrated themselves and paid homage. Then they opened their coffers and presented the child with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. They were warned in a dream not to return to Herod, so they went back to their own country by another route.

Deacon: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

Assembly: **Thanks be to God.**

The readings are taken from *The Inclusive Hebrew Scriptures Vol. I, II, and III* and *The Inclusive New Testament* with © permission from: Priests for Equality/Quixote Center, P.O. Box 5206 Hyattsville, MD 20782 301-699-0042. Collect is by Kevin G. Thew Forrester.

WELCOME!

We welcome all visitors and guests this morning. After the service, you are invited to the Great Room on the Lower Level for coffee and conversation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY'S HOSPITALITY AND WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

Presider:	Kevin Thew Forrester
Preacher:	Kevin Thew Forrester
Deacon:	Pat Micklow
Organist:	Jan Brodersen
First Reader:	Kay Payant
Second Reader:	Jo de Young-Patrie
Prayers of the People:	Marcia Franz
Chalice Bearers:	Vince Reed and Coralie Hambleton
Ushers:	Paul Berg and Geoff Smith
Server:	Michael Edwards
Altar Guild:	Kate Kenney and Jacquey Shellenbarger
Nursery Attendant:	
Coffee Hour Hosts:	Kay Payant and Marcia Franz
Evening Prayer Officiant:	Larry Shell
Children's Ministry:	Jim Edwards, Cathy Greer Cole, and Nancy Railey
Eucharistic Visitors:	Marcia Franz to MGH, Bob and Nancy Railey to Bill Mudge, and Bob and Joan Rafferty to Charles and Bea Kantola

Hospitalization Contacts:

Kai Carrigan		249-9829	kairri@chartermi.net
Marcia Franz		226-2830	mqlake@yahoo.com
Bob Railey		226-9617	rmrailey@excite.com
Leon Jarvis	Hospital Chaplain	225-0338	ljjarvis@mgh.org
Judy Britton	Nursing Home Contact	346-6852	rbritton@nmu.edu
Wardens			
Al Raymond	Senior Warden	249-3534	alrayusma@charter.net
Tom Feller	Junior Warden	486-9967	Tompfeller@aol.com

Ministry Support Team

Communications

Meg Goodrich	Communications Coordinator	226-8920	mgoodrich@charter.net
Liturgy			
Bob Railey	Worship Coordinator	226-9617	rmrailey@excite.com
Vince Reed	Worship Coordinator	228-7333	vincentreed@gmail.com
Mutual (Pastoral) Care			
Marcia Franz	Mutual Care Coordinator	226-2830	mqlake@yahoo.com
Coralie Hambleton	Mutual Care Coordinator	869-2046	cvhamblet@hotmail.com
Outreach (All Are Welcome)			
Kai Carrigan	Outreach Coordinator	249-9829	kairri@chartermi.net
Pat Micklow	Outreach Coordinator	249-3479	dunetop@chartermi.net

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Stewardship
Al Raymond

Stewardship Coordinator

249-3534 alrayusma@charter.net

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S CHURCH

Sunday 6 th	Holy Eucharist	10:30am
Tuesday 8 th	Morning Meditation	8:00am
	Group I	1:30pm
	Executive Committee	4:00pm
	Evening Meditation	5:30pm
	Altar Guild	7:00pm
Wednesday 9 th	Evening Prayer	5:30pm
	Choir Practice	7:00pm
Thursday 10 th	Morning Meditation	8:00am
Saturday 12 th	9th Annual Baptismal Conference at St. Stephen's Church in Escanaba Let us know if you are coming by calling the diocesan office (1-800-236-0087) or by sending a note to Jane Cisluycis (jane@upepiscopal.org). We like to know who's coming by January 7th so we can plan lunch. <u>*See full page insert*</u>	10:00am-3:00pm

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

The Finance Committee meeting has been changed from January 9th 2008 to January 16th 2008.

ENNEAGRAM INTERVIEWS

Kevin Thew Forrester offers Enneagram Interviews. The interview takes approximately one hour. Please call the office at 226-2912 to schedule.

LADIES LUNCHEON SIGN-UP

Join us for the Ladies Luncheon at the Holiday Inn on Friday, January 18th at 11:30 a.m. Please make reservations with Barb Carpenter (226-7571) by noon on Thursday, January 17th.

ALTAR GUILD MEETING

There will be an Altar Guild Meeting, Tuesday January 8th at 7:00 pm at St. Paul's Church

OLD COMPUTER PRINTER INK CARTRIDGE COLLECTION

St. Paul's is collecting used ink cartridges, which will be used to help defray the cost of paper and other office supplies. Used ink cartridges can be dropped off at the church office between 8:00 am and 12:00 pm, Monday through Friday or placed in the collection box in the north entrance of the church (near the elevator). Thank you for your support.

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