

## WORSHIP HANDOUT

January 3, 2021  
A Person of Hope



OPENING OF WORSHIP

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

**We gather wondering, 'Where will we find the Babe born in Bethlehem?'**

**We will find the Babe in the laughter of children,  
in the wisdom of grandparents.**

**We gather asking, 'where will we find the Child of Christmas?'**

**We will find the Child where the needy are gifted with hope,  
where the oppressed are set free.**

**We gather wanting to know, 'where will we find the Christ  
who has come for us?'**

**We will find our Hope where fear is overwhelmed by grace,  
where hatred is overwhelmed by love,  
where all people are overwhelmed by joy.**

HYMN

Joy to the World

UMH #246

TIME OF PRAYER

SILENT AND PASTORAL PRAYER (MUSIC)

UNISON PRAYER

We have heard of your grace,

Shaper of stars;

from those set free

from injustice;

from our children

who whisper of your joy;

from greeters  
of dawn's fresh start;  
from late risers  
who listen to the stories  
of the needy.  
We have heard  
of your Light,  
Bright Star of the morning:  
which can illumine  
the shadows of our lives;  
which can show  
the path to God's heart;  
which can point the way  
to where we become  
servants of the gospel.  
We have heard  
of your promised peace,  
Wisdom's Radiance:  
that peace  
which can end war,  
as well as heal our hearts;  
that peace  
which can conquer our fears,  
and flood us with faith;  
that peace which can enter our lives  
and overwhelm us with hope.  
We have heard of you,  
God in Community, Holy in One,  
and will proclaim your glory to all,  
even as we pray, saying,  
**Our Father . . .**

**LORD'S PRAYER**

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 now and  
forever. Amen.

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

LESSON I      CEB

Isaiah 60:1-6

**60:1 Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.**

**60:2 For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you.**

**60:3 Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.**

**60:4 Lift 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.**

**60:5 Then 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.**

**60:6 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.**

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in the territory of Judea during the rule of King Herod, magi came from the east to Jerusalem. <sup>2</sup> They asked, “Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We’ve seen his star in the east, and we’ve come to honor him.”

<sup>3</sup> When King Herod heard this, he was troubled, and everyone in Jerusalem was troubled with him. <sup>4</sup> He gathered all the chief priests and the legal experts and asked them where the Christ was to be born. <sup>5</sup> They said, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for this is what the prophet wrote:

<sup>6</sup> *You, Bethlehem, land of Judah,  
by no means are you least among the rulers of Judah,  
because from you will come one who governs,  
who will shepherd my people Israel.”*

<sup>7</sup> Then Herod secretly called for the magi and found out from them the time when the star had first appeared. <sup>8</sup> He sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search carefully for the child. When you’ve found him, report to me so that I too may go and honor him.” <sup>9</sup> When they heard the king, they went; and look, the star they had seen in the east went ahead of them until it stood over the place where the child was.

<sup>10</sup> When they saw the star, they were filled with joy. <sup>11</sup> They entered the house and saw the child with Mary his mother. Falling to their knees, they honored him. Then they opened their treasure chests and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. <sup>12</sup> Because they were warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they went back to their own country by another route.

L: This is the Word of God for all people.

P: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

A Long Journey

HYMN

Go Tell it on the Mountain

UMH #251

OFFERTORY

\*DOXOLOGY

UMH #95

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
Amen.

BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE

Emmanuel, Emmanuel

UMH #204

POSTLUDE