



Epiphany

“No matter who you are,
No matter where you are
on life’s journey,
You are welcome here.”



Welcome to Worship

Welcome to St. Paul Church. We are glad you are here!

Communion Sunday

9 am Traditional Service in the Sanctuary

11am Celebration Service in Heritage Hall

Information for our friends ~

- Our **9am Traditional Service** is inspired with hymns, scripture and a theological based sermon. And our **11am Celebration Service** has a relaxed family-friendly message with contemporary Christian music. *Please feel free to try one or both styles of worship.*
- The Nursery is open during 9 am service (first classroom in the hallway off the sanctuary)
If the small person gets wiggly, there are toys & books to enjoy.
- Hearing devices, large print bulletins, and large Bibles (in church library) are available, please see your ushers if you have any questions.
- Our Worship Service is broadcast on KSTL-690 AM radio & streamed on Jubilee690.com at 9am Sundays and repeated at 9pm.
- We want to know you!! Please sign the Pew Pad today. If you are new to St. Paul, want your information updated or with us every week– let us know you are here!! Please fill in your contact information and we will happily contact you as you wish.
- When you or a loved one is admitted to a hospital, please ask the hospital to notify the church office. If you have a new addition to your family, if your address or phone changes, please contact the church office so we can keep our records current.

LEADING THIS TIME OF WORSHIP

<i>Lay Reader</i>	Lou Ryseff
<i>Nursery Care</i>	Sandy and Bobby Frerking
<i>Radio</i>	Sherry Stepp
<i>Sound / Control Room</i>	Rick Haar & Tina LakeHopper
<i>Ushering Team</i>	Dana Rosenzweig and Beverly Brightwell, Leslie, Carly, & Megan Dahm,Tammy and Amber Flach, Carol Simon, Donna & Jim Young
<i>Welcome Center</i>	Scott Gentry, Jeanine Guthrie, Rose Hoy, Sandy Kramer, Debbie Lippert
<i>Director of Christian Education / Sunday School Teacher</i>	Tyler Kohrs
<i>Music Ministry</i>	Chancel Choir
<i>Director of Music Ministry</i>	Dan Fry
<i>Senior Pastor</i>	Rev. Michelle Torigian

St. Paul
United Church of Christ
Epiphany Sunday

January 6, 2019 9:00 am

OT = Old Testament NT = New Testament † Please stand if able

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *Partita on O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright* Jan Bender

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: The light of Christ shines throughout this world

All: The light of Christ ignites our anticipation for what is to come.

One: The Divine Glow radiates across our earth

All: Calling us to care for one another.

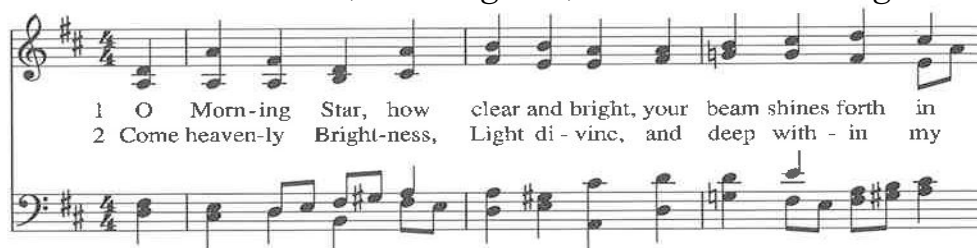
One: This illuminated warmth fills our hearts with compassion

All: And its blaze compels us to awaken our world with justice.

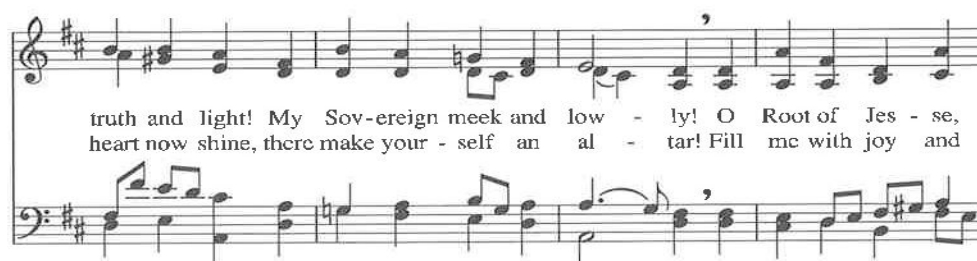
INVOCATION (Unison)

Beaming God, as the star's light shines our way to the Christ in our midst, help us reflect upon this season of brightness. Steer us in directions you want us to travel. Encourage us to value all the souls we meet along the way. Stir us to use our voices to champion the sojourners who yearn for sustainable lives. On our journeys, instill a sense of justice in our minds and infuse our hearts with mercy. Amen.

+OPENING HYMN *Oh, Morning Star, How Clear and Bright*



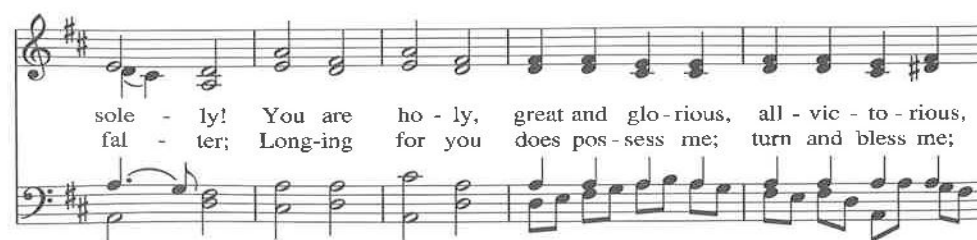
1 O Morn-ing Star, how clear and bright, your beam shines forth in
2 Come heaven-ly Bright-ness, Light di - vinc, and deep with - in my



truth and light! My Sov-ereign meek and low - ly! O Root of Jes - se,
heart now shine, there make your - self an al - tar! Fill me with joy and



Prom - ised One, my God and Rul - er, you have won my heart to serve you
strength to be your mem-ber, joined e - ter - nal - ly in love that can - not



sole - ly! You are ho - ly, great and glo-rious, all - vic - to - rious,
fal - ter; Long-ing for you does pos - sess me; turn and bless me;



Rich in bless - ing, rule and might o'er all pos - sess - ing.
Here in sad - ness eye and heart long for your glad - ness.

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+UNISON PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION

One: God of Radiating Peace, like Herod, we hide behind our fears.
We feed into systems which we think will protect us. We adopt
mindsets of “us versus them” to seal off others from invading our
spaces.

**All: In our minds, we know our peace is rooted in you,
God. Kindle compassion in our hearts that will melt away
fears. Inspire us to remove hedges of hate, and may we find
ways to break down systems which lessen the dignity of
others. Amen.**

+ASSURANCE OF GRACE

One: God of Infinite Love and Light will awaken our hearts to embrace
compassion. Let us welcome the beams of grace which are
flooding our path, and let us pass along the same mercy to our
neighbors.

All: Amen! Thanks be to God!

+PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: May the peace of Christ be with you. **All: And also with you.**

One: Let us share a sign of the peace with one another.

CHILDREN’S MOMENT with Pastor Michelle

ANTHEM

Epiphany Carol
Chancel Choir

Austin Lovelace

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 1:1-12

SERMON

Fear

+HYMN

Arise, Your Light Is Come



1 A - rise, your light is come! The Spir - it's call o - bey;
2 A - rise, your light is come! Fling wide the pris - on door;
3 A - rise, your light is come! All you in sor - row born,
4 A - rise, your light is come! The moun-tains burst in song!



Show forth the glo - ry of your God which shines on you to - day!
Pro - claim the cap-tive's lib - er - ty, good tid - ings to the poor.
Bind up the bro-ken - heart-ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.
Rise up like ea - gles on the wing; God's power will make us strong.

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PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE with 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever.

Amen.

RECEIVING OUR MORNING GIFTS AND OFFERINGS

One: From the prophet Isaiah, the wealth of the nations; from Paul the Apostle, the joyous news of mysterious grace; from the sages from the East, an homage of rich treasure:
one after another, we hear grateful praise for the God who makes a home with humanity.
We respond, as well: bringing our own treasure;
singing our own joy; offering our own wonder.
Let us give, richly and boldly. Let us gather our gifts together and offer them to God in gratitude and praise.

OFFERTORY *Brightest and Best of the Stars of the Morning* Michael Burkhardt

+DOXOLOGY *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*
Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ in whom God's grace we know
Praise Spirit, with us evermore;
One God, triune, whom we adore. Amen.

+UNISON DEDICATION PRAYER

God of every good gift, here we present our offerings. There are gifts that we give in response to your Spirit. We remember these gifts in joyful song and holy story, in prayer and silence. There are other gifts, not physically on this table but held in the altar of our hearts. God, we offer them all to you. We ask your blessing on all that we give, so that your loving care reaches into us and out to all the world, ever more deeply and gracefully. We ask it in Jesus' name; Amen.

+HYMN

Rejoice, You Pure In Heart



1. Re - joice, you ___ pure in heart; lift praises ___ to the sky; your
2. Bright youth ___ and ___ snow-crowned age, strong souls and ___ spir - its meek, raise
3. With voice as ___ full and strong as o - cean's surg-ing praise, send
4. Yes, on through life's long path, still sing-ing ___ as you go, from
5. Praise God who ___ rules all worlds; the ris-en ___ Christ a - dore. Praise



fes - tive ___ ban - ner wave ___ with ___ joy, the cross of Christ raise
high your ___ free ex - ult - ing ___ song, God's won - drous prais - es
forth the ___ hymns the saints ___ have ___ loved, the psalms of an - cient
youth to ___ age, by night ___ and ___ day, in glad - ness and in
God the ___ Spir - it, Ho - ly ___ Fire, one God for ev - er -



high! Re - joice, re - joice, re - joice, give ___ thanks and sing.
speak.
days.
woe.
more!

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SERVICE OF COMMUNION

Invitation

One: Here at this table and in this sanctuary,
let the Divine Spark enter our lives.

**All: Let the Holy Light aid us in seeing the Christ
in our midst.**

One: The Brightness of Jesus the Christ will illuminate
our way.

All: The Radiance of the Christ will warm our hearts.

One: God is shining upon you!

All: And God's light streams upon you!

One: Open your hearts.

All: We open them to the brilliance of God.

One: Let us give thanks for the light and love of God.

All: We praise our Creator with joy and thanksgiving.

Prayer

One: We enter this stunning space eager to experience the presence of the Christ. Notice the Christ in the cries of the children. Spot the Christ your neighbor's singing. Recognize the Christ in the laughter from the back of the sanctuary. The Christ is gleaming here, summoning us to share love and light as we greet our neighbors, share peace, pass the bread and cup, and love kindness across this earth.

On the night before Jesus died, when some were plotting to extinguish the Holy Light, warmth was shared between friends. Jesus took bread. In his blessing, he passed the Divine Glow to his followers. As he broke the bread, he reminded them to eat in remembrance of him.

Later that same evening, Jesus took the cup. He blessed it and invited his friends to taste from the cup of grace. “Do this, as often as you drink of this, for the remembrance of me.”

Holy Spirit, may your Divine Glow bless this bread and cup. Warm our hearts made cold by a chilled world. May this meal inspire us to carry your warmth into our world. Amen.

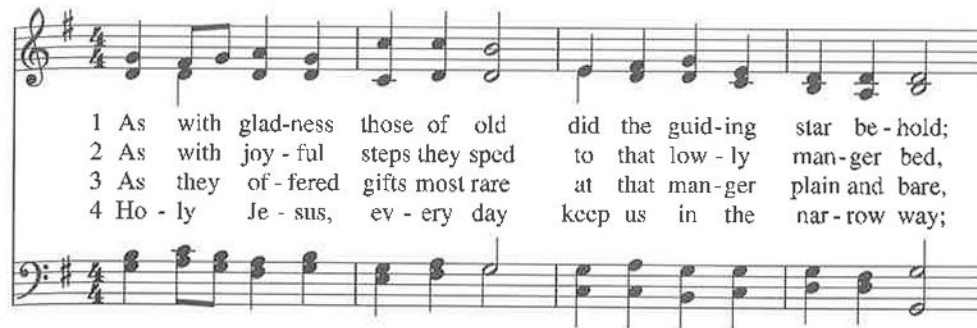
Distribution of the Elements

Christ welcomes to the table all who seek his presence. *All cups contain grape juice.* Please hold the bread and cup until all have been served, so we may commune together.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

God of Light and Love, we cherish this table in this season when the nights are long and cold. Through this meal, the Christ, and our neighbors, our hearts have warmed. May the comfort in our souls sustain us through winter and nudge us to create welcoming spaces for our neighbors. With gratitude, we leave here energized to kindle your love in this world. Amen.

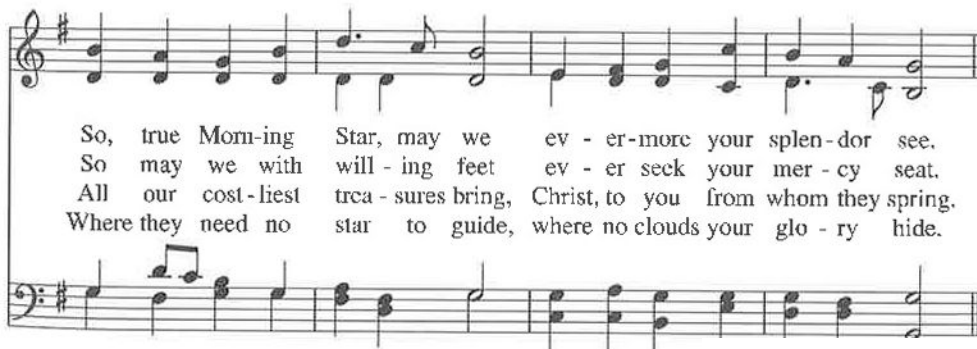
+CLOSING HYMN *As With Gladness Those of Old*



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,
 4 Ho-ly Je-sus, ev-ery day keep us in the nar-row way;



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,
 And when mor-tal things are past, bring our ran-somed souls at last



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.
 Where they need no star to guide, where no clouds your glo-ry hide.

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+BENEDICTION

One: As you begin your Epiphany journeys:

Let wisdom be your guiding light.

Let love be your map.

Let hope be your energy.

Let peace nudge you to rest.

Let joy alleviate your spirit's load.

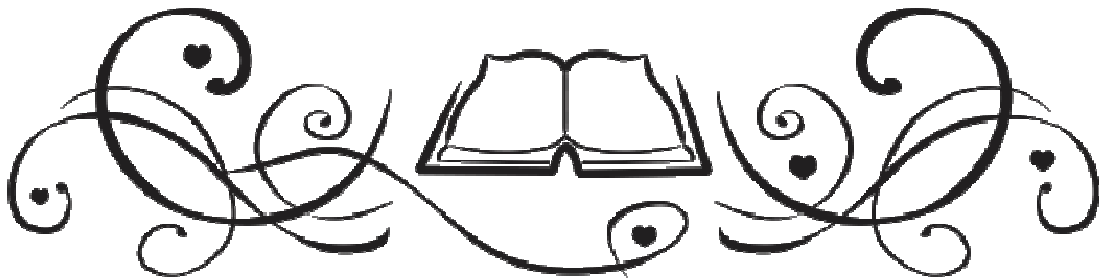
And may the God of Courage, the Christ of illumination,
and the Spirit of Amazement present you with an encounter
of love and light! Amen!

All: Amen!

+POSTLUDE

We Three Kings

Kristina Langlois



Call to Offering and Prayer of Dedication from Arise! People of God, Shine! Service Prayers for the Festival of Epiphany, was written by John A. Nelson, Pastor and Teacher of Niantic Community Church, Niantic, Connecticut.

Call to Offering, Invocation, Prayer of Reconciliation, Assurance of Grace, Communion Service and Benediction written by Rev. Michelle L. Torigian

Please note: All services may be audio or video recorded.