

*"Where All Are Welcome . . . No Exceptions!"*



## The Epiphany

January 3, 2021

### The Holy Eucharist

The Word of God

**Prelude** *Voluntary 'As with Gladness Men of Old'*  
*Hymn Tune: 'Dix'* Greg Bottomley

**Processional Hymn** (*Please stand as able*) *Please see page 8*

#117 | *"Brightest and Best of the Stars"*

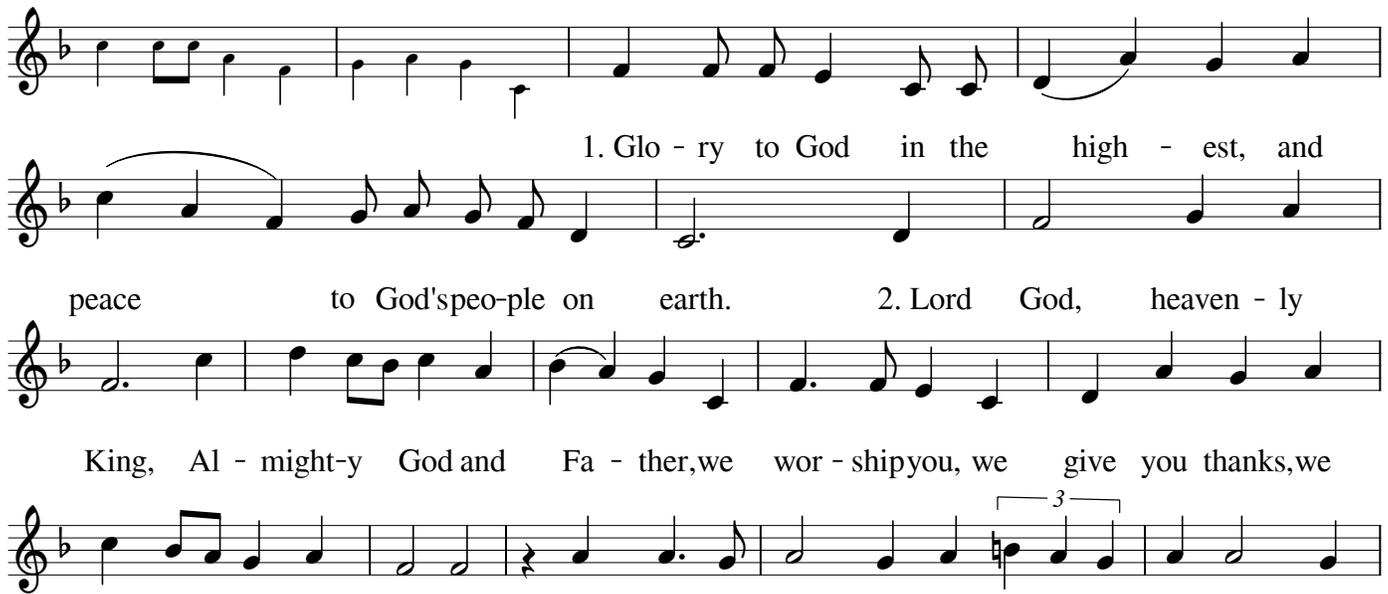
**Children's Chat** - *Robert Freeman*

*Celebrant* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.  
*People* **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

*Celebrant* Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Canticle of Praise:** *Glory to God*

*Hymnal S280*



1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and  
 peace to God's peo-ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly  
 King, Al - might-y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we  
 praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord

God, Lamb of God, 4. you take away the sin of the world: have mer - cy  
 on us; 5. you are seated at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer. 6. For  
 you alone are the Ho - ly One, you alone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most  
 High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the  
 glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

**The Collect of the Day**

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* ***And also with you.***

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*The Celebrant prays the Collect*

O God, by the leading of a star you manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: Lead us, who know you now by faith, to your presence, where we may see your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

*People* ***Amen.***

**First Reading** *(Please be seated)*

*Reader* A Reading from Isaiah:

***Introduction to the First Reading***

*The prophet envisions the end of exile and the glorious restoration of Jerusalem. Nations will make a pilgrimage to her because the light of God's presence is in her midst. Rich treasures will be brought from afar to honor God.*

***Isaiah 60:1-6***

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

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.

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

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.

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.

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.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* ***Thanks be to God.***

## Psalm of the Day

## Psalm 72: 1-7, 10-14



All na - tions shall be - hold the won - ders God has done.

Give the King your justice, O God,  
and your righteousness to the King's Son;  
That he may rule your people righteously  
and the poor with justice;  
That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people,  
and the little hills bring righteousness. [ANT.]

He shall defend the needy among the people;  
he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.  
He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure,  
from one generation to another.  
He shall come down like rain upon the mown field,  
like showers that water the earth.  
In his time shall the righteous flourish;  
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon  
shall be no more. [ANT.]

The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay tribute,  
and the kings of Arabia and Saba offer gifts.  
All kings shall bow down before him,  
and all the nations do him service. [ANT.]

For he shall deliver the poor who cries out in distress,  
and the oppressed who has no helper.  
He shall have pity on the lowly and poor;  
he shall preserve the lives of the needy.  
He shall redeem their lives from oppression and violence,  
and dear shall their blood be in his sight. [ANT.]

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## Second Reading

*Reader* A Reading from The Letter of Paul to the Ephesians:

### *Introduction to the Second Reading*

*St. Paul, near the end of his ministry and in prison, proclaims that Christ's salvation extends beyond Judaism to include all peoples. The wisdom of God is made known through the church.*

### *Ephesians 3:1-12*

This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles-- for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**Sequence Hymn** (*Please stand as able*) - *Please see pages 9-10*

#109 | "The First Nowell"

*Celebrant* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Matthew:

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

**The Holy Gospel** (*The Gospel is carried into the congregation so that we remember it is our Good News to hear and to share.*)

### *Matthew 2:1-12*

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was<sup>3</sup>frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together

all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;  
for from you shall come a ruler  
who is to shepherd my people Israel."

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." 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. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

*Celebrant* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* ***Praise to you, Lord Christ.***

## THE SERMON

*Please stand and join me in the affirmation of our  
christian faith in the words of the Nicene Creed.*

**The Nicene Creed** *(Please stand as able)*

*We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.*

*We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father.  
Through him all things were made.*

*For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.*

*For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.*

*We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the Prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.*

## The Prayers of the People *The Leader and People pray responsively.*

We pray for us, your faithful people, and those who lead us, that we may walk in your way of love and manifest your love to the world.

***Shine your light on your Church, Lord.***

We pray for all the nations of the world, that those in authority will work toward peace and equity for all their people.

***Shine your light on the nations, Lord.***

We pray for people everywhere, that their lives may be full, that their families may be secure, that their hearts be filled with your peace.

***Shine your light on all your children, Lord.***

We pray for the community in which we live, that neighbors care for neighbors creating a truly caring community for all.

***Shine your light on this community, Lord.***

We pray for those who are suffering in ways that are known or hidden to us. We pray for those who struggle mightily in this life and for those whose light is dimming; for those who are ill and those who care for them; for those who are born today and for those who will die.

***Shine your light into the seasons and passages of our lives, Lord.***

We pray for those who have been called into larger life with you.

***Shine your perpetual light upon them, Lord.***

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others, especially remembering those on our parish prayer list and those we name in our hearts.

*(The congregation may add their own petitions either silently or aloud after the prayer list is read.)*

*(The Celebrant may add a concluding Collect.)*

## The Confession of Sin *(Please kneel as able or be seated)*

*Reader* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. *(Silence may be kept)*

*People* ***Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.***

## The Absolution

*Celebrant* Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. ***Amen.***

## The Peace *(Please stand as able)*

*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* ***And also with you.***

## The Holy Communion

*Being seated, we begin with a time of offering, giving money as a sign that our life serves God's purposes and showing our gratitude for God's many blessings.*

*Your faithful tithes and offerings are much needed and can be sent to:*

*The Episcopal Church of St. John the Baptist, PO Box 441, Milton, DE 19968 OR*

*Securely online through our website - <https://www.stjohnthebaptistmilton.org/give.html>*

## Offertory Sentence & Interlude

**Doxology** *(The offering is presented as the Doxology is sung.  
Please stand as able)*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him, all crea-tures here be-low; praise him a-bove, ye  
heaven-ly host: praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost. A-men.

WORDS: Isaac Watts (1674-1748). Music: Louis Bourgeois, c. 1510-1561.

## Offertory Hymn

*Please see page 11*

# The Great Thanksgiving

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.  
*People* ***And also with you.***  
*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.  
*People* ***We lift them to the Lord.***  
*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
*People* ***It is right to give God thanks and praise.***

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**Sanctus:** *Holy, holy, holy Lord*

*Hymnal S129*

Ho - ly, ho - ly ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and  
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Hos - san - na in the High - est.

*The people may kneel as able, or be seated. The Celebrant continues.*

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

*At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or to lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.*

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

***We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory;***

*The Celebrant continues.*

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by

the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with [ and] all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

**Celebrant** And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,  
**People** **Our Father, who art in heaven,** *And forgive us our trespasses,*  
*hallowed be thy Name,* *as we forgive those*  
*thy kingdom come,* *who trespass against us.*  
*thy will be done,* *And lead us not into temptation,*  
*on earth as it is in heaven.* *but deliver us from evil.*  
**Give us this day our daily bread.** *For thine is the kingdom,*  
*and the power, and the glory,*  
*for ever and ever. Amen.*

### The Breaking of the Bread

**Celebrant** Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
**People** *Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!*

### A Prayer for Spiritual Communion

*Lord Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my heart and my soul. As though you have already come, I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you, my Lord and my God! Amen.*

**Distribution Anthem - "We Three Kings of Orient Are" Text & Music: John Henry Hopkins**  
**Vocalist: Robert Freeman Accompanist: Scott Kresge**

### Post Communion Prayer (Please kneel or be seated)

**Celebrant** Let us pray.  
**People** *Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving kindness to us and to all whom you have made.*  
*We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.*  
*And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your presence, that as we lament our separation from one another, we may continually show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.*

### Benediction

Almighty God,  
who sent the Holy Spirit to Mary, proclaimed joy through the angels,  
sent the shepherds with good news, and led the magi by a star,  
bless you this day through the Word made flesh.  
And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, † the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be upon you and remain with you forever. **Amen.**

**Recessional Hymn (Please stand as able)** *Please see page 12*

**#119 | "As with Gladness Men of Old"**

### The Dismissal

**Celebrant** Go in peace. Share the gift of Jesus.  
**People** **Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude** "March of the Three Holy Kings" *Weihnachts baum No 4. – Adeste fideles* Franz Liszt

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*The Rev. Thomas M. White, Rector*  
*J. Edwin Stout, Acolyte*  
*Scott Kresge, Organist/Videography/Streaming*  
*Robert Freeman, Cantor/Soloist*  
*Elizabeth Scheer, Videography/Streaming*

117

Epiphany

1 Bright - est and best of the stars of the morn - ing,  
 2 Cold on his cra - dle the dew - drops are shin - ing,  
 3 Shall we then yield him, in cost - ly de - vo - tion,  
 4 Vain - ly we of - fer each am - ple o - bla - tion,  
 5 Bright - est and best of the stars of the morn - ing,

1 dawn on our dark - ness, and lend us thine aid;  
 2 low lies his head with the beasts of the stall;  
 3 o - dors of E - dom, and of - ferings di - vine,  
 4 vain - ly with gifts would his fa - vor se - cure,  
 5 dawn on our dark - ness, and lend us thine aid;

1 star of the east, the hor - i - zon a - dorn - ing,  
 2 an - gels a - dore him in slum - ber re - clin - ing,  
 3 gems of the moun - tain, and pearls of the o - cean,  
 4 rich - er by far is the heart's a - dor - a - tion,  
 5 star of the east, the hor - i - zon a - dorn - ing,

1 guide where our in - fant Re - deem - er is laid.  
 2 Ma - ker and Mon - arch and Sa - vior of all.  
 3 myrrh from the for - est, and gold from the mine?  
 4 dear - er to God are the prayers of the poor.  
 5 guide where our in - fant Re - deem - er is laid.

Words: Reginald Heber (1783-1826), alt.

Music: *Morning Star*, James Proctor Harding (1850-1911)

11 10. 11 10

109

Christmas

1 The first No - well the an - gel did say  
 2 They look - ed up and saw \_\_\_ a star  
 3 And by the light of that \_\_\_ same star  
 4 This star drew nigh to the \_\_\_ north - west,  
 5 Then en - tered in those wise \_\_\_ men three

1 was to cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay;  
 2 shin - ing in \_\_\_ the east \_\_\_ be - yond \_\_\_ them far,  
 3 three \_\_\_ wise \_\_\_ men came \_\_\_ from coun - try far;  
 4 o'er \_\_\_ Beth - le - hem \_\_\_ it took \_\_\_ its rest,  
 5 full \_\_\_ rev - erent - ly \_\_\_ up - on \_\_\_ their knee,

1 in fields as \_\_\_ they lay, keep - ing their sheep,  
 2 and to the \_\_\_ earth it gave \_\_\_ great light,  
 3 to seek for a king was their \_\_\_ in - tent,  
 4 and there it \_\_\_ did both stop \_\_\_ and stay  
 5 and of - fered there in his \_\_\_ pres - ence

1 on a cold win - ter's night — that was — so deep.  
 2 and — so it con - tin - ued both day — and night.  
 3 and to fol - low the star — wher - ev - er it went.  
 4 right — o - ver the place — where Je - sus lay.  
 5 their — gold, — and myrrh, — and frank - in - cense.

*Refrain*

No - well, No - well, No - well, No - well,

born is the King of Is - ra - el.

6 Then let us all with one accord  
 sing praises to our heavenly Lord;  
 that hath made heayen and earth of nought,  
 and with his blood our life hath bought.

*Refrain*

Words: English carol, 18th cent.

Music: *The First Nowell*, English carol, 17th cent.; harm. John Stainer (1840-1901)

Irr. with Refrain

124

Epiphany

*Unison or harmony*

1 What star is this, with beams so bright, more beau - teous  
 2 True spake the pro - phet from a - far who told the  
 3 The guid - ing star a - bove is bright; with - in them  
 4 O Je - sus, while the star of grace im - pels us  
 5 To God the Fa - ther, heaven - ly Light, to Christ, re -

1 than the noon - day light? It shines to her - ald  
 2 rise of Ja - cob's star; and east - ern sa - ges  
 3 shines a clear - er light, and leads them on with  
 4 on to seek thy face, let not our sloth - ful  
 5 vealed in earth - ly night, to God the Ho - ly

1 forth the King, and Gen - tiles to his crib to bring.  
 2 with a - maze up - on the won - drous to - ken gaze.  
 3 power be - nign to seek the Giv - er of the sign.  
 4 hearts re - fuse the guid - ance of thy light to use.  
 5 Ghost we raise our e - qual and un - ceas - ing praise.

Words: Charles Coffin (1676-1749); tr. *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1861, after John Chandler (1807-1876), alt.  
 Music: *Puer nobis*, melody from Trier MS., 15th cent.; adapt. Michael Praetorius (1571-1621);  
 harm. *Cowley Carol Book*, 1902

LM

119

Epiphany

1 As with glad-ness men 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 rude and bare;  
 4 Ho - ly Je - sus! ev - ery day keep us in the nar - row way;  
 5 In the heav-en-ly coun - try bright, need they no cre - a - ted light;

1 as with joy they hailed its light, lead - ing on - ward, beam-ing bright;  
 2 there to bend the knee be - fore him whom heaven and earth a - dore;  
 3 so may we with ho - ly joy, pure and free from sin's al - loy,  
 4 and, when earth - ly things are past, bring our ran - somed souls at last  
 5 thou its light, its joy, its crown, thou its sun which goes not down:

1 so, most gra - cious Lord, may we ev - er - more be led to thee.  
 2 so may we with will - ing feet ev - er seek the mer - cy - seat.  
 3 all our cost - liest trea-sures bring, Christ! to thee, our heav-en-ly King.  
 4 where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glo - ry hide.  
 5 there for ev - er may we sing al - le - lu - ias to our King.

Music: William Chatterton Dix (1837-1898)

Music: Dix, melody Conrad Kocher (1786-1872); arr. William Henry Monk (1823-1889);  
 harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906

77. 77. 77

# *Poinsettias*

*Given to the Glory of God and . . .*

## *In Loving Memory of*

My Mother, Sophie Myers  
Joseph & Helen Makowski, and  
Walter & Katherine Czarnik  
Grandparents, Walter & Emily Clemis,  
and Warren & Anna Kresge  
Jeannette Miller and Robert Scheer  
Raymond & Joyce Hullings, and  
Josephine & John Pirrung  
Douglas Moubray  
John & Helen Skocypec, and  
John & Mary Dickinson  
Parents James O. & Rosa Stout,  
Brother Raymond Stout, and  
Friend Paul D. Cole  
Jack Waite  
Departed Parents and Grandparents

## *In Honor of*

Our Son, Scott Kresge  
In Thanksgiving for God's Faithful  
People in the St. John the Baptist Family

## *By*

Denise Cunningham  
Diane & Joseph Czarnik  
Scott Kresge  
Sharon Lamando  
Susan Mattia & Jerry Pirrung  
Mary Moubray  
Jean & Wayne Skocypec  
James E. Stout  
Deacon Paula & Tom Waite  
Father Tom & Rob Freeman

## *By*

Melvin & Laraine Kresge  
Father Tom & Rob Freeman

# *Church Greening*

In Loving Memory of Jose O. Escobar

Clara M. Escobar