

Sunday, 2nd of January 2022

The Epiphany of Our Lord



Sentence

They saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and worshipped him. Matthew 2.11

Collect

Eternal God,
who by a star led Magi to the worship of your Son:
guide the nations of the earth by your light,
that the whole world may see your glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

Reading from the Old Testament

Isaiah 60.1-6

¹ 'Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you. ² See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples, but the Lord rises upon you and his glory appears over you. ³ Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. ⁴ 'Lift up your eyes and look about you: all assemble and come to you; your sons come from afar, and your daughters are carried on the hip. ⁵ Then you will look and be radiant, your heart will throb and swell with joy; the wealth on the seas will be brought to you, to you the riches of the nations will come. ⁶ Herds of camels will cover your land, young camels of Midian and Ephah. And all from Sheba will come, bearing gold and incense and proclaiming the praise of the Lord.

Hear the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 72.1-7, 10-14

¹Give the king your judgement, O God: **and your righteousness to the son of a king,** ² That he may judge your people rightly: **and the poor of the land with equity.**

³ Let the mountains be laden with peace because of his righteousness: **and the hills also with prosperity for his people.**

⁴ May he give justice to the poor among the people: **and rescue the children of the needy, and crush the oppressor.**

⁵ May he live while the sun endures: **and while the moon gives light, throughout all generations.**

⁶ May he come down like rain upon the new-mown fields: **and as showers that water the earth.**

⁷ In his time shall righteousness flourish:

and abundance of peace, till the moon shall be no more.

¹⁰ The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall bring tribute: **the kings of Sheba and Seba shall offer gifts.**

¹¹ All kings shall fall down before him: **and all nations do him service.**

¹² He will deliver the needy when they cry: **and the poor that have no helper.**

¹³ He will pity the helpless and the needy: **and save the lives of the poor.**

¹⁴ He will redeem them from oppression and violence: **and their blood shall be precious in his sight.**

New Testament Reading

Ephesians 3.1-12

¹ 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.

Hear the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God.

Gospel

Matthew 2.1-12

¹ After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem ² and asked, 'Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.' ³ When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. ⁴ When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵ 'In Bethlehem in Judea,' they replied, 'for this is what the prophet has written: ⁶ "'But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.'" ⁷ Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. ⁸ He sent them to Bethlehem and said, 'Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him.' ⁹ After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. ¹¹ On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshipped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. ¹² And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

For the Gospel of the Lord!
Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.