

Verse 4

Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume Breathes a life of gathering gloom;
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying, Sealed in the stone-cold tomb. **(Refrain)**

Verse 5

Glorious now behold Him arise, King and God and Sacrifice;
Alleluia, Alleluia, Sounds through the earth and skies. **(Refrain)**

OFFERING OURSELVES TO GOD “What Star Is This, With Beams So Bright” Paul Manz

DOXOLOGY

STAR WORDS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER Jeannie Cavender, CRE

CLOSING SONG: “The Star of Christmas” Leslie Lembo

Chorus

Oh, what a light did shine, it’s the star of Christmas. A Morning we’ll all remember.
And how the sun rose up on that Christmas morn; The day Jesus Christ was born.
And if the angels ask, “Do you believe?” Just tell them, “Yes, I will receive.”
And how the sun rose up on that Christmas morn; The day Jesus Christ was born.

Verse

See the joy... on the children’s faces.
Just let the light of Christmas... light up the darkest places.
And if there’s someone... left to forgive.
This is the season... to let love live, let love live!

Chorus

Bridge

What a light! I can see it shining.
What a light! It shines to make Love known.
What a light! It’s the star of Christmas
And it’s guiding me my way back home.

Chorus

BENEDICTION: Rev. Jim Pazan

Postlude: “O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright” Michael Burkhardt
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GOLETA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

JANUARY 9, 2022

PRELUDE: “O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright” Dietrich Buxtehude

WELCOME: Rev. Jim Pazan

***Call to Worship:** Jeannie Cavender, CRE

HYMN OF PRAISE: #63 “As with Gladness Men of Old”

Verse 1

As with gladness men of old Did the guiding star behold;
As with joy they hailed its light, leading onward, beaming bright;
So, most glorious Lord, may we Evermore be led to Thee.

Verse 2

As with joyful steps they sped To that lowly manger bed,
There to bend the knee before Him whom heaven and earth adore;
So may we with willing feet Ever seek Thy mercy seat.

Verse 3

As they offered gifts most rare At that manger rude and bare;
So may we with holy joy, Pure and free from sin’s alloy,
All our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to Thee, our heavenly King.

Verse 4

Holy Jesus, every day Keep us in the narrow way;
And, when earthly things are past, Bring our ransomed souls at last
Where they need no star to guide, Where no clouds Thy glory hide.

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE Jeannie Cavender, CRE

Gracious and loving God, source of light, we know that the Magi traveled far seeking the Christ child. As they did, they passed many people who were too busy to look carefully at the night sky, or to listen attentively to the prophecies in scripture, or to ask others where they might find the promised one. We confess that we, too, can be so distracted by our own concerns that we do not seek you with diligence nor watch for signs of your presence. Help us, we pray, to turn and seek you this day and in this new year. We pray in the name of the child who came as our savior. (moment for reflection)

Leader: Christ came into the world not to condemn us, but to bring us closer to God.

People: Thanks be to God for the gift of forgiveness through Christ. Amen

SHARING CHRIST'S PEACE

A MOMENT FOR MINISTRY

South Coast Youth Band

CHOIR ANTHEM #36

"In the Bleak Midwinter"

Gustav T. Holst

*In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan,
Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone
Snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow,
In the bleak midwinter, long, long ago.
Angels and archangels may have gathered there,
Cherubim and seraphim thronged the air;
But his mother only, in her maiden bliss,
Worshipped the beloved with a kiss.
What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
If I were a wise man, I would do my part;
Yet what I can I give him, give my heart.*

SCRIPTURE READING: Matthew 2:1-12

¹ In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ² 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." ³ When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴ and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵ They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

⁶ '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.'"

⁷ Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸ 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." ⁹ 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. ¹⁰ When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹ 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. ¹² And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

MESSAGE:

"Signs of Grace"

Rev. Jim Pazan

HYMN OF RESPONSE: #66 "We Three Kings of Orient Are"

Verse 1

We three kings of Orient are, Bearing gifts we traverse afar,
Field and fountain, moor and mountain, Following yonder star.

Refrain:

O star of wonder, star of night, Star with royal beauty bright;
Westward leading, still proceeding, Guide us to thy perfect light!

Verse 2

Born a King on Bethlehem's plain Gold I bring to crown Him again,
King forever, ceasing never, Over us all to reign. **(Refrain)**

Verse 3

Frankincense to offer have I: Incense owns a Deity nigh;
Prayer and praising, we are raising, Worshipping God Most High. **(Refrain)**