



WORSHIP SUNDAY JANUARY 3, 2021
20 + C + M + B + 21
2ND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS
CELEBRATION OF EPIPHANY
COMMUNION

Good Morning! Welcome to Riviera's worship service. We're delighted that you are connecting with us today; even when we're physically apart, the Holy Spirit unites us as one community!

Let us know you worshiped with us this morning by filling out the Friendship Form located on our website's home page, www.rivierachurch.org. If you are joining us via Facebook or YouTube, please check in or leave us a comment so we know you are worshiping with us. Don't forget to keep checking our various social media outlets, Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, for up-to-date information, find us @RivieraChurch



Today we are celebrating Epiphany. Did you know an old Epiphany tradition involves using chalk to write the letters CMB and the numbers of the current year, separated by crosses (+), over the doors of congregations and Christian homes: 20 + C + M + B + 21 or CMB + 2021? The letters CMB are said to stand for the names of the magi (Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar) or the Latin phrase *Christus mansionem benedicat* (Christ bless this house).

GATHERING

OPENING HYMN

JESUS CHRIST: BIRTH

151 We Three Kings of Orient Are

1 We three kings of O - ri - ent are; bear - ing gifts we tra - verse a - far,
2 Born a King on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I bring to crown him a - gain,
3 Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I; in - cense owns a de - i - ty nigh;
4 Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a life of gath - er - ing gloom;
5 Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise, King and God and Sac - ri - fice:

field and foun - tain, moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.
King for - ev - er, ceas - ing nev - er o - ver us all to reign.
prayer and prais - ing glad - ly rais - ing, wor - ship - ing God Most High.
sor - rowing, sigh - ing, bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the stone - cold tomb.
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! sounds through the earth and skies.

Refrain

O star of won - der, star of night, star with roy - al beau - ty bright,

west - ward lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - fect light!

Although Christians had begun by the 2nd century to speak of these visitors from eastern countries (Matthew 2:1-12) as "kings," perhaps because of passages like Psalm 72:10 and Isaiah 60:3, it is more accurate to think of them as magi or astrologers, the scholars of their day.

TEXT and MUSIC: John Henry Hopkins Jr., 1857, alt.

KINGS OF ORIENT
8.8.8.6 with refrain

CHIMING OF THE HOUR & WELCOMING THE LIGHT

GREETINGS

Rev. Martha Shiverick

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Arise, shine; for your light has come!

All: The glory of God has risen upon us.

One: Tell the good news throughout the earth:

All: The saving grace of Jesus Christ is for all.

One: Come and adore the Savior of the nations.

All: We offer the gifts of our lives to the Lord.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Elder Kyle Dettloff

God judges the nations with righteousness and answers the poor with justice. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of glory, you sent Jesus among us as a light of the world, to reveal your love for all people. We confess that our sin and pride hide the brightness of your light. We turn away from the poor; we ignore the cries for justice; we do not strive for peace.

In your mercy, cleanse us of our sin, and pour out the gifts of your Spirit, that, forgiven and renewed, we may show forth your glory shining in the face of Jesus Christ.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The mercy of the Lord is like rain, like showers that water the earth. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Anna Rosas

CHILDREN'S SONG

CREATION AND PROVIDENCE

20 All Things Bright and Beautiful

Refrain

All things bright and beau-ti - ful, all crea-tures great and small,

all things wise and won-der - ful, the Lord God made them all.

1 Each lit - tle flower that o - pens, each lit - tle bird that sings,
2 The pur - ple-head-ed moun-tain, the riv - er run-ning by,
3 The cold wind in the win-ter, the pleas-ant sum-mer sun,
4 God gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell

God made their glow-ing col - ors; God made their ti - ny wings.
the sun - set, and the morn - ing that bright-ens up the sky:
the ripe fruits in the gar - den, God made them ev - ery one.
how great is God Al - might - y, who has made all things well.

One of a series of hymns the author wrote for children on the Apostles' Creed, this text (originally in seven stanzas) expands "Maker of heaven and earth." The first stanza became the refrain when the text was later set to a popular tune from the age of King Charles II.

TEXT: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1848, alt.
MUSIC: English melody, 17th cent.; adapt. Martin Shaw, 1915; harm. *The Hymnbook*, 1955
Music Harm. © 1955, ren. 1983 John Ribble (admin. Westminster John Knox Press)

ROYAL OAK
7.6.7.6 with refrain

THE WORD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Holy One, giver of all light, lift up our hearts and minds to Christ, the morning star that never fades. By the light of your Holy Spirit reveal to us your saving Word and lead us to offer our lives to you in service and in love; Through all that is holy. **Amen.**

CHORAL ANTHEM Go, Tell It on the Mountain

SCRIPTURE **Matthew 2:1-12** **Elder Ruth Admire**

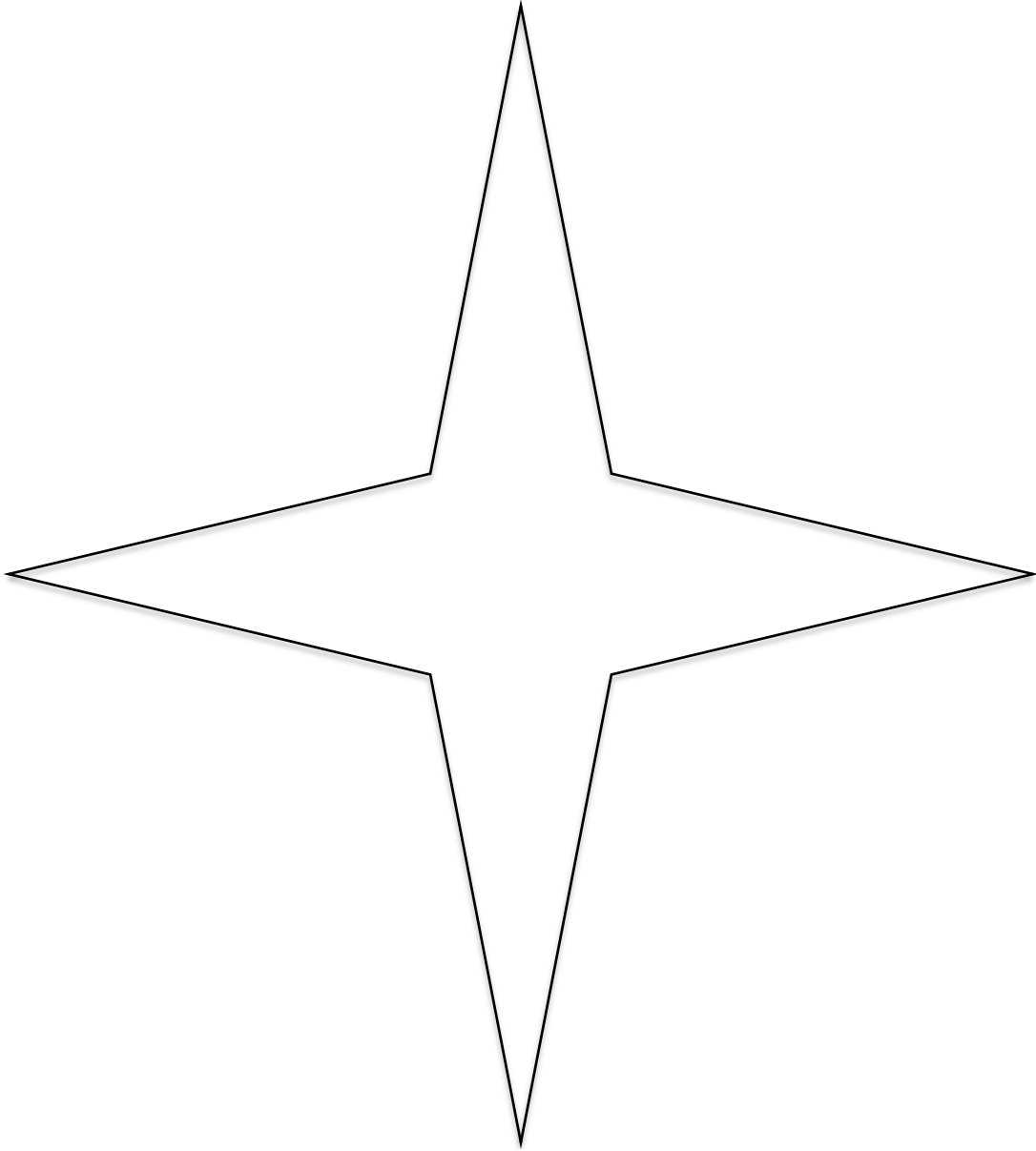
In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men^[a] from the East came to Jerusalem, ² asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising,^[b] and have come to pay him homage." ³ When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, 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^[c] 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^[d] my people Israel."

⁷ Then Herod secretly called for the wise men^[e] 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,^[f] until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw that the star had stopped,^[g] 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.

SERMON

'Star Light... Star Bright....' Rev. Martha M. Shiverick



LITANY FOR EPIPHANY AND LORD'S PRAYER Alejandra Rondon
Annie Castro

Arise, shine; for your light has come! The glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

Nations will come to his light, and rulers will seek his radiance.

Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

The people will be judged with righteousness and the poor will be defended.

Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

The mystery of the ages is revealed; the eternal plan of God is known by all.

Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

Let us kneel down before Jesus and give Jesus honor, glory, and praise.

Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

Let us offer all the treasures of our hearts and our lives.

Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

God of endless light, you sent a star - rising from the darkness, guiding seekers and sages, overwhelming us with joy. Let the splendor of your dawning light grow in us and in all the world until the whole creation shines with your glory, through Jesus Christ who also taught us to pray in this manner:

For the Lord's Prayer we appreciate the diverse traditions and backgrounds that make up the Riviera family of faith and encourage you to use whatever words for this prayer are meaningful for you.

Our Creator, who art in heaven, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread. Forgive our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever.

Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO OFFERING

Loving God, we give you thanks for the light of the world, Jesus Christ, through whom we have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in your promise. Receive the gifts we offer in union with Jesus and help us to live to the honor and glory of your name. **Amen.**

INVITATION TO GIVE TITHES AND OFFERINGS

The Act of Gratitude

1. You may donate today via credit/debit card by visiting our website at www.rivierachurch.org and clicking on the GIVE button
 2. You may download the free Give+ app (iOS & Android)
 3. You may consider setting up online payment via your bank bill pay program.
 4. You may also mail in your check to the church at Riviera Presbyterian Church at 5275 Sunset Drive, Miami FL 33143
- If you are a member of another church, please donate to them during this time.*

DOXOLOGY

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God, ye hosts in heaven above;
Praise God, the Trinity of Love. Amen*

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

We Will Go into The Zoom Communion Service
Meeting ID 829-1129-7119 | Passcode 056833

INSTRUCTIONS PRIOR TO COMMUNION

Prepare a space for communion.
Light a candle and place it on your table,
with bread and a cup filled with wine or grape juice;
add any other items (bible or cross) that will make your table a spiritual and
holy place.

HYMN

JESUS CHRIST: BIRTH

What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright 152

Capo 2: (C) (Am) (G) (C) (F) (C) (G) (C) (F)
 D Bm A D G D A D G

1 What star is this, with beams so bright, more
 2 'Tis now ful - filled what God de - creed, "From
 3 While out - ward signs the star dis - plays, an
 4 O Je - sus, while the star of grace im -

(C) (G) (C) (F) (C) (G)
 D A D G D A

love - ly than the noon - day light? 'Tis
 Ja - cob shall a star pro - ceed"; and
 in - ward light the Lord con - veys and
 pels us on to seek your face, let

(Am) (D7) (G) (C) (F) (C) (Dm)
 Bm E7 A D G D Em

sent to an - nounce a new - born king, glad
 lo! the east - ern sa - ges stand to
 urg - es them, with ten - der might, to
 not our sloth - ful hearts re - fuse the

(G) (C) (G) (C) (F) (G) (C)
 A D A D G A D

ti - dings of our God to bring.
 read in heaven the Lord's com - mand.
 seek the giv - er of the light.
 guid - ance of your light to use.

This 18th-century Latin text calls attention to three kinds of light: the light of the star leading the Magi to the Christ-child, the inward light inspiring their journey, and Christ who is the Light of the world. The simple unison melody unites everything in a gentle arc.

TEXT: Charles Coffin, 1736; trans. John Chandler, 1837, alt.

MUSIC: Trier ms., 15th cent.; adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1609; harm. George Ratcliffe Woodward, 1910

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

LM

(alternate harmonization, 254)

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Let us pray.

God, we ask you to be present with us as we meet knowing that you transcend our physical distance from one another. You are not tied to time or space and you part the veil between us as we come together to share your holy meal. We know that we are only a computer or phone screen apart and that through this sacrament we are your body whether physically distanced or together. **Amen.**

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

At Riviera Church we practice open communion. You need not be a member of Riviera or any church to share in this sacramental meal. Communion is a tactile, sensory experience where we symbolically serve a meal that has been handed down to us from the ancient Hebrews at their Passover Table and adapted by Jesus as he shared his last meal with his disciples. You are invited to participate in this communion in any way that fits your faith journey at this time. Taste the love that we share together even in this time of worshipping online.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts!

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

God, we thank you for this holy time, when even though we are separated by space out of our love and respect for each other, we have the ability to come together in other ways. You have called us to be your church, your body, your hands and heart, and although we dearly miss our community, within this virus we realize that you call us to ministry outside our church building in the world you have created.

Through your son Jesus, we have learned the great power of love and forgiveness. We live using Christ's life and ministries of caring for others as our model. And because of this we raise up our personal prayers to you at this time.

Be with us and comfort us in this time of upheaval caused by the COVID virus, the economic downturn, and those who are feeling the pain of the institutional racism which also is a virus in our society.

Illumine our hearts, O God, with the radiance of Christ's presence, that our lives may show forth his love in this weary world.

Help us to be like the magi, and shower the gifts you have given us on others.

Send us to befriend the lost, to serve the poor, to reconcile our enemies, and to love our neighbors.

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours.

Heavenly Creator, we thank you for these gifts of bread and wine which are at my table and also at the tables of our homes. May they be for us a holy and spiritual meal where we feel your presence. **Amen.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE COMMUNION

THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Loving and gracious God, from east and west, from north and south, you have gathered us at your table, called us your beloved, and fed us. Transform us to be your body for the world, and fortify us by your Spirit, so that we may serve you and our neighbors with great joy. **Amen.**

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

**COMMUNION IS FOLLOWED BY OUR VIRTUAL COFFEE HOUR
'HOLY GROUNDS'**



Thank you for worshipping online today. Please take a moment fill out the Friendship Form on our website and share any prayer requests or joys which will be sent to our pastoral care team.

If you would like to be added to our mailing list, please send us an email at rivierachurch@gmail.com.



Begin Your Sunday Morning with Zoom Online Adult Bible Study Class

10:00 am - 10:30 am

This is a great opportunity to study Sunday's sermon passage with Pastor Missy.

Meeting 860-148-3445

Password: 2708

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- **Go, Tell It on the Mountain** Public Domain
- **What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright** Public Domain
- **All Things Bright and Beautiful - harmonization #53884** Type: Music
Contributors: John Ribble Tune: © 1983, Presbyterian Publishing/Westminster John Knox/Geneva Press

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Check in on Facebook and connect with us.

Ministers

Pastor

Parish Associate for Visitation

Parish Associate for Visitation

Director of Music

Youth Education & Outreach

Certified Church Administrator

Nursery Care Giver

Custodian

All the People

Rev. Martha M. Shiverick

Rev. Rosemary Noga Welton

Rev. Dr. David Welton

Dr. Walter Busse

Anna Rosas

Barbara Prieto

Josephine Gurri

Mary Lopez

Session	Session	Session
<u>Class of 2021</u>	<u>Class of 2022</u>	<u>Class of 2023</u>
Kyle Dettloff	Karen Collier	Susan Admire
Vivian German	Barbara Overton	Amparo Hernandez
Rey Prieto	Susan Mazzola	Bryan Page
Cris Sweeny	Mimi Sutherland	Michele Ready