

# The Epiphany of Our Lord

## Sunday, January 7, 2024 – 10:30 a.m.



## **Welcome!**

### **To our guests and visitors:**

We are glad that you are here with us today!

If you have no church home, why don't you consider joining us? Please speak to Pastor Parrish after the service and enjoy a special gift for visiting with us today!

## ***Christ Be Magnified***

Were creation suddenly articulate  
With a thousand tongues to lift one cry  
Then from north to south and east to west  
We'd hear, "Christ be magnified!"

Were the whole earth echoing His eminence  
His name would burst from sea and sky  
From rivers to the mountain tops  
We'd hear, "Christ be magnified!"

O Christ be magnified  
Let His praise arise  
Christ be magnified in me  
O Christ be magnified  
From the altar of my life  
Christ be magnified in me

When ev'ry creature finds its inmost melody  
And ev'ry human heart its native cry  
O then in one enraptured hymn of praise  
We'll sing, "Christ be magnified!"  
O Christ be magnified  
Let His praise arise  
Christ be magnified in me  
O Christ be magnified  
From the altar of my life  
Christ be magnified in me

I won't bow to idols  
I'll stand strong and worship You  
And if it puts me in the fire  
I'll rejoice 'cause You're there too

I won't be formed by feelings  
I hold fast to what is true

If the cross brings transformation  
Then I'll be crucified with You

'Cause death is just the doorway  
Into resurrection life  
If I join You in Your sufferings  
Then I'll join You when You rise

And when You return in glory  
With all the angels and the saints  
My heart will still be singing  
My song will be the same

O Christ be magnified  
Let His praise arise  
Christ be magnified in me

O Christ be magnified  
From the altar of my life  
Christ be magnified in me

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From the altar of my life  
Christ be magnified in me

Cody Carnes | Cory Asbury | Ethan Hulse © 2019 Cory Asbury Publishing (Admin. by Bethel Music Publishing)

## **The Baptism of Krue Javilyn Jodsaas**

## Covenant Child

Covenant child, water comes as a sign of the washing and cleansing  
renewing your mind.

Covenant child, you are claimed as God's own.

You are one of His people.

His church is your home.

Covenant child, you are here by God's grace,

by the work of our Savior, Who died in your place.

Covenant child, you are living in Christ.

Buried with Him in suffering, with Him you will rise

Covenant child, we are praying for you.

May you stay close to Jesus in all that you do.

Covenant child, grow strong in the faith.

Seek after God's wisdom and walk in His way.

P: We have a Christ-centered Gospel.

C: **And so we always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

P: Because our faith and love spring from the hope that is stored up for us in  
heaven;

C: **For we have heard the word of truth, the Gospel.**

P: All over the world this Gospel is bearing fruit and growing, just as it has been  
doing among us;

C: **Since the day we heard it and understood God's grace in all its truth.**

P: The Father has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the  
kingdom of the Son he loves,

C: **In whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.**

P: Let us pray. O God, by your Holy Spirit, open our hearts and minds, so that in our  
worship we grow in the knowledge of your Gospel, be strengthened in its power,  
be changed by its claims and be riveted by its truth.

C: **Amen.**

## Old Testament Reading

**Isaiah 60:1-6**

“Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD rises upon you. <sup>2</sup> See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples, but the LORD rises upon you and his glory appears over you. <sup>3</sup> Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. <sup>4</sup> “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.

<sup>5</sup> 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.

<sup>6</sup> 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.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## The Epistle Reading

**Colossians 1:1-14**

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother,

<sup>2</sup> To God’s holy people in Colossae, the faithful brothers and sisters in Christ:

Grace and peace to you from God our Father.

<sup>3</sup> We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, <sup>4</sup> because we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love you have for all God’s people— <sup>5</sup> the faith and love that spring from the hope stored up for you in heaven and about which you have already heard in the true message of the gospel <sup>6</sup> that has come to you. In the same way, the gospel is bearing fruit and growing throughout the whole world—just as it has been doing among you since the day you heard it and truly understood God’s grace.

<sup>7</sup> You learned it from Epaphras, our dear fellow servant, who is a faithful minister of Christ on our behalf, <sup>8</sup> and who also told us of your love in the Spirit. <sup>9</sup> For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you. We continually ask God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives,

<sup>10</sup> so that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God, <sup>11</sup> being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience, <sup>12</sup> and giving joyful thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of his holy people in the kingdom of light.

<sup>13</sup> For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, <sup>14</sup> in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## Holy Gospel

## Matthew 2:1-12

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem <sup>2</sup> 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.” <sup>3</sup> When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him.

<sup>4</sup> 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. <sup>5</sup> “In Bethlehem in Judea,” they replied, “for this is what the prophet has written: <sup>6</sup> ““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.””

<sup>7</sup> Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup> 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.”

<sup>9</sup> 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.

<sup>10</sup> When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. <sup>11</sup> On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. <sup>12</sup> And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

## **In Christ Alone**

In Christ alone my hope is found, He is my light, my strength, my song.  
This Cornerstone, this solid ground, firm through the fiercest drought and storm.  
What heights of love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when strivings cease!  
My Comforter, my all in all, Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone, who took on flesh, Fullness of God in helpless Babe.  
This gift of love and righteousness scorned by the ones He came to save.  
'Til on that cross as Jesus died the wrath of God was satisfied;  
For ev'ry sin on Him was laid. Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay, Light of the world by darkness slain.  
Then bursting forth in glorious day, up from the grave He rose again!  
And as He stands in victory, sin's curse has lost its grip on me.  
For I am His and He is mine, bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the pow'r of Christ in me.  
From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.  
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man can ever pluck me from His hand.  
'Til He returns or calls me home, here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man can ever pluck me from His hand.  
'Til He returns or calls me home, here in the power of Christ I'll stand.  
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

*"In Christ Alone" Words and music by Stuart Townend and Keith Getty. Copyright 2002 Thankyou Music. used by permission.  
CCLI#2960087*

**Sermon     We Have A Christ Centered Gospel    Colossians 1:1-14**  
**The Offering**

## Prayer of Blessing

P: God of community, we want to be your faith community. We want to be children of the light and the day. Bless and use these gifts that they might be sources of light and life to those in despair. Make your church a beacon of hope and blessings to all who are in need. Make us your faithful, grateful followers who know the joy of sacrificial giving.

C: **Amen**

## Installation of Newly Elected Church Officers

### Prayer of the Church

Pastor: O God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, God of our fathers in faith, and God of light, we praise You and give You thanks, above all for revealing Your gracious will of salvation through the lamp of Your Word, through the light of Your Christ. In Jesus, the light of Your salvation has shone in the hearts of people of all nations. Hear our prayers for the life and salvation of all people. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Gracious Lord, as the star spread the news of Your Son's birth over distant lands, so make Your Church and her people to be a shining witness of the Gospel of salvation to all people, both near and far. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Extend Your reign, O Christ, over the whole earth so that oppression may be transformed to freedom and justice. Give wisdom to those who lead. Grant that they rule justly and with wisdom, according to Your gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Lord Jesus, bless all those who are ill, injured, or in mourning, [*especially . . .*]. Fill them with the assurance of Your promises and grant that we may be of help and encouragement to them. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**



Pastor: Lord, accept our humble praise and thanksgiving for the blessings given to our brothers and sisters who rejoice this week, [*especially . . .*]. We acknowledge You as the source of all goodness and magnify Your name with all the gifts You give. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Savior of the nations, we thank You for the blessed memory of those who have died in the faith whom You have gathered into Your heavenly kingdom. Grant that we always look to the future with hope and confidence in the reunion that is ours when You transport us to that glorious place that is beyond all tears and sinning. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end.

**People: Amen.**

## **Confession and Absolution**

Pastor: Gracious God, we confess that we have longed too much for the comforts of this world.

**People: We have loved your gifts more than your Gospel.**

Pastor: In your mercy, help us see that all the things we pine for are shadows, but you are the substance;

**People: That they are quicksand, but you are the mountain;**

Pastor: That they are shifting, but you are the anchor.

**People: We plead for your forgiveness because of the Gospel.**

Pastor: Accept Christ's worthiness for our unworthiness, his sinlessness for our transgressions, his fullness for our emptiness, his glory for our shame, his righteousness for our filthy rages and his death for our life.

**People: We ask it in Jesus' name. Amen.**

Pastor: Upon this, your confession, I by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of Christ, announce the precious and powerful Gospel to you. In the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all of your sins; in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **The Father has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves. Amen!**

### 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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen**

### The Invitation

P: This morning we have another opportunity to encounter God's real, tangible grace for us in this meal; that in, with, and under these simple elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus Christ given to us for the forgiveness of sins.

And so, we become what we eat. We are the body of Christ to be sent out into the world. So it's necessary and good that we partake of this meal; that we experience God's love for us in this way, that we share this family meal together. So if this is your confession I would invite you to join me as we confess together our faith.

C: **I understand and admit that I have sinned against God, that I recognize my sin and humbly ask God to forgive me. I believe that Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior and that He is my only hope against sin, death, and the devil.**

**I believe that the risen Christ is really present in the Sacrament, and under the form of the bread and wine I receive this true body and blood for the forgiveness of my sin and the strengthening of my faith and life to the Lord and His Church by faithfully worshipping Him, cheerfully giving my time and resources, and joyfully sharing the Good News of Jesus with others.**

## Words of Institution

On the night He was betrayed,  
He took the bread, gave thanks, and said,  
“Take eat, my friends, this broken bread,  
this is my body for forgiveness of your sin.  
When you eat, my friends, this meal of love,  
remember me and my love for you again.”

On the night He was betrayed,  
He took the cup, gave thanks, and said,  
“Take drink, my friends, this cup of wine,  
this is my blood for forgiveness of your sin.  
When you drink, my friends, this cup of love,  
remember me and my love for you again.”

**Oh, we are here, to thank You Lord,  
for the bread and wine outpoured.  
For it is Your body and Your blood  
that You so lovingly and freely give to us.  
So we praise You holy Lamb of God;  
We love You our sweet Jesus.  
We love You our sweet Jesus.  
We love You our sweet Jesus.**

*“On the Night” words and music by Mark Zehnder. Used by permission. CCLI#2960087.*

## Distribution

### All Who Are Thirsty

All who are thirsty, all who are weak, come to the fountain  
Dip your heart in the stream of life.  
Let the pain and the sorrow be washed away  
In the waves of His mercy as deep cries out to deep. We sing

Come, Lord Jesus, come. Come, Lord Jesus come.  
Come, Lord Jesus, come. Come, Lord Jesus come.

All who are thirsty, all who are weak, come to the fountain  
Dip your heart in the stream of life.  
Let the pain and the sorrow be washed away  
In the waves of His mercy as deep cries out to deep. We sing

Come, Lord Jesus, come. Come, Lord Jesus come.  
Come, Lord Jesus, come. Come, Lord Jesus come.

Holy Spirit, come. Holy Spirit, come.  
Holy Spirit, come. Holy Spirit, come.  
As deep cries out to deep. We sing

Come, Lord Jesus, come. Come, Lord Jesus come.  
Come, Lord Jesus, come. Come, Lord Jesus come.

*"All Who Are Thirsty" Words and Music by Benton Brown and Glenn Robertson. Copyright 1998 Vineyard Songs. Used by permission. CCLI#2960087*

## **Communion Dismissal**

**P:** Now may this true body and blood, strengthen and preserve you in the one true faith until life everlasting.  
Go in His peace.  
**C: Amen**

## **Post-Communion Collect**

**Pastor:** Let us pray.  
Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

**Benediction:** (From Colossians 3:16–17)

**Pastor:** Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God.

**People:** **And whatever we do, whether in word or deed, we will do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.**

**Stronger**

There is love that came for us, humbled to a sinner's cross.

You broke our shame and sinfulness; You rose again, victorious!

Faithfulness none can deny; through the storm and through the fire

There is truth that sets us free; Jesus Christ, who lives in me!

You are stronger; You are stronger. Sin is broken, You have saved us!

It is written, "Christ is risen!" Jesus, You are Lord of all.

No beginning and no end; You're our hope and our defense.

You came to seek and save the lost; You paid it all upon the cross!

You are stronger; You are stronger. Sin is broken, You have saved us!

It is written, "Christ is risen!" Jesus, You are Lord of all.

So, let Your name be lifted higher, be lifted higher, be lifted higher.

So, let Your name be lifted higher, be lifted higher, be lifted higher.

So, let Your name be lifted higher, be lifted higher, be lifted higher.

So, let Your name be lifted higher, be lifted higher, be lifted higher.

You are stronger; You are stronger! Sin is broken, You have saved us!

It is written, "Christ is risen!" Jesus, You are Lord of all.

You are stronger; You are stronger! Sin is broken, You have saved us!

It is written, "Christ is risen!" Jesus, You are Lord of all.