

# **GATHER**

Welcome and Announcements Moments of Praise We Three Kings Call to Worship

**UMH 254** 



L: We come to this place—

P: each of us on our own path.

L: The path is winding,

P: and the path is not always clear,

L: and the path changes,

P: but we are here.

L: God is walking us home.

P: What a gift it is to not walk alone.

All: Let us worship Holy God.

# **WORD**

Scripture Lesson Matthew 2:1-12 NRSV 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.

L: The word of God to the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

**Children's Time**Sermon
Home By Another Way
Pastor Kelsey
Pastor Kelsey

### **RESPONSE & TABLE**

**Booklet** 

Response Song Home By Another Way

(To the the tune of We Three Kings)

**Prayers of the People** 

Passing of the Peace Offering & \*Doxology

The Great Thanksgiving UMH 15

**Breaking the Bread** 

Communion Song One Bread, One Body UMH 620

**Prayer After Communion** 

### SEND

\*Closing Song Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates UMH 213

\*Benediction Postlude



### **Sermon Series Credits**

Graphic Design by Rev. Lauren Wright Pittman
Original photography by Rev. Lisle Gwynn Garrity
Liturgy by Rev. Sarah Speed
Scripture Commentary by Elder Vilmarie Cintrón-Olivieri
Poetry by Rev. Sarah Speed
Children's Lesson Guide by Rev. Anna Strickland
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#### **Welcome to Parents with Children**

Thank you for what you do when you bring your children to church.

Please know that your family – with all of its noise, struggle, commotion, and joy – are not simply tolerated: you are a vital part of this community.

We love to have you and your children with us.

**Parents**: please ask an usher for worship packs for your children.

### **Hospitality and Accessibility**

- Bathrooms are located next door in the fellowship hall.
- Nursery and changing area are located downstairs.
- Large print materials are available in the narthex
- Join us for food and fellowship next door after worship!

#### **Getting Connected**

To receive church updates text HopkinsUMC to 84576 or

flocknote.com/HopkinsUMC

**To give electronically** hopkinsumchurch.org/give

**To contact the Prayer Team** Bertha Tew at (269) 793-7424

To contact the Church Office Mitzi Crowe at (269) 793-7323

hopkinsumcmi@gmail.com

**To contact the Pastor** Rev. Kelsey French at (248) 613-0366

PastorKelseyFrench@gmail.com

Office Hours: Tues-Thurs by appointment

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# **Announcements January 2, 2022**

Jan 26 - First Worship Wednesday, HUM Hall @ 5:30pm

Jan. 30 - 5th Sunday potluck following worship

### **Epiphany Sunday**

Today we celebrate Epiphany together! Epiphany is the day the church remembers and celebrates the coming of the wise men to Jesus after his birth. Epiphany day comes 12 days after Christmas, Jan. 6, but we will be celebrating in worship today. This Sunday will be the conclusion to our "Close to Home" Worship Series.

### **Super Children's/Family Ministry**

Starting in the new year, join us for Worship Wednesdays! Every 4th Wednesday, at 5:30pm we will share in a short lesson, an activity or game or two, and close with a simple meal together. We hope parents will stick around and take part with their children. Later in December we will share a sign-up sheet for leaders and helpers (you pick which session or theme you would like to help make happen).

We will follow the theme of: SUPERHEROES. Sometimes superheroes do great things. Other times it's the little things that make them super. Big and small things add up to a life that honors God and allows us to do some super things for others.

# Response of Confession after Reflection

L: ...even in our worst moments, we are held by God.

All: God of changed plans, The Magi heard in a dream that they were to take a new way home—a different path, an untraveled road. And to our amazement, they did just that. The Magi packed their bags and went home by another way. We wish that change could be easy for us, but more often than not, when whispers of change come, we tend to clench our fists and hold on tighter. Forgive us for resisting change that might be holy. Forgive us for ignoring that there is more than one road home. Forgive us for failing to hear your invitation. Guide our steps to unfamiliar places. Gratefully we pray, amen.

L: ...So hear and believe this good news:

All: No matter where we go, no matter what we do, we are claimed, loved, and held by God. Thanks be to God for a love like that.

### **Prayer Requests and Thanksgivings**

We pray with thanksgiving for... Those who are willing to take part in church leadership; those who work to keep our church buildings and grounds safe and well taken care of; COVID vaccine & booster, the food pantry, those who have gotten jobs.

We pray God's blessing for... The large area & numerous families affected by the tornadoes; Bert & Jim Tew; those dealing with transitions; all caretakers; the many grieving deaths and losses; those without jobs and looking for jobs.

We pray for the church and for the world... Increasing Homeless populations across the US; pandemic continuing and rising in the US; Amelia Green our seminarian; the future of the UMC; Bishop Bard and DS Bagley; Pastor Kelsey and Brennen; immigrants and asylum seekers; all who tend and farm the land; for leadership of our nation; for first responders, health care and essential workers; for teachers, students, and families; for social and racial justice.

Share your requests! Call Pastor Kelsey (248-613-0366) or Bert Tew (269-793-7424)

#### **Worship Volunteers**

Greeters - Deb Lemmer, Holly & Lilly

January 2 January 9
Children's Message - Pastor Kelsey Mitzi Crowe
Liturgist - Vern Kraft Mandi Edgell

Communion Server Sandy Ringler

**Coffee Fellowship -** Jim & Sandy Ringler The Edgell Family

### **HUMC Giving**

Weekly budget needs: \$1350.00 Last week's offering: \$1144.80:

Dec. 19 & Christmas Eve - Methodist Children's Home Society.

Check out what they do at https://mchsmi.org.

### **January Birthdays**

4 - Phyllis Thomas
6 - Deanna Haas
9 - Bill Howard
12 - Julie Saganski
23 - Alys Edgell
29 - Darcie Mack