

Cadillac South Community United Methodist Church

SUNDAY, JANUARY 5, 2025

EPIPHANY SUNDAY

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CALL TO WORSHIP (congregation in bold)**

We come to this place—

each of us on our own path.

The path is winding,

and the path is not always clear,

and the path changes,

but we are here.

God is walking us home.

What a gift it is to not walk alone.

Let us worship our Holy God.

***OPENING HYMN - “Angels from the Realms of Glory” UMH 220**

***OPENING PRAYER**

Gracious and all loving God, you call to us across deep waters and dark places. Yours is the light which guides us and the voice which we follow. We pray that you would reveal yourself to us as we worship you. May those without hope be encouraged; those who are sad, cheered; those who are seeking, find you; and may all things be according to your will. In the name of your beloved Son we pray. Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

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.

A MOMENT FOR SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS (congregation in bold)

No matter which roads we take in this one wild and precious life, God walks with us. God never leaves our side. When the road changes and we find ourselves on a new path home, God is always there. So hear and believe this good news:

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. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING – Matthew 2:1-12

SERMON – “Home By Another Way”

***HYMN OF RESPONSE – “Home By Another Way” (to the tune of “We Three Kings” UMH 254) Lyrics by Anna Strickland, used with permission.**

MINISTRY OF PRAYER

Sharing our Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

The 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Prayer Response– “O Little Town of Bethlehem” v. 4 UMH 230

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation

The Great Thanksgiving (congregation in bold)

God is with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is a right and joyous thing to lift our hearts and hands to you, God of Light and Love, in thanksgiving for your gift of grace. Before we knew the unsearchable riches of your child Jesus, we walked in shadows and cloud. But now as you reveal radiance to the world, we join the hymn sung in glory without end:

Holy God, Grace Revealed, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Blessed is the One who comes in your name. Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed are you, Creator God, and blessed is your child Jesus. While wise ones brought him gold, incense, and myrrh, he grew to reveal to us countless treasures, radiant with life and grace, revealing the Shining Mystery which is you. Jesus broke bread and broke open your love for us. He blessed the cup and you poured out mercy for the world.

Christ was promised; Christ is born; Christ will dwell among us.

Come, Spirit, dwell among us, your sons and daughters, gathered here together to feast at this table. Use us to reveal your gifts of love and light for the world.

God of the ages, shining among us, we are yours! Amen!

Sharing the Bread and Cup

Unison Prayer of Thanksgiving

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go

**into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves
for others, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

***CLOSING HYMN – “The First Noel” UMH 245**

***BENEDICTION**

Pastor Karen Sorden

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Office Hours (in Cadillac): Monday-Thursday, 9:30am - 1:00 pm.

Sabbath Day: Friday