



January 9, 2022 • 11 a.m.

PRELUDE

PRELUDE FOR THE INTROIT OF EPIPHANY

*Maurice Duruflé
(1960)*

CARAVAN OF THE THREE KINGS

*Richard Purvis
(1985)*

STRANGER STAR

– *world premiere* –

Jennifer French, *soprano*

*Paul Lohman
(2021)*

Saw you never, in the twilight
When the sun had left the skies,
Up in heaven, clear stars shining
Through the gloom, like silver eyes?
So of old the wise-men watching,
Saw a little stranger star,
For they knew the fore-told promise,
And they traveled from afar.

Heard you never of the story
How they crossed the desert wild,
Journeyed on o'er plain and mountain
'Til they found the holy child?
How they opened all their treasure,
To the infant they did bring
Brightest gold and fragrant incense,
Sweetest myrrh in offering?

Know ye not that lowly baby
Was the bright and morning star?
He who came to light our dark world:
Shore to shore, near and afar?
Thus we, too, may seek his cradle;
Our hearts' treasure there present;
Love, and faith, and true devotion
To this child, from heaven sent.

—*Poem by Cecil Frances Alexander, 1853*

OPENING HYMN

ARISE, YOUR LIGHT IS COME!
(see next page)

"Festal Song"

ARISE, YOUR LIGHT IS COME!

Ruth Duck, 1973

FESTAL SONG S.M.

William H. Walter, 1825-1893

"The Episcopal Hymnal Revised," 1894

1 A - rise, your light is come! The Spir - it's call o - bey;
2 A - rise, your light is come! Fling wide the pris - on door;
3 A - rise, your light is come! All you in sor - row born,
4 A - rise, your light is come! The moun-tains burst in song!

Show forth the glo - ry of your God Which shines on you to - day.
Pro - claim the cap-tive's lib - er - ty, Good tid - ings to the poor.
Bind up the bro - ken - heart - ed ones And com - fort those who mourn.
Rise up like ea - gles on the wing, God's pow'r will make us strong.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Seth Patterson

One: A clear light on a winter night,

All: Piercing the darkness,

One: Revealing the next step,

All: Touching hearts with wonder.

One: Step into God's light,

All: Cast off fright; let go of doubt.

One: For Love Incarnate shines in each light

All: And beckons us towards dawn.

LIGHTING OF THE PEACE CANDLE

CAROL

THE THREE KINGS *Catalan Nativity Song*
Plymouth Solo Quintet *Harmonized by Lluís Romeu, 1918*

Cold December flies away at the rose-red splendor
Of the fragrant hope of spring, all the world did wonder.
Then within a garden fair grew a blossom wondrous rare
From a tree divine, from a rose-tree tender,
Rich in heavenly splendor.

God Almighty sent the night which this world enshrouded.
Darkness fell and veiled the sight, mortal eyes were clouded.
Then at midnight came a glow never seen on earth below:
Came a star so bright, 'twas the star-light beaming,
And its radiance beaming.

Guided by the wondrous ray came three wise men holy,
While the Prince of Heaven lay in a manger lowly,
Bringing him with joy untold frankincense and myrrh and gold
To the Holy Child, undefiled, in the arms of Mary,
Blessed Virgin Mary.

Praise the day with joy and mirth, love and exaltation,
When our Savior came to earth bringing us salvation!
Humble though our gift may be, come we now on bended knee
With a heart so pure, filled with deep emotion:
All our heart's devotion!

—*Catalonian carol*

PASTORAL PRAYER**CLOSING HYMN**

BRIGHTEST AND BEST
OF THE STARS OF THE MORNING
(see next page)

"Thiman"

BRIGHTEST AND BEST OF THE STARS OF THE MORNING

Reginald Heber, 1783-1826, alt.
"Christian Observer," 1811

THIMAN 11.10.11.10.

Eric Harding Thiman, 1900-1975
From the cantata, "The Nativity," 1934

1&5 Bright-est and best of the stars of the morn - ing!
2 Cold on a cra - dle the dew - drops are shin - ing,
3 What shall we give Thee, in cost - ly de - vo - tion,
4 Vain - ly we of - fer each lav - ish ob - la - tion;

Dawn on our dark - ness and lend us Thine aid!
Low lies the Child with the beasts of the stall;
Shall we bring in - cense and off - 'rings di - vine?
Vain - ly with gold would such fav - or se - cure:

Star of the East, the ho - ri - zon a - dorn - ing,
An - gels a - dor - ing in slum - ber re - clin - ing,
Gems of the moun - tain and pearls of the o - cean,
Rich - er by far is the heart's a - do - ra - tion;

Guide where our in - fant Re - deem - er is laid.
Mak - er and Mon - arch and Sav - ior of all!
Myrrh from the for - est or gold from the mine?
Dear - er to God are the prayers of the poor.

COVENANT BENEDICTION & CHORAL AMEN

We covenant with you, O God, and one with another, and do bind ourselves in your presence to walk together in all your ways, according as you are pleased to reveal yourself to us in your blessed word of truth.

—based on the Salem Covenant of 1629

POSTLUDE

GIGUE ON THE EPIPHANY CHORALE
"HOW BRIGHTLY SHINES THE MORNING STAR"

Egil Hovland
(1963)



CHANCEL FLOWERS are given in loving memory of Mike Mattox by Jan Mattox; Tom Mattox; Leigh Mattox and Jimmy and Maggie Pfeffer; and Mindy Wichmann.

ANNOUNCEMENTS are available on the church website.

WORSHIP STAFF: DeWayne L. Davis, *Lead Minister*; Beth Hoffman Faeth, *Minister for Congregational Care & Worship*; Seth Patterson, *Minister for Spiritual Formation & Theater*; Philip Brunelle, *Organist and Choirmaster*; Marie Scholtz, *Associate Music Director & First Service Music Coordinator*; Laura Caviani, *First Service Trio Director*; Cody Bourdot, *AV Production Manager*; Chris Bohnhoff, *Videographer*

SOLO QUINTET: Jenny French & Maria Jette, *sopranos*; Lisa Drew, *alto*; Dan Dressen, *tenor*; and James Bohn, *bass*

CHURCH REGISTER

HOME AND HOSPITAL VISITS: Plymouth's ministers call upon members of the church in their homes, in hospitals or care and rehabilitation centers. If you know of someone who would like a visit from a minister, please contact Rev. Beth Hoffman Faeth (612/871-7400).