

Wednesday, January 27, 2021– Christ`s Church Cathedral

“WHAT STAR IS THIS WITH BEAMS SO BRIGHT”

A HYMN FESTIVAL TO CELEBRATE  
THE SEASON OF THE EPIPHANY  
AND  
MEMORIAL OF ST JOHN CHRYSOSTOM,  
Bishop of Constantinople, Teacher of the Faith, 407



*A hymn or song of praise reminds us of who God is and what we have been promised. And so, a hymn festival is an occasion centered on these hymns and songs of praise– songs sung in community gathering our prayer and praises into one.*

*Today`s hymn festival celebrates the season of **Epiphany**. Epiphany, also known as Theophany in the east, is a Christian feast day that celebrates the revelation (theophany) of God incarnate as Jesus Christ. In Western Christianity, the feast commemorates principally (but not solely) the visit of the Magi to the Christ Child, and thus Jesus` physical manifestation to the Gentiles. It is sometimes called Three Kings` Day, and in some traditions celebrated as Little Christmas. Moreover, the feast of the Epiphany, in some denominations, also initiates the liturgical season of Epiphanytide. Some of the highpoints of this season which continue from the visit of the Magi include Jesus` Baptism, the miracle at the wedding in Cana and, finally, the Transfiguration which ushers in the season of Lent. We will explore some of the vibrant hymnody of this season.*

*Animators* – Anne Kae, Dan Tatarnic and Michael Bloss  
*Organist* – Michael Bloss

## Words of Introduction

**Organ**            Prelude on the tune “Caithness”            Walter. L. Pelz

**Prayer** (*all respond at the bold text*)

Creator God,  
because you make all that draws forth our praise  
and the forms in which to express it,  
**we praise you.**

Because you make artists of us all,  
awakening courage to look again at what is taken for granted,  
grace to share these insights with others,  
vision to reveal the future already in being,  
**we praise you.**

Because you form your Word among us,  
and in your great work embrace all human experience,  
even death itself, inspiring our resurrection song,  
**we praise you.**  
**Yours is the glory.**  
**Amen.**

## Commentary

### Hymn – Lo, the pilgrim magi

Text: Charles Coffin (1676-1749)

Music: Walter McNutt (1910-1996). WHITWORTH



Lo! the pil-grim ma - gi leave their roy - al halls,  
O what joy and glad - ness filled each heart, from far  
Cost - ly pomp and splen - dour earth - ly kings ar - ray;  
At his crib they wor - ship, knee - ling on the floor,  
bring - ing of our sub - stance Gold un - to our King;



and with ea - ger foot - steps speed to Beth-le'hms walls;  
when, to guide their foot - steps shone that ra - diant star;  
He, a migh - tier Mon - arch hath a nob - ler sway;  
and their God there pre - sent, in that babe a - dore;  
pure and chas-tened bo - dies to our Christ we bring;



as they on-ward jour - ney, faith, which firm - ly rests,  
O'er that home so ho - ly, pour - ing down its ray,  
straw may be his pal - let, mean his garb may be,  
to our God and Sa - viour we, as gen-tiles true,  
un - to him, like in - cense, vow and pray'r ad - dress;



built on hope un - swerv - ing, tri-umphs in their breasts.  
where the crad - led in - fant with his moth - er lay.  
yet with pow'r trans - cen - dent he all hearts can free.  
Give our hearts o'er - flow - ing, give our tri - bute due.  
so with meet - est off - 'rings him our God con - fess.

## Commentary

### Hymn – Christ, when for us you were baptized

Text: F. Bland Tucker (1895-1984)

Music: melody from *The Psalms of David in Prose and Meter*, 1635. CAITHNESS



Christ, when for us you were bap-tized, God's Spi-rit on you came,  
God called you his be-lov-ed Son, called you his ser-vant true,  
Straight-way and stead-fast un - til death you then o-beyed his call  
Bap - tize us with your Spi-rit, Lord, your cross on us be signed,



as peace-ful as a dove and yet as ur-gent as a flame.  
sent you his king-dom to pro-claim, his ho - ly will to do.  
free - ly as Son of Man to serve and give your life for all.  
that, like-wise in God's ser vice we may per - fect free-dom find.

## Commentary

### Hymn – When Jesus went to Jordan's stream

**Text:** Martin Luther (1483-1546); para. F. Bland Tucker

**Music:** melody from *Geystliche gesange Buchleyn*, 1524. CHRIST UNSER HERR ZUM JORDAN KAM

When Je - sus went to Jor - dan's stream his Fa - ther's will o - bey - ing,  
The Ho - ly Spi - rit then was shown, a dove on him de scen - ding;  
He came by wa - ter and by blood to heal our lost con - di - tion;

and was bap - tized by John, there came a voice from hea - ven say - ing,  
the Tri - une God is thus made known in Christ as love un - end - ing.  
he clean - ses, re - con - ciles to God, and gives the Great Com - mis - sion.

"This is my dear be - lov - ed Son up - on whom rests my fa - vour."  
He taught, he healed, he raised the dead, yet, in his great en deav our  
Then let us not heed world - ly lies nor rest up - on our mer - it,

And till God's will is ful - ly done  
to save us, his own blood was shed;  
but trust in Christ who will bap - tize

he will not bend or wa - ver, for he is Christ the Sa - viour.  
but death could hold him nev - er. He rose, and lives for ev - er.  
with wa - ter and the Spi - rit that we may life in - her - it.

## Commentary

### Hymn – All praise to you, O Lord.

Text: Hyde W. Beadon (1812-1891)

Music: Charles Lockhart (1745-1815). CARLISLE

All praise to you, O Lord, who  
You speak, and it is done; o -  
Oh, may this grace be ours: in  
So, led from strength to strength, grant  
by your might - ty pow'r did man - i - fest your  
be - dient to your word, the wa - ter red dening  
you al - ways to live and drink of those re -  
us O Lord to see the mar - riage sup - per  
glo - ry forth in Ca - na's mar - riage hour.  
in - to wine pro - claims the pre - sent Lord.  
fresh - ing streams which you a - lone can give.  
of the Lamb, the great e - piph - a - ny.

## Commentary

### Hymn: O Light of Light, Love given birth

Text: Latin 10<sup>th</sup> c. tr. Laurence Housman (1865-1959)

Music: Cary Ratcliff (b. 1953)

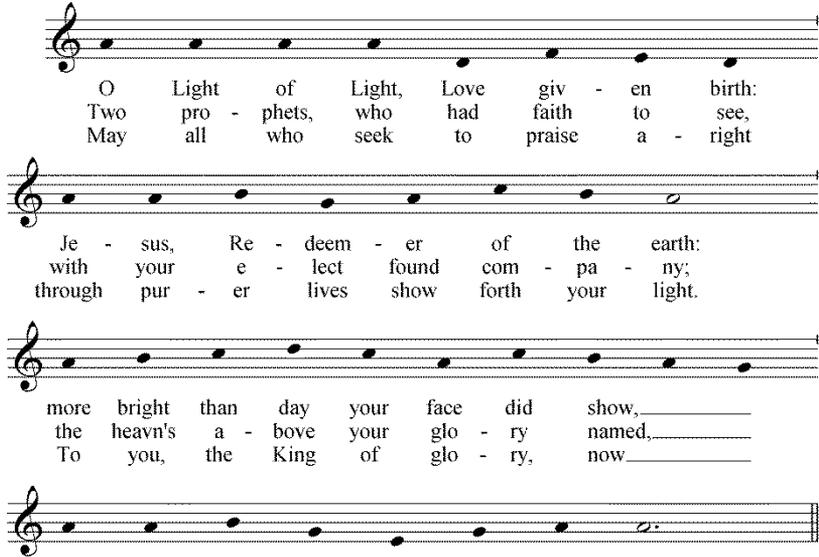
O Light of Light, Love giv - en birth; Je - sus, Re -  
Two pro - phets, who had faith to see, with your e -  
decem - er of the earth; More bright than day your face did show, your  
lect found com - pan - y; the heavn's a - bove your glo - ry named, your  
rai - ment whit - er than the snow.  
\_Pa - ther's voice his Son pro - claimed. May  
all who seek to praise a - right through pur - er lives show forth your  
light. To you, the King of glo - ry now all  
faith - ful hearts a - dor - ing bow.

## Commentary

### Hymn: O Light of Life, Love given birth

**Text:** Latin 10<sup>th</sup> c tr. Laurence Housman.

**Music:** plainsong Mode 2. JESU DULCIS MEMORIA



O Light of Life, Love giv - en birth:  
Two pro - phets, who had faith to see,  
May all who seek to praise a - right

Je - sus, Re - deem - er of the earth:  
with your e - lect found com - pa - ny;  
through pur - er lives show forth your light.

more bright than day your face did show, \_\_\_\_\_  
the heav'n's a - bove your glo - ry named, \_\_\_\_\_  
To you, the King of glo - ry, now \_\_\_\_\_

your rai - ment whit - er than the snow.  
your Fa - ther's voice his Son pro - claimed.  
all faith - ful hearts a - dor - ing bow.

## Collect for St. John Chrysostom

O God, you gave a golden eloquence to your servant John that he might declare your justice before the face of the proud and mighty. Grant us, after his example, such faithfulness to your word, that we may strengthen the hearts of the weary and sustain those who are afflicted by wrong; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**Amen**

## **Prayer of Parting** *(said by all)*

God of majesty, whom saints and angels delight to worship in heaven:  
Be with all your people who employ art and music for your praise,  
that with joy we on earth may glimpse your beauty;  
and bring us to the fulfillment of that hope of perfection which will be ours as we  
stand before your unveiled glory.  
We pray in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **Prayer for People Facing Great Uncertainty**

God of the present moment,  
God who in Jesus stills the storm and soothes the frantic heart;  
bring hope and courage to all who wait or work in uncertainty.  
Bring hope that you will make them the equal of whatever lies ahead.  
Bring them courage to endure what cannot be avoided,  
for your will is health and wholeness;  
you are God, and we need you. Amen.

## **The Dismissal** *(all respond with the bold text)*

The love that raised Jesus from the dead be at work within you.  
Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord! Alleluia, alleluia!

**In the name of Christ, Amen. Alleluia, alleluia.**

**Organ** – Postlude on “Caithness”

Healey Willan

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NEXT WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3:

EVENING PRAYER  
MEMORIAL OF ANSKAR, BISHOP OF SWEDEN

*Officiant:* The Dean; *Cantor:* John Janisse

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