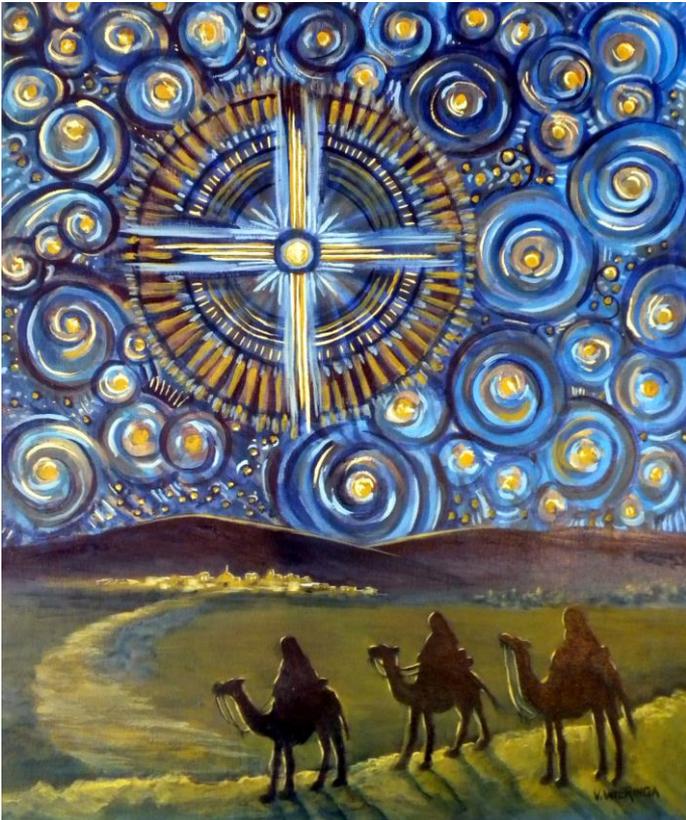


**The Church of the Pilgrimage**  
**United Church of Christ**  
Sunday, January 7, 2018  
10:00am  
**Epiphany**



**Rev. Dr. Helen Nablo, PASTOR**  
**Kelley DePasqua, MUSIC DIRECTOR**  
**Michael Eaton, ORGANIST**  
**Jenny Healy, DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN ED**  
**The Lindsays, SPECIAL MUSIC**

# Order of Worship

*Wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!*

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**Prelude**      Lullaby (Traditional) and Hamilton's  
Audrey Hanlon (flute) and The Lindsays

## Welcome and Announcements

## Choral Introit

## Call to Worship

Let us kneel in the darkness,  
Until we see God's light emerge.

**Let us wait with hope filled hearts,  
As Christ's image grows within us and shows us life.**

Let him speak to us and teach us love,  
Until we open our hearts to be his home.

**\*Hymn No. 162**      We Three Kings

## Prayer of the Day (unison)

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.

## \*The Lord's Prayer (unison)

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 debts, as

we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen

**\*Gloria Patri** No. 36 (unison)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

**Anthem**      The Rising Of The Moon

As we wander through the universe, on this dark winters night  
The children they're all dancing and the stars are shining  
bright

One more word must now be spoken, or sung to an old tune  
Lets all dance the dance of freedom at the rising of the moon  
So we gaze unto the stars that shine with wonder in our eyes  
Will we just destroy the planet, or is peace to be the price?  
Cause the wall of fighting nations dims the beauty of the tune  
Let's all dance the dance of freedom at the rising of the moon

**REFRAIN**

At the rising of the moon at the rising of the moon  
Let's be friends this new year coming at the rising of the moon  
May the wisdom of the ancients with their messages and signs  
Come to shine on our tomorrows with the magic of their time  
Like a star that shone on the wisemen, like the dawn that's  
coming soon

It's the truth that guides us onwards at the rising of the moon  
We can live within Gods garden if we tend her with our care  
We can understand the meaning and the motives of the fair  
Though we stumble through the darkness, trying far too much  
too soon

Let's all stand up and be counted at the rising of the moon

**REFRAIN**

At the rising of the moon at the rising of the moon  
Let's all stand up and be counted at the rising of the moon

**Sharing of Celebrations and Concerns**

## Pastoral Prayer and Choral Response

**Scripture**                      Matthew 2:1-12                      NT1 or 783

**Reflection**                      Finding Joy                      Rev. Helen  
Nablo

### **Affirmation**

*When the song of the angels is stilled,  
When the star in the sky is gone,  
When the kings and princes are home,  
When the shepherds are back with their flock,  
The work of Christmas begins:  
To find the lost,  
To heal the broken,  
To feed the hungry,  
To release the prisoner,  
To rebuild the nations,  
To bring peace among people,  
To make music in the heart.  
   --Howard Thurman*

### **Invitation to the Offering**

**Offertory**                      God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen, Arr. Keith  
Christopher  
   Susan Lindsay, Soprano Saxophone

God rest ye merry gentlemen  
Let nothing you dismay  
Remember Christ our Savior  
Was born on Christmas Day  
To save us all from Satan's pow'r  
When we were gone astray  
Oh tidings of comfort and joy  
Comfort and joy  
Oh tidings of comfort and joy

In Bethlehem, in Israel  
This blessed Babe was born  
And laid within a manger  
Upon this blessed morn  
The which His Mother Mary  
Did nothing take in scorn  
Oh tidings of comfort and joy  
Comfort and joy  
Oh tidings of comfort and joy

God rest ye merry gentlemen  
Let nothing you dismay  
Remember Christ our Savior  
Was born on Christmas Day  
To save us all from Satan's pow'r  
When we were gone astray  
Oh tidings of comfort and joy  
Comfort and joy  
Oh tidings of comfort and joy

**\*Epiphany Doxology** *(note word changes)*

To God, all glorious heavenly light  
To Christ revealed in earthly night,  
To God the Spirit now we raise  
Our joyful songs of thankful praise. Amen.

**Prayer of Dedication** *(responsively)*

Loving God,  
We offer you our gold:  
The morning on the wing  
The glow on the faces of children at play  
The shining moments that brighten our lives.

**We offer you our frankincense:**

**The quiet reassurance of familiar things**

**The grace of care and friendship**

**The blessing of bread and our heart's yearning in prayer.**

We offer you our myrrh:  
The ashes of our dreams

The bitter taste of our failures  
The shadows through which we stumble.

**Transform our inadequate gifts,  
that they may be an acceptable sacrifice of praise,  
and transform our lives  
to reflect more deeply your justice and joy  
In the life of the world.**

### **Sacrament of the Lord's Supper**

*This morning we will come forward to receive communion by intinction. Dip a piece of bread into the cup, and return to your seats by the side aisles. The choir will be served first. Gluten free bread is found in the paper sleeve. Our cup is grape juice. All are welcome at Jesus table.*

### **Invitation to the Lord's Supper**

### **Sharing of the Bread and Cup**

### **Prayer after Communion**

\*Hymn No. 364      This Little Light of Mine

### **Benediction**

**Postlude**      Irish Reels, Traditional  
The Man of the House/The Corner House/The Woman of the House

*During the postlude you may remain seated,  
or rise to greet the pastor and proceed to coffee hour.*

**Our Deacon In-Charge** is Jim Hammond.

**Our Ushers** are Bill & Lee McGee and David & Linda Baier.

**The flowers** are given in loving memory of John and Nina Burns. Given by Jim Hammond.

## NOTES

### **Welcome to worship at The Church of the Pilgrimage.**

Today is an all-ages service, which means children stay with us for the whole service.

**Please silence your cell phones** so we can be fully present to the spirit and to one another.

**This morning we have nursery/cribroom care** with Kristin Moses, our childcare worker. Kristen is with us every Sunday.

**Copies of the morning reflection** are available on the table at the back of the sanctuary.

**Men's Bible Study** meets Tuesday evening from 7-8:30pm at the Cotta Residence, 3 Fuller Way.

**The Wednesday Morning Bible Study** resumes on January 10<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am at the home of Amy Simpson.

**Coffee House "Standing on the Side of Love" sponsored by No Place for Hate:** takes place this coming Saturday (the MLK weekend) from 6 to 9 pm in Allerton Hall. Food, music by several bands, and gathering with others from our wider community. Free and all are welcome!

**MLK Day Monday, January 15<sup>th</sup>.** 9:15 Gather for service project (packaging snack packs for Hedge School) at the Spire Center on Court Street, 9:45 Rally "Shout Out for Justice" on Common in Front of the new town hall, (sponsored by Plymouth Area Interfaith Clergy Association) 11 am worship service at Bethel AME church. If the weather is bitter cold or snowing or raining, the rally will take place in the Spire Center.

**First Meeting of the Gospel and Current Events Covenant Group** will be Monday, January 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm at the JRC.

**Parents' Afternoon OFF!** Jan. 21 11:30-2. Yes, that's you! Would you like an afternoon to yourself? To shop? To run errands? To nap? Have a date? Leave your kids with us after worship, we will feed them and play and read stories while you take a little time to yourself! RSVP so we can plan staffing and food accordingly. [jennycotp@gmail.com](mailto:jennycotp@gmail.com)

**MLK MEAL for Sunday School:** Next week the Sunday School will be preparing a meal for our guests who come on Mondays. Keep an eye on your in box for what you can do to contribute! -jenny

**Coffee & Conversation: January 14<sup>th</sup> 11:30-2** Come, have some pizza and cook with us! We will make meals to put in the freezer for folks in our congregation who need them over the winter. More info will be forthcoming-keep an eye out!

**Save the date – Leadership Retreat,** Saturday February 3<sup>rd</sup> at the JRC.

### **FOR YOUR CALENDAR-**

Monday, Jan 8: Monday Meals, 11am, Allerton Hall. CE meets at 7:15 in the Marks Conference Room.

Tuesday, Jan 9: Council meeting, 7 pm, Marks Conference Room.

Wednesday, Jan 10: Bible Study resumes at Amy Simpson's home, 5 Sunrise Avenue, 10:30 am. Choir Rehearsal, 7:30pm, Sanctuary.

Friday, Jan 12: Nominating Committee meets, 8:30 am, Steve Triffletti's office.

Saturday, Jan 13: 9 am Women's Walking Group at Nelson Park; 10 am Coffee and conversation at Kiskadee Coffee House on Main St.

Sunday, Jan 14: 10 am Worship with Pastor Helen preaching. Youth coffee and conversation after worship.



*As an Open and Affirming Congregation we invite all into our faith, to fully share in all church life, including our work, worship, rites, and sacraments, with the assurance that we are all created in God's image, reconciled by Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit.*

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