

St. Paul's

United Church of Christ
Evansville, Indiana

Epiphany Sunday
January 3, 2021

WELCOME

Rev. Mary Hurley

PRELUDE

Greensleeves
(John Stainer)

Rick Hobbs

CALL TO WORSHIP (Congregational response in **bold** letters)

Come, join the search for all God will reveal. We are the church, committed to an encounter with mystery.

God has sent light to dispel our fears. The glory of God has risen upon us.

The gospel of Christ reveals God's grace. We share in the promise of Jesus Christ. We share in the promise of Jesus Christ.

We gather together and lift up our eyes. Our hearts thrill to the sight and our lips rejoice.

Through us, the wisdom of God will be made known. There is rich variety to meet each one where we are.

The radiance of truth surrounds us. Boldly and confidently, we approach our God.

INVOCATION (in unison)

God beyond our knowing, grant us today new glimpses of who you are and what you intend for us to be. The powers of this earth bow before you in humble adoration. Mighty nations are tiny blips on the screens of your eternity. Our lives

St. Paul's

Epiphany Sunday January 3, 2021

are insignificant except as you enlist us to be a part of your eternal purposes. You draw us irresistibly toward the light. We are attracted to your revelation. We need the sense of purpose you engender among us. Come, Holy Mystery, to reveal as much of your mind as we can stretch to understand and receive into our lives. Amen

SPECIAL MUSIC

A Light Has Dawned
(Tim Light and Don Chapman)

Worship Band

MORNING PRAYER (Confession of Sins)

PRAYER OF CONFESSIONS (in unison)

God of sovereigns and commoners, we confess that we are often more impressed with famous people that we are with your amazing glory. The rulers of this earth are more real to us than the One who reigns over time and eternity. Your priorities are not foremost in our lives. We reach for power and popularity more than for justice for the poor. We are more focused on prosperity than on relief for the oppressed. Our pursuits do not satisfy; save us from their fragmenting grip in our lives. Cause a new epiphany among us, we pray. Amen

OFFERTORY

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly
(W Zlobie Lezy)

Rick Hobbs

OFFERTORY PRAYER (in unison)

We reach for the boundless riches of Christ, even as we give the tithes and offering we have pledged. An abundance of things does not satisfy, and the wealth of nations cannot buy peace. Therefore, we join our efforts in the church to make a difference in the world, not through instruments of oppression, but

St. Paul's

Epiphany Sunday January 3, 2021

through the power of love. Employ our gifts in the service of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Ephesians 3: 1-12

Matthew 2: 1-12

SERMON

"A Mystery Revealed"

Rev. Mary Hurley

HOLY COMMUNION

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (in unison)

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Jesus Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who taught us to pray... (concluding with The Lord's Prayer)

CLOSING PRAYER

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

O Holy Night
(Adolphe-Charles Adam)

Rick Hobbs

The St. Paul's Worship Band

Don Armstrong Bob Koch Katie Maurer Dirck Stahl