



SOTC Worship
January 5, 2025
Epiphany Sunday

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME

GATHERING SONG

AS WITH GLADNESS MEN OF OLD

ELW 302

vs. 1-4

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Pastor Aleese calls the congregation to confession.

God of new beginnings,

**We admit that we often follow the well-worn path,
simply because others have been there before.**

**Sometimes this is holy and humble,
but there are days when a new path needs to be tread.**

**On those new-beginning days, O God,
give us the courage to follow your star.**

Give us the courage to go home by another way.

**Give us the courage to kick up some dust and walk in a new direction
for the sake of justice, love, and neighbor.**

For when you are doing a new thing, we want to have the courage to follow.

With hope in our hearts we wander, we travel.

Amen.

Dear travelers,

No matter the roads you've taken, the steps you've made, or the paths you've traveled, there is nowhere you could go that would land you outside of God's love.

Hear and believe the good news of the Gospel: Regardless of the path we travel, of how lost we may get, or the twists and turns along the way, we do not walk alone. In the name of Jesus Christ +, you are forgiven, you are loved, and you are given a chance to begin again. **Amen.**

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

And also with you.

KYRIE

ELW pg. 147

HYMN OF PRAISE

ELW pg. 148

PRAYER OF THE DAY

WORD

STORYTELLING

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

In preparation to receive God's Word, we light the Christ candle and pray for illumination from God's word. Take a moment for silent reflection.

READINGS: ISAIAH 43:16-21; PSALM 72:1-7, 10-14; MATTHEW 2:1-12

In response to the readings:

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

HYMN

HOME BY ANOTHER WAY

Ma - gi from a
Threat - ened by the
Plans that change and
far - a - way place
good news they bring
storms that de - lay

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Home by Another Way". It consists of two staves, a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 6/8. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are written below the notes. The score is divided into two measures by a vertical bar line. The first measure contains the lyrics "Ma - gi from a Threat - ened by the Plans that change and". The second measure contains the lyrics "far - a - way place good news they bring storms that de - lay".

Ra - diant star - light set-ting their pace Ford - ing wa - di,
 Her - od plots to kill the new king An - gels warn - ing
 Dreams and hopes left in dis - ar - ray Make us trem - ble,

risk - ing bo - dy Seek-ing the king's birth place
 in the mor - ning: "A-void Je - ru - sa - lem"
 but re-mem - ber There is a - noth - er way

O We have trav - eled night and day

Meet - ing God where - e'er we stay Paths are chan - ging,



AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**We believe in a with-us God,
a God who is beside us in the mountains and valleys,
holding our hand through every bump and turn.
And in the chaos of our journey,
we believe that God sees
what we cannot always see:
a path home by another way.
Therefore, trusting in this ever-present and guiding God,
we lace up our shoes.
We look for God's fingerprints in the world.
We trust that there are paths still unexplored,
paths that God has only begun to invite us down.
And like the Magi, we dare to follow.
May it be so, Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Response to "Lord in your mercy" is "hear our prayer."

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always!
And also with you!

Congregation is invited to share a sign of peace with others.

MEAL

OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

GREAT THANKSGIVING

ELW pg. 152

PREFACE

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

ELW pg. 153

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

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; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

Together we receive God's gift of love given to us in the sacrament of communion. All are welcome at the table, where Christ is our host.

Receive the bread with open hands, and receive either the wine (red liquid) or juice (clear liquid). If you do not desire to receive communion, you are welcome to come forward for a blessing. Simply cross your arms over your chest as an indication to the server.

LAMB OF GOD

ELW pg. 154

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

SENDING

BLESSING

SENDING SONG

SON OF GOD, ETERNAL SAVIOR

ELW 655

vs. 1, 4

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

As you leave this place...
Go in peace. Christ is with you.
Thanks be to God!

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