

THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD  
**MARKET SQUARE**  
*Presbyterian Church*

20 South Second Street ▪ Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

JANUARY 4, 2025 ▪ 11:00 A.M.





---

## OUR MISSION

---

To proclaim and live the Good News of Jesus Christ by welcoming friend and stranger alike into our diverse and inclusive family of faith regardless of race, class, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, or worldly condition of any kind as we celebrate our gifts, work for justice, peace, and a sustainable environment, reach out in mission, and witness to God's transforming love.

## Children's Ministry

Children of all ages are always welcome! There are two shelves in our Narthex (at the back of the Sanctuary) with sequin boards, crayons, markers, coloring sheets, and puzzles as well as a few library books that go along with the theme of the worship service. On typical Sundays immediately following the children's sermon (around 11:15 a.m.), education for children K-6 is offered in the Children's Education Room (Level 4). On Sundays, nursery care is available for children (infants through 5-year-olds) in the nursery on the fourth floor. The nursery is staffed by Sidney Dame, our nursery caregiver, and volunteers.

## Visitors

We are glad you joined us for worship today! Please take a moment to sign the yellow visitor card located in your pew and place it in the offering plate or hand to an usher. If you want to learn more about our church, the best place to start is our website at [marketsquarechurch.org](http://marketsquarechurch.org) and our Facebook page at [facebook.com/MarketSquareChurch](https://facebook.com/MarketSquareChurch).

## Parking

The city's parking garages have upgraded their entrance and exit system, which means paper tickets are a thing of the past. When you pull up to the entrance gate, it will lift on its own—no button-pushing required. To leave at no cost, you'll need to see a staff member or someone who looks like they know what they're doing (ushers, atrium staff like Steve, and other confident-looking folks qualify). They'll take your license plate number, validate you, and then you're free to exit whenever you're ready. Please validate as soon as you arrive at church.

A few important notes:

- Make sure your license plate isn't covered by snow or mud (we know how much Market Square folks enjoy off-roading).
- Know your license plate number when you come into the church.
- If you previously registered your plate using the parking company's instructions, please remove your credit card information (unless you also park in other downtown garages).

No need to worry about QR codes or the app—we're keeping it simple. **Every time you come to church, please see someone to validate your parking. This is the new (and improved!) #2 ticket procedure.**

## Media & Privacy Notice

The church regularly uses photos, videos, and audio recordings of services and programs for printed materials, its website, and social media (Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube).

Worship services and some events are livestreamed. Leaders (pastors, musicians, speakers, etc.) will appear on camera, and the backs of congregants' heads may be visible. If you prefer not to appear on camera, please sit in one of the last four rows. During Communion, use the right-hand line, which is not on camera.

Unless you tell us otherwise, the church assumes permission to use your photo or likeness. If you do not wish to be included, please contact the church office at 717-257-1270 ext. 10 or [sheets@marketsquarechurch.org](mailto:sheets@marketsquarechurch.org).

# Market Square Presbyterian Church—January 4, 2026

*When you see this symbol † preceding a part of the worship service, please rise in body or spirit.*

***Bold type** denotes parts spoken or sung by the congregation.*

## WE APPROACH GOD

### TOLLING OF THE BELL

*Let us use this time during the opening voluntary to quiet our conversations and open our hearts and minds in preparation for worshipping God. Please silence your electronic devices at this time.*

### WELCOME

The Reverend Stanley J. Jenkins

### VOLUNTARY

Kings of Orient

Rebecca Groom te Velde (b. 1956)

### CHORAL INTROIT

The Epiphany of Our Lord

Matthew 2:2, text  
Jeffrey Blersch (b. 1967)

Alleluia!

We have seen his star in the east and have come to worship him.

### † CALL TO WORSHIP (*See Isaiah 60:1-3*)

The Reverend Ki Nam Lee

One: Arise, shine; for your light has come.

**All: The glory of the Lord has risen upon us.**

One: Let all come into the light of Christ, into the brightness of his dawning light.

**All: For the light and love of Christ is for all people.**

### † PROCESSIONAL HYMN NO. 141

On This Day Earth Shall Ring

PERSONENT HODIE

### † PRAYER OF CONFESSION

The Reverend Allison R. Smith

**God of wonder, you are holy light in dark places; you are holy darkness when all is too bright.**

**In Christ you reveal to us your love for all people, but we use your Word to separate ourselves from others.**

**You reveal your desire for peace among all people, but we use your image as a call to arms.**

**You reveal to us the path of life, but we turn from following Jesus to following our self-centered ambitions.**

**Forgive us, O God, when we do not comprehend the depth of your Christmas love or the call you place on each of our lives. Forgive us, O God, and by your forgiveness, empower us to walk in the light of our Savior once more.**

### † SILENCE

† KYRIE

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.  
Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord,  
Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Lord,  
Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy.  
Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy.

† ASSURANCE OF PARDON

## 130 Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light

Break forth, O beau-teous heaven-ly light, and ush-er in the

morn-ing. You shep-herds, shud-der not with fright, but hear the

an-gel's warn-ing. This child, now weak in in-fan-cy, our

con-fi-dence and joy shall be, the power of Sa-tan

break-ing, our peace e-ter-nal mak-ing.

This exuberant text, based on Isaiah 9:2–7, was the ninth of twelve stanzas in its original German hymn. The chorale tune associated with this hymn went through many changes at the hands of later composers, reaching its present form in J. S. Bach's *Christmas Oratorio*.

† PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

*As the congregation passes the peace, children are invited forward for the Time with Our Children.*

**WE HEAR GOD'S WORD**

TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

HEBREW SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 60:1-6

*(p. 690 in the Old Testament section of the pew Bible)*

GOSPEL

Matthew 2:1-12

*(p. 2 in the New Testament section of the pew Bible)*

Leader: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

“God of Strangers”

The Reverend Stanley J. Jenkins

**WE RESPOND IN FAITH**

† RESPONSIVE HYMN NO. 152 What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

OUR LIFE TOGETHER

INVITATION TO GIVING

*If you would like to give a financial gift online during the time of the offering, scan this QR code to access our online giving portal.*



GIVING OF OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY

Judge Eternal, Throned in Splendor      Henry Scott Holland (1847 – 1918), text  
John Becker (1886 – 1961), music

Judge eternal, throned in splendor, Lord of lords and King of kings,  
with Thy living fire of judgment purge this land of bitter things;  
Solace all its wide dominion with the healing of Thy wings.

Still the weary folk are pining for the hour that brings release,  
and the city's crowded clangor cries aloud for sin to cease;  
And the homesteads and the woodlands pleased in silence for their peace.

Crown, O God, thine own endeavor; cleave our darkness with Thy sword;  
feed the faint and hungry heathen with the richness of Thy word;  
Cleanse the body of this nation through the glory of the Lord.  
Amen.

Then entered in those wise men three,  
 full reverently upon their knee,  
 And offered there in his presence  
 their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense.  
 Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,  
 born is the King of Israel.

## † PRAYER OF DEDICATION

## THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Gracious Invitation

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them up to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

... *We join our voices with all the saints from every time and place who forever sing to the glory of your name:*

G C D7 Em Am  
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of

Bm7 Em F Am Dsus D G C  
 pow - er and might, heav - en and earth are

D7 G G7 Am G Cmaj7 G Dsus  
 full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

D C Am7 D7 Em C  
 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the

Am Dsus D7 G Em F Dm7 G  
 Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

... Together we sing, proclaiming the mystery of faith:

Musical notation in 3/4 time, G major. The melody is: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter). Chords above the staff: G, C, D7, G, Am7, Bm7, Em, F, D.

Christ has died; Christ is ris - en; Christ will come a - gain.

### The Lord's Prayer

**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.**

Musical notation in 3/4 time, G major. The melody is: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter). Chords above the staff: G, C, Am7, D7, Em, Am7, Dm7, G.

A - men, a - men, a - men.

### The Words of Institution

#### Sharing the Bread and Cup

*Our table is an open one, reflecting the invitation of our Lord to all who are weary and heavy laden, and are seeking communion with the Risen Lord. As you come forward to receive communion, please select one Star Word from the basket (no peeking!). If you would like us to bring communion and a Star Word to you in your pew, please raise your hand.*

#### Communion Anthem

#### O Jesus, Grant Me Hope and Comfort

Karl W. Osterwald (1820 – 1887), text  
Johann Wolfgang Franck (1644 – 1710), music  
Walter Buszin (1899 – 197), arranger

O Jesus, grant me hope and comfort; O let me ne'er in sorrow pine,  
my heart and soul, yea, all my being, O Jesus, trust alone in Thee.  
Thou Prince of Peace, Thou Pearl from heaven, True God, true Man,  
my Morning Star!

*O come Thou precious Sun most radiant, Thy beams illumine my heart and soul.*

O Jesus, with Thy advent quiet my restless soul and anxious mind.  
In true humility I welcome Thee, Jesus Christ, my Joy divine.  
My thoughts, desires, and all my longings I dedicate, O Christ to thee.

*O come Thou precious Sun most radiant, Thy beams illumine my heart and soul.*



## A LITANY FOR RECEIVING THE STAR WORDS

One: On this celebration of Epiphany may our eyes be opened to the light of Christ shining like the billions of stars in the night sky.

**All: May our hearts be opened to God's love and grace shining in our lives.**

One: May we have the grace to recognize the gifts within ourselves.

**All: May we have the wisdom to celebrate the gifts offered to us by others.**

One: Together with all creation let us receive the light and life of Christ Jesus our Lord.  
Together may we brighten the night sky.

**All: Let us abide in the light of Christ together.**

† SENDING HYMN NO. 151

We Three Kings of Orient Are

KINGS OF ORIENT

† CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

† CHORAL RESPONSE

*As a sign of our unity in Christ, we invite you to join hands — or simply make a friendly connection with someone nearby in whatever way feels comfortable — as we sing the first verse of “Blest Be the Tie That Binds.”*

Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in

Chris - tian love. The fel - low - ship of

kin - dred minds is like to that a - bove.

† VOLUNTARY

Improvisation on the Orient

Canonic-Dilley

+++

# Worship Leaders This Morning

Rev. Stanley J. Jenkins, Pastor/Head of Staff  
Rev. Ki Nam Lee, Pastoral Associate for Korean Ministries  
Rev. Allison R. Smith, Associate Pastor  
Tyler A. Canonico - Dilley, Minister of Music and Organist  
The Sanctuary Choir  
Sean Meara, Crucifer  
Newman Stare, Audiovisual Technician  
John K. Robinson, Bulletin Cover Designer  
Andrew Hunter, Livestream Technician

*Reprinted / Streamed with permission under One License #A-701013  
CCLI Copyright License #2603863 • All Rights Reserved*

## Star Words

This morning, on Epiphany Sunday, we receive Star Words together. These small star-shaped gifts remind us of the star that guided the Magi and invite us to notice how God's presence continues to lead us. Each of us may choose a word from the basket on the communion table, and together we carry these words into the year ahead. As we move through 2026, we are invited to watch for our words in daily life—in moments of prayer, conversation, and quiet noticing. May this shared journey open us to new discoveries, deepen our love, and fill the year ahead with hope and light.

# Get Validated!

Parking Reminder: Every time you come to the church, please have your license plate number handy and see a staff member to get validated.

## Every. Single. Time.

Exceptions: choir members on Thursday nights only and church staff with monthly parking passes. Everyone else — we need your plate number!

# Our Ministry Today

**Breakfast Coordinator** — PJ Taylor

**Breakfast Preparers** — Gather the Spirit for Justice

**Breakfast Servers** — Steve Gaus, Laura Ruggiero, Ashley Robinson, Carol Mayer, Lucy and Bill Johnston-Walsh

**Ushers** — Jerry Bair, Kate Allgood, Marianne Flickinger

**Communion Servers** — Judi Shepler, Kathy Williams, John Dame, Emily Dame

**Jan 10 Saturday food pantry:**

Connie Wonder, Keith Camilli, Jane Hiller, Tom Johnston

## Today: Lunch & Learn

Join Rev. Allison at 12:30 pm today for her monthly Lunch & Learn following worship. She will be discussing 1 Samuel 8-11 focusing on Israel's demand to Samuel that he provide them with a king. The session should provide some interesting conversation about the intersection of politics and religion in the ancient world, and the way power systems have evolved and stayed the same through the ages.

## Cover Art

The story of the visit of the Magi is told in artwork by Martin Erspamer, OSB, a monk of Saint Meinrad Archabbey in southern Indiana. Br. Erspamer is a noted liturgical artist working in paint, ink, ceramics, fabrics, and stained glass. You may see his work with stained glass at <https://hundredfoldvideo.com/videos-portfolio/living-as-monk-artist>. The scenes of the Magi on the cover are original paper cuttings and illustrate today's Gospel lesson. [JKR]

# Music this week

Happy Epiphany! Our opening voluntary is Rebecca Groom te Velde's "Kings of Orient" which is a vibrant and contemporary reimagining of the Epiphany story, drawing on the familiar carol, "We Three Kings" while casting it in fresh musical colors. Rather than a straightforward harmonization, she energizes the tune into a rhythmic, almost processional journey that evokes the Magi's long trek from the East. Strong, dance-like motives and unexpected accents propel the music forward, while contrasting registrations suggest both the mystery of the night sky and the brilliance of the guiding star.

The processional hymn, "On This Day Earth Shall Ring" is a jubilant Christmas hymn set to the lively medieval tune *Personent hodie* ("On This Day Earth Shall Ring"), a melody that dates to the 16<sup>th</sup> century and has long been associated with exuberant celebration. With its dancing triple meter and echoing refrain, the tune seems almost to leap off the page(!), inviting us into a festive proclamation of Christ's birth. The text calls all of creation – earth, heaven, and humanity – to resound with joy at the Incarnation. When paired with *Personent hodie*, these words take on a processional character, capturing both the merriment of the Nativity and the deep theological joy of God dwelling among us.

Our responsive hymn, "What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright" is an Epiphany hymn that reflects on the mystery of the star which led the Magi to Bethlehem. The text unfolds as a series of questions and answers, moving from wonder at the star's brilliance to a confession of faith in the child it reveals – Christ the King, whose light draws all nations." The hymn is set to the sturdy and graceful tune *Puer nobis nascitur* ("Unto Us a Child Is Born"), a melody of Renaissance origin that has long been associated with Christmas and Epiphany proclamation. Its balanced phrases and confident motion provide a fitting musical foundation for the text's theological clarity.

John Becker's "Judge Eternal, Throned in Splendor" is an example of contemporary hymnody that weds strong theological language with a compelling, singable musical style. The text addresses Christ as the eternal Judge – enthroned in glory yet present among humanity – holding together themes of majesty, justice, mercy, and compassion. Rather than presenting judgment as fearsome alone, the anthem emphasizes Christ's authority as one rooted in love and redemptive purpose.

The communion anthem, "O Jesus, Grant Me Hope and Comfort" is a prayerful chorale that unites text and music from the rich devotional tradition of 17<sup>th</sup>-century German Lutheranism. The text, written by Karl W. Osterwald, is an intimate supplication to Christ, seeking solace, strength, and abiding trust amid sorrow and uncertainty. Its language reflects a deeply personal faith, emphasizing Jesus' presence as comforter and guide. The tune, composed by Johann Wolfgang Franck, is notable for its gentle contours and expressive harmonic implications, which have made it a lasting vehicle for texts of consolation. In this arrangement, Walter Buszin treats the chorale with clarity and reverence, allowing the melody to sing while surrounding it with supportive harmonies that heighten its emotional warmth. The result is music that speaks quietly yet profoundly, offering a moment of stillness and assurance while we commune – a musical prayer of hope, comfort, and steadfast faith.

Our sending hymn, "We Three Kings of Orient Are" is one of the most enduring hymns of the Epiphany season, recounting the journey of the Magi who followed the star to Bethlehem bearing gifts for the newborn Christ. Written in 1857 by John Henry Hopkins Jr., both text and tune combine narrative clarity with a distinctive, processional character that evokes the solemn yet wonder-filled pilgrimage of the kings. The melody's minor mode and steady, mark-like rhythm set an energetic tone, while each stanza reflects on the meaning of the gifts – gold, frankincense, and myrrh – as symbols of Christ's kingship, divinity, and sacrificial death. The triumphant refrain, "O star of wonder, star of night," lifts the hymn into a moment of radiant praise.

Music next week – The Sanctuary Choir will sing "When Jesus Went to Jordan's Stream" by Alec Wyton and E. G. Monk's "Angel-Voices Ever Singing." The hymns for the morning will be, "Sing of God Made Manifest," "Down Galilee's Slow Roadways," and "Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun."

~ Tyler Canonico-Dilley

# January 4 - 11

Sun	8:00 am	Community Breakfast, Fellowship Hall (FH)	Fri	1:00 pm	ISC Food Pantry, Fellowship Hall
	9:00 am	Charging Center (until 10:45 am), FH		3:00 pm	MSPC Friday Evening Meal Prep, Kitchen
	9:15 am	Coffee Station, Geneva Hall (Level 4)		5:30 pm	Friday Evening Meal Service, 2nd Street
	9:15 am	Youth Group, Little Amps	Sat	9:00 am	MSPC Food Pantry, Fellowship Hall
	9:30 am	Korean Language Worship, Davis Chapel		11:00 am	Roger Olson Memorial Service, Sanctuary
	9:30 am	Weekly Bible Study, Youth Room		12:00 pm	Olson Reception, Geneva Hall
	9:30 am	Book Study, Adult Ed. Rm (Level 4)	Sun	8:00 am	Community Breakfast, Fellowship Hall (FH)
	9:30 am	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary		8:30 am	Health Screenings, Dave's office
	10:00 am	Room for the Inner Way, RFIW (Level 4)		9:00 am	Charging Center (until 10:45 am), FH
	10:45 am	Nursery opens, Level 4		9:15 am	Coffee Station, Geneva Hall (Level 4)
	11:00 am	English Language Worship, Sanctuary		9:15 am	Youth Group, Little Amps
	11:15 am	Children's Sunday School, Level 4		9:30 am	Korean Language Worship, Davis Chapel
	12:30 pm	Lunch and Learn, Youth Room (Level 4)		9:30 am	Weekly Bible Study, Youth Room
	7:00 pm	Outreach & Marketing Committee, Zoom		9:30 am	Adult Forum, Adult Ed. Rm (Level 4)
Mon	10:00 am	Worship Staff Weekly Meeting, Stan's office		9:30 am	Children's Prayer Breakfast, Geneva Hall
	7:00 pm	Ecology Action Committee, Zoom		10:00 am	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, Music Suite
Tues	10:30 am	Downtown Clergy, Youth Room		10:30 am	Deacons Coffee Hour, Atrium
	11:00 am	Music Librarians, Music Suite		10:45 am	Nursery opens, Level 4
Wed	5:00 pm	Investment Committee, Zoom		11:00 am	English Language Worship, Sanctuary
Thurs	7:15 pm	Sanctuary Choir, Music Suite		11:15 am	Children's Sunday School, Level 4
	7:30 pm	Peacemaking Committee, Zoom		12:00 pm	Korean Luncheon, Fellowship Hall
				7:00 pm	Outreach & Marketing Committee, Zoom

## Church Staff

Stanley J. Jenkins, Pastor/Head of Staff	Ext. 11	jenkins@marketsquarechurch.org
Allison R. Smith, Supply Associate Pastor	Ext. 12	smith@marketsquarechurch.org
Ki Nam Lee, Pastoral Associate for Korean Ministries		kinlee21c@gmail.com
Anne M. Ross, Pastoral Assistant for Congregational Care		amross0611@gmail.com
Jennifer McKenna, Spiritual Director		revjjm@gmail.com
James D. Brown, Pastor Emeritus		
Tyler A. Canonico-Dilley, Minister of Music & Organist	Ext. 18	canonico@marketsquarechurch.org
Peter Yardley-Jones, Artist-in-Residence		email@peteryardleyjones.com
Ellen B. Hunt, Minister of Music Emerita		ellenhunt1938@gmail.com
David Volkman, Bridge Operations Manager	Ext. 14	volkman@marketsquarechurch.org
Michelle Sheaffer, Financial Administrator	Ext. 17	sheaffer@marketsquarechurch.org
Nancy D. Sheets, Ministry Support Administrator	Ext. 10	sheets@marketsquarechurch.org
Benjamin Perez, Homeless Ministry Coordinator	Ext. 16	perez@marketsquarechurch.org
Sean Meara, Facility Manager	Ext. 13	meara@marketsquarechurch.org
Daemeaon Allen, Custodian		dae2u@icloud.com
Steve Jackson, Greeter & Parking/Events Staff		
Art Miles, Community Breakfast Hospitality Coordinator		
Ollie W. Silver, Community Breakfast Support/Events Staff		ollie.silver@aol.com
Sidney Dame, Nursery Caregiver		
Newman Stare, Audiovisual Technician		nleeaudiotech@gmail.com
Andrew Hunter, Livestream Technician		hunterandrew2314@gmail.com

CHURCH PHONE: 717-257-1270, ext. 10

Worship services are livestreamed through our [YouTube Channel](#) • Find us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#)

# 141 On This Day Earth Shall Ring



1 On this day earth shall ring with the song  
 2 His the doom, ours the mirth; when he came  
 3 God's bright star, o'er his head, wise men three  
 4 On this day an - gels sing; with their song

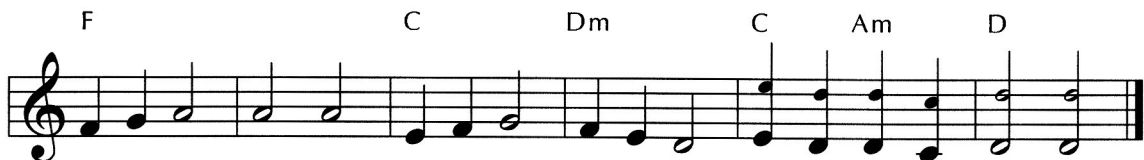


chil - dren sing to the Lord, Christ our King, born on earth to  
 down to earth Beth - le - hem saw his birth; ox and ass be -  
 to him led; kneel they low by his bed, lay their gifts be -  
 earth shall ring, prais - ing Christ, heav - en's King, born on earth to

## Refrain



save us; him the Fa - ther gave us.  
 side him from the cold would hide him. \*Id - e - o - o - o,  
 fore him, praise him and a - dore him.  
 save us; peace and love he gave us.



id - e - o - o - o, id - e - o glo - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o!

\*Therefore, glory to God in the highest.

Although this Latin carol for Christmas may have roots several centuries older than its 16th-century emergence, the text was all in one language until its 20th-century translator chose to adopt the original last two lines of the fourth stanza as a unifying refrain in all stanzas.

# What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright 152

Capo 2: (C) (Am) (G) (C) (F) (C) (G) (C) (F)  
 D Bm A D G D A D G

1 What star is this, with beams so bright, more  
 2 'Tis now full-filled what God de-creed, "From  
 3 While out-ward signs the star dis-plays, an  
 4 O Je-sus, while the star of grace im-

(C) (G) (C) (F) (C) (G)  
 D A D G D A

love-ly than the noon-day light? 'Tis  
 Ja-cob shall a star pro-ceed"; and  
 in-ward light the Lord con-veys and  
 pels us on to seek your face, let

(Am) (D7) (G) (C) (F) (C) (Dm)  
 Bm E7 A D G D Em

sent to an-nounce a new-born king, glad  
 lo! the east-ern sa-ges stand to  
 urg-es them, with ten-der might, to  
 not our sloth-ful hearts re-fuse the

(G) (C) (G) (C) (F) (G) (C)  
 A D A D G A D

ti-dings of our God to bring.  
 read in heaven the Lord's com-mand.  
 seek the giv-er of the light.  
 guid-ance of your light to use.

This 18th-century Latin text calls attention to three kinds of light: the light of the star leading the Magi to the Christ-child, the inward light inspiring their journey, and Christ who is the Light of the world. The simple unison melody unites everything in a gentle arc.

TEXT: Charles Coffin, 1736; trans. John Chandler, 1837, alt.

MUSIC: Trier ms., 15th cent.; adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1609; harm. George Ratcliffe Woodward, 1910

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

LM

(alternate harmonization, 254)

# 151 We Three Kings of Orient Are

1 We three kings of O - ri - ent are; bear - ing gifts we tra - verse a - far,  
2 Born a King on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I bring to crown him a - gain,  
3 Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I; in - cense owns a de - i - ty nigh;  
4 Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a life of gath - er - ing gloom;  
5 Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise, King and God and Sac - ri - fice:

field and foun - tain, moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.  
King for - ev - er, ceas - ing nev - er o - ver us all to reign.  
prayer and prais - ing glad - ly rais - ing, wor - ship - ing God Most High.  
sor - rowing, sigh - ing, bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the stone - cold tomb.  
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! sounds through the earth and skies.

## Refrain

O star of won - der, star of night, star with roy - al beau - ty bright,

west - ward lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - fect light!

Although Christians had begun by the 2nd century to speak of these visitors from eastern countries (Matthew 2:1-12) as "kings," perhaps because of passages like Psalm 72:10 and Isaiah 60:3, it is more accurate to think of them as magi or astrologers, the scholars of their day.