JANUARY 6, 2025 EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD



The power and glory of God shines for all the world.

### **EPIPHANY BIBLE READINGS**

Take time to read and reflect on these Bible passages as part of your Epiphany observances.

Monday	Isaiah 60:1-6	Arise, shine, for your light has come
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Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14 Prayer for a righteous king

Ephesians 3:1-12 Paul's ministry to the Gentiles

Matthew 2:1-12 The visit of the wise men

### **SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR EPIPHANY**

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. Isaiah 60:1 (NRSV)

### PRAYERS AND BLESSING

#### A Prayer for Epiphany:

Almighty God, may your glory shine brightly and bring justice and peace for all the world to see through Christ Jesus, born in Bethlehem, the City of David. Amen.

#### **Mealtime Prayer:**

Be present at our table, Lord, be here and everywhere adored; these mercies bless and grant that we may strengthen for thy service be. Amen.

#### A Blessing to Give:

May you live with boldness through faith in Christ. (Ephesians 3:12)



# **JANUARY 6, 2025**

## **HYMN FOR EPIPHANY**

Bright and Glorious
Is the Sky





#### **EPIPHANY MILESTONES**

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

### **CARING CONVERSATIONS**



Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- When you think of powerful, what comes to mind?
- How would you describe the power of God?

#### **DEVOTIONS**



Read: Isaiah 60:1-6.

Epiphany is the season that displays the glory of God in Christ. The "you" often repeated in this reading is not about us. It's about Jerusalem. Isaiah announced that God's light would shine on Jerusalem and the nations would come to the light. How is it that nations that had destroyed Jerusalem and the whole of Israel would now come and bow down to this city? What a bold claim Isaiah made! We believe that the light that shines for all the world centers on Jesus. He is a person born to a poor and otherwise unknown couple and someone who would die at the hands of powerful political and religious leaders. This also seems to be a bold claim. For the church, Jesus' life, death, and resurrection is the ultimate power in the world. This Jesus who comes to teach, heal, and save the world takes on all earthly powers and conquers. That is the glory of God that shines on Jesus and now on us as those who look to Jesus to change the world and give it hope.

*Discuss:* What powers do you see that need to be reminded that God's glory shines on Jesus? *Pray:* God of the nations, give us the confidence to confess Jesus as the light that shines for all the world to know as Savior and Lord. Amen.

# **SERVICE**



Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Epiphany Bible Readings and theme for this day, how can you help someone find hope when going through tough times?

## **RITUALS AND TRADITIONS**



The wise men were guided by a star in their search for Jesus, the newborn king. As Christians, we are "stars" that God uses to point other people to Jesus. Think or talk about how your life can be a light that shines for Jesus. Cut out star shapes. Write words to describe different ways you can "shine" for Jesus in your relationships with others on the stars. Place them in a visible space in your home as a reminder of Jesus' light in your life.

*Pray:* Dear God, just as you guided the wise men with a star and led others to help people see the "boundless riches of Christ", may we be your messengers of the good news of Christ for the world. Amen. (Ephesians 3:8-9)

