



Britannia United Church

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Epiphany

January 7, 2018

10:15 a.m.

Meditation: “There are two ways of spreading light:
be the candle, or the mirror that reflects it.”

Deb Dewit Marchant

Welcome: to Britannia United Church. Our **nursery** is always available to children three years of age and younger. It is at the end of the hall by the office. **Headsets** are available for those who need assisted hearing. Please speak to our sound technician. Please join in the reading if it is **bold** and *italic*. Coffee and Tea are available at the back of the church, after the service.

We Gather in God’s Name

Introit: The First Nowell (91, verse 1)

***The first Nowell the angel did say,
was to certain poor shepherds in fields where they lay;
in fields where they lay a keeping their sheep,
on a cold winter’s night that was so deep.
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell
born is the King of Israel.***

Announcements

Prelude

Call to Worship:

Where is the child who has been born king?

The Lord is in his holy temple. Let us worship Him.

Yes, God is here! Let us celebrate His presence.

With God’s help we will make our whole life a celebration.

Hymn: Will You Come and See the Light (96)

Opening Prayer:

***O God, by the leading of a star,
you revealed your love to the people of the earth.***

Anthem: Born in the Night, Mary's Child

Theme Presentation

Minute For Mission:

We Hear God's Word

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6 (OT, pg 690, Kelvin Stanke)

Sung Response: (91 verse 3)

***And by the light of that same star,
three wise men came from country far,
to seek for a king was their intent,
and to follow that star wherever it went.
Nowell...***

Prayer: Rest on Me based on Luke 2:22-40

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him.— Luke 2:25

Holy Spirit,

as you rested on Simeon and Anna,
so rest on me

***Keep me expectant and open to your appearing
Fill my speech with stories of your praise and glory***

Holy Spirit,

You reveal salvation to every person,
reveal it again to me

***Shine your light on every motivation,
on every hidden thing***

Pierce my soul

so nothing I say or do opposes you

Holy Spirit,

as you guided so many that first Nativity,
so guide me

*Continue to point me forward
eyes open, steady and true
Lead me to a faithful end,
so I may rest in peace forever with you
with others
and with my true self
I trust and pray in the name of the Promised One
Jesus Christ
my Saviour and Saviour of the World
Amen*

Prayer: Rest on Me © 2010 Lisa Ann Moss Degrenia

Message: Holding the Light

Hymn: I Am the Light of the World (87)

We Respond to God

Prayers of Joy and Concern and The Lord's Prayer

Offertory

* **Doxology:** (91, verse 5)
*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...*

Offertory Prayer:

Gracious God,
*You give us treasure to hold,
and with that treasure
we may reflect Your light,
we may become Your light.
Bless these gifts that they may be
reflections of your love,
your grace and your glory. Amen*

***Hymn:** Arise, Your Light is Come (79)

Commissioning Prayer:

A new year has begun.

During this year, too,

all the paths from east to west,

from morning until evening,

lead on and on as far as the eye can see,

through the deserts of life,

with all its changes.

But these paths can be turned into

the blessed pilgrimage to the absolute,

the journey to God.

Set out, my heart, take up the journey!

The star shines.

You can't take much with you on the journey.

And you will lose much on the way.

Let it go.

Gold of love,

incense of yearning,

myrrh of suffering –

these you certainly have with you.

He shall accept them.

And we shall find him.

-Karl Rahner: The Great Church Year

***Sung Response:** (91, verse 6)

Then let us all with one accord

sing praises to our heavenly Lord,

that hath made heaven and earth of nought,

and with his blood our life hath bought.

Nowell...

Postlude

In Loving Memory of Violet Simser

When a loved one becomes a memory,
a memory becomes a treasure.

Treasure the memories.

Pierre, Barb and Mary