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January 3, 2016 Communion Epiphany

(Portions of the service that are in **BOLD** are to be said by all.
All points marked * those who are able are invited to stand.)

Approach

Welcoming the Light

One: Once there was a star
that twinkled high above the night sky.

**All: It was so captivating
that people simply had to follow it,**

One: And they followed it all the way to Bethlehem.

* Opening Hymn VU #91 – *“The First Nowell”*

Prayer of Approach

God of kindness, we are excited about the New Year ahead. As we worship today help us to see that our lives are run on ‘Jesus’ time. Not only do we measure the years from his birth, but we model our lives on how he lived. Today is the right day to renew our faith in Jesus who was God with us. He changed us even as he changed human history. We worship him now, with joy. AMEN

Children’s Time – Matthew 2: 1-12

* Hymn VU #96 – *“Will You Come and See the Light”*

Meditation – “A time of new beginning”

The Response

Announcements

* Offering / Response (VU #93 vs. 4)

**When heaven’s bright with mystery
And stars still lead an unknown way,**

**When love still lights a gentle path
Where courts of power can hold no sway,
There with the Magi, let us kneel,
Our gifts to share, God’s world to heal.**

Celebration of Communion (VU #75 vs. 6)

**All glory be to God on high,
And to the earth be peace;
Good will to all from highest heaven
Begin, and never cease.**

Prayer after Communion

Wise God, the bright splendour whom all people seek: may we, with the Wise Men, being drawn by your light, recognise the glory of your presence in your Son, the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN

* Hymn VU #92 – *“In the Darkness Shines the Splendour”*

Benediction / Response

**Once there was a man
Who twinkled like that star.
And he was so captivating
That people simply had to follow him
all the way from Bethlehem.
Carry that light with you always.**

Rev. Dr. Sharon Wilson, Minister	Patrick Woodbeck, Associate Minister
Luci Toews, Church Administrator	Laura Steidl, Music Director
Myrna Hagues, Organist	Jessica Steidl & Alex Czehryn, Joyful Noise
Helen Smallwood, Liturgist	Gina Grant, Custodian
Douglas Gauthier & Gloria Waldron, Nursery Care Givers	

Ushers: Deanna Kernaghan and Joyce Muir
Greeters: Linda Smith and Arline Young

Communion Servers: Joyce Muir, Deanna Kernaghan,
Arline Young and Linda Smith