

Prelude—Three Epiphany Preludes R. Hobby

- As With Gladness Men of Old (see hymn #226)
- Brightest and Best (see hymn #206)
- Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

***Preparation for Worship—The Holly and the Ivy/The First Noel** arr. C. McMichael

Louisa and Forest Weir, violin

The holly and the ivy
when they are both full grown,
of all the trees that are in the wood
the holly bears the crown.

*The rising of the sun
and the running of the deer,
the playing of the merry organ,
sweet singing in the choir.*

The holly bears a blossom,
white as the lily flower,
and Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ,
to be our sweet Savior.

The holly bears a berry,
as red as any blood,
and Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ
to do poor sinners good.

The holly bears a prickle,
as sharp as any thorn,
and Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ
on Christmas day in the morn.

The holly bears a bark,
as bitter as any gall,
and Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ
for to redeem us all.

The first Noel the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay,
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

*Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,
born is the King of Israel.*

They looked up and saw a star
shining in the east beyond them far;
and to the earth it gave great light,
and so it continued both day and night.

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 the star wherever it went.

This star drew nigh to the northwest;
o'er Bethlehem it took its rest,
and there it did both stop and stay,
right over the place where Jesus lay.

Then entered in those wise men three,
full reverently upon their knee,
and offered there in his presence
their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense.

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.

†Call to Worship..... from Galatians 4, Acts 1, and Revelation 22

Leader: When the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law

All: **so that we might receive adoption as sons.**

Leader: This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.

All: **Jesus said, “Behold, I am coming soon, bringing my recompense with me, to repay each one for what he has done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.”**

Leader: Let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who desires take the water of life without price. “Surely I am coming soon.”

All: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!**

Leader: The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you all.

All: **And with your spirit.**

Leader : Let us worship God!

The one true God graciously invites us into his presence to worship him in spirit and in truth, and we eagerly respond in faith. This begins a dialogue which will continue to the end of the service as God initiates with us, and we respond to him.

Sung by all

†Invocation

†Confession of Faith

What do the Scriptures say concerning Jesus Christ, who being eternally God the Son, became man for us?

Though Jesus was in the form of God, he did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore, God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

From Philipians 2:6-11

†Response—We Three Kings

Sung by all

**Born a King on Bethlehem's plain,
gold I bring to crown him again,
King forever, ceasing never,
over us all to reign.**

**Glorious now behold him arise;
King and God and sacrifice:
Alleluia, Alleluia,
sounds through the earth and skies.**

***O star of wonder, star of light,
star with royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding,
guide us to thy perfect light.***

Corporate Confession of Sin *(please kneel if able to do so)*

**O promised Christ:
We are a world at war.
Our peace depends on your coming.
We are a sinful people.
Our pardon depends on your coming.
We are full of good intentions but weak at keeping promises;
our only hope of doing God's will
is that you should come and help us do it.
Lord Christ, Word made flesh,
our world waits
for your peace,
for your pardon,
and for your grace.
Even so: come, Lord Jesus. Amen.**

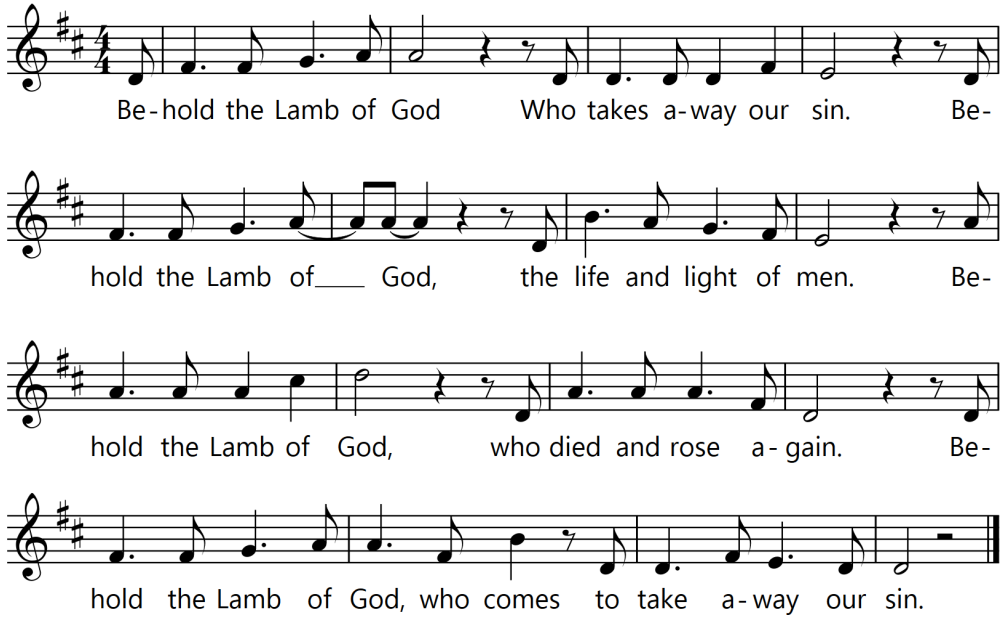
Personal Confession of Sin

Assurance of Pardoning Grace Isaiah 40:1-2

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.
Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and cry to her
that her warfare is ended,
that her iniquity is pardoned,
that she has received from the Lord's hand
double for all her sins.

Having confessed our sins, the minister declares a gospel promise assuring that God forgives us because Christ has fully atoned for all the sins of those who truly repent. Divine mercy frees us from our guilt and shame.

†Response—Behold the Lamb of God.....A. Peterson | L. Story *Sung by all*



Be-hold the Lamb of God Who takes a-way our sin. Be-
hold the Lamb of God, the life and light of men. Be-
hold the Lamb of God, who died and rose a-gain. Be-
hold the Lamb of God, who comes to take a-way our sin.

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

All: 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.

Offering

Additional Ways to Give

- Online via the app or QR code on the front of the bulletin
- Text "Give \$" followed by the gift amount to 706.550.6813
- Mail checks to 615 Telfair Street, Augusta, Georgia, 30901

With grateful hearts for God's extravagant mercy and blessing, we joyfully present our offerings to the Lord for the ministry of our church and community.

†Passing of The Peace

Leader: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

All: **And also with you.**

Having been reminded that we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, in response to God's grace, we gladly extend the peace of the gospel to one another.

No Dismissal of Children:

- Pre-K and older remain in the service.

†Hymn of Preparation—All Glory Be to Christ

Sung by all



1. Should noth - ing of our ef - forts stand, no__ le - ga - cy sur - vive,
2. His will be done, his king - dom come, on__ earth as is a - bove,
3. When on the day the great I AM, the__ faith - ful and the true,



un - less the Lord does raise the house, in__ vain the build - ers strive.
who is him - self our dai - ly bread, praise him, the Lord of love.
the Lamb, who was for sin - ners slain, is__ mak - ing all things new.



To you who boast to - mor - row's gain, tell__ me what is your life,
Let liv - ing wat - er sat - is - fy the__ thirst - y with - out price,
Be - hold our God shall live with us and__ be our stead - fast light,



a mist that van - ish - es at dawn, all__ glo - ry be to Christ!
we'll take a cup of kind - ness yet, all__ glo - ry be to Christ!
and we shall ere his peo - ple be, all__ glo - ry be to Christ!



All glo - ry be to Christ our King! All glo - ry be to Christ!



His rule and reign we'll ev - er sing, all__ glo - ry be to Christ!

Scottish Folk Song | D. Kensrue

New Testament Lesson Revelation 21:1-8

page 1233 in the pew Bible

Response

Leader: This is the Word of God.

All: **Thanks be to you, O God.**

