



Words printed in **bold type** are to be spoken by the congregation.

**Organ prelude**

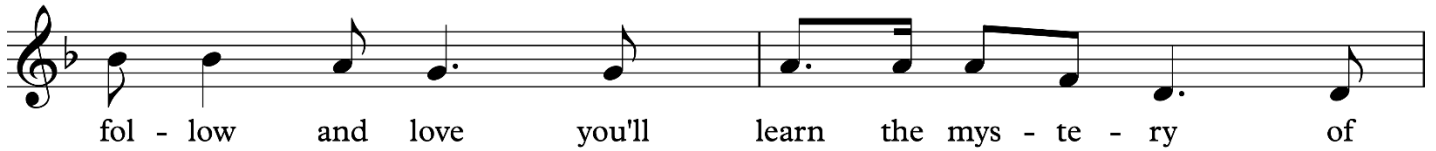
**Lighting the Christ Candle**

**Welcome and news**

**Introit**    *(see next page)*

# I am the Light of the World

## Refrain



Words and Music © 1967 Jim Stratthdee. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-720863

## Call to Worship

The light shines in the deepest night and the night has not overcome it. "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and over you the glory of God has dawned. Let us worship God as if it were so.

**Hymn VU 81** As With Gladness Men of Old

## Prayer of Confession

Emanuel, God with us, we pray that as we live out the days of this New Year, help us to look beyond where we have been, and let by your Spirit, may we journey forth knowing that you are always with

us even when we make mistakes and we allow You to deliver us from our sins.

**For neglecting the obvious truths that come in common places and through humble people, save us, loving God.**

Help us to pause, reflect and avoid following false prophets who pander to our prejudices for nationalistic tendencies and who sell us short with a religion of cheap rewards or fears of loss.

**Holy God, you offer us the greatest gift of all, yourself. Too often we find it hard to take notice; caught up with our own gifts, given and received.**

Cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today. Strengthen us with hope for peace midst painful times that cannot just be packed away with the Christmas ornaments.

*Moment of silence for personal confession.*

Lord have mercy.

**Christ have mercy. Lord have mercy.**

### **Words of Assurance**

God comes to us as light for our path so the journey might be one of joy and service for us and for all the people. In Jesus name we are led by the Spirit to journey forth knowing that Christ is always with us. May we be led to places of grand discovery through our faith in our Saviour.

### **The Passing of the Peace**

May the peace of Christ be with you.

**And also, with you.**

*Following the passing of the peace, the younger crowd is welcome to join Katelyn at the **Children's Table** in the Narthex for a time of activity, story, conversation and sometimes even music.*

**Anthem**          Concertato on O God Beyond all Praising by Richard Proulx

**Scripture Reading:** Shannon MacFarlane

Matthew 2:1-12

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Message**          Success and Failure are Trajectories

**Hymn** VU 101          Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

**Collection of Offerings and Offertory**

*After the offering is introduced, an offertory will be played by the organist and the collection taken. Thank you for your gift, whether given today or through other means of supporting ministry at Westminster Church.*

**Offering**

Whatever God promises God delivers. Delight in your Saviour for the perseverance of the Magi is in you. God is the giver of true joy, joy the world cannot give or understand.

**Prayer of Dedication**

May the God who led the Magi lead us also in our pilgrimage with our highest visions and finest energies that we may change human tears to joyful songs. Through the light of Christ's coming, help us to know and to live our joy, the joy that is both your gift to us and our gift to you.

## Prayers of the People

God eternal, our times are within your hands....

### Lord's Prayer (spoken)

Our Father/Mother, 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

**Hymn**     We Three Kings (*see next page*)

### Commissioning and Sending Forth

May God be a smooth path ahead of you, a guiding star above you, a sharp eye behind you, today, tonight, and forever.

### Choral Close

#### GO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Steve Angrisano and Tom Tomaszek

Refrain

The musical notation is written on four staves in 2/2 time. The melody is simple and repetitive, using a mix of eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating where the notes span across syllables. The first staff starts with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (Bb). The second staff continues the melody. The third staff has a repeat sign at the beginning. The fourth staff ends with a double bar line.

Go make a dif - f'rence.                      We can make a dif -  
- f'rence.                      Go make a dif - f'rence in the world.  
Go make a dif - f'rence.                      We can make a dif -  
- f'rence.                      Go make a dif - f'rence in the world.

# Organ Postlude

*If departing before the end of the postlude, please do so quietly for the benefit of those remaining to enjoy the music.*

## We Three Kings

John Henry Hopkins, Jr., 1857

John Henry Hopkins, Jr.

♩ = 80



1. We three kings of Or - i - ent are; Bear - ing gifts we tra - verse a -  
2. Born a King on Beth-le - hem's plain Gold I bring to crown Him a -  
3. Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I; In - cense owns a De - i - ty  
4. Myrrh is mine, its bit - ter per - fume Breathes a life of ga - ther - ing  
5. Glor - ious now be - hold Him a - rise; King and God and s - a - cri -

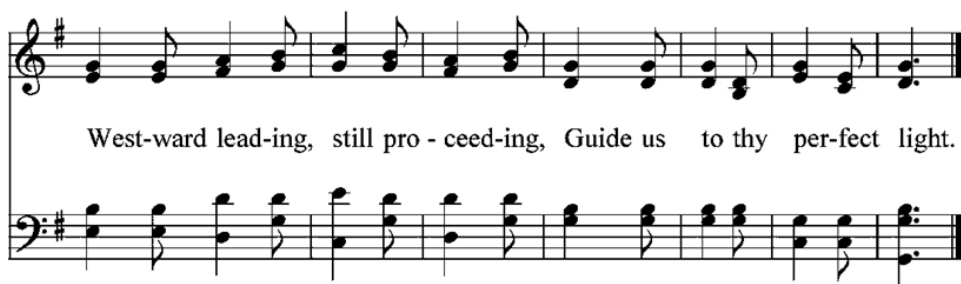


- far, Field and fount-ain, moor and mount-ain, Fol - low - ing yon - der  
- gain, King for - ev - er, ceas - ing ne - ver, O - ver us all to  
nigh; Prayer and prais - ing, voic - es rais - ing, Wor - ship - ping God on  
gloom; Sor - rowing, sighi - ng, bleed - ing, dy - ing, Sealed in the stone cold  
- fice; Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Sounds through the earth and

### Refrain



star.  
reign.  
high. O star of won - der, star of light, Star with roy - al beau - ty bright,  
tomb.  
skies.



West - ward lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, Guide us to thy per - fect light.

## Lectionary readings

### January 13 - Baptism of the Lord Sunday

*Gathering, A/C/E 2018-2019, page 20. Used with permission.*

*Worship materials for the Baptism of the Lord Sunday to the Fourth Sunday after Epiphany were contributed by James Ravenscroft and Barry Peters, Richmond Hill P.C., Richmond Hill, Ont.*

Isaiah 43:1–7 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you.

Psalms 29 (VU pp. 755–756) - Ascribe to God glory and strength.

Acts 8:14–17 - Peter and John baptized the converts in Samaria.

Luke 3:15–17, 21–22 - Jesus is baptized by John.

To Ponder - We are all children of God. What does this mean to you?