

ORDER OF WORSHIP

January 3, 2021 @ 10am: Epiphany Sunday

The Congregational Church of Needham (MA),
United Church of Christ

www.NeedhamUCC.org

“Those Who Dream *Persevere*”

PRELUDE

Jesu, Bambino

by Pietro Yon

WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP

One: The Magi had a dream.

Many: **They dreamed of a Messiah. They dreamed of just rulers. They dreamed of a new day for all people.**

One: The Magi had a dream, and this dream led them to action.

Many: **They journeyed to unknown places. They followed a star. They walked for days to get to Jesus.**

One: So may we be like the Magi.

Many: **May our dreams inspire action. May we worship God who really is God.**

HYMN

“As With Gladness Those of Old” (see below)

READING FROM SCRIPTURE

from the Gospels, Matthew 2:1-12

TIME ESPECIALLY WITH CHILDREN

SERMON

The Rev. Maddie Foster

HYMN

“Arise, Your Light is Come” (see below)

SHARING OUR PRAYERS & THE LORD’S PRAYER *(using these or words closest to your own heart)*

Our Father in heaven, holy is your name. Your reign come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kin-dom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

ANTHEM

Star Carol

by J. Rutter

HOLY COMMUNION *(together, using whatever food & drink you have on hand)*

OFFERING OURSELVES, DOING THE WORK

SINGING OUR THANKS & PRAISE

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow! Praise God, all creatures here below.
Praise God above, you heavenly host, Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost! Amen.**

BLESSING & COMMISSION

As With Gladness Those of Old

As with glad-ness those of old did the guid-ing star be-hold;
As with joy - ful steps they sped to that low - ly man-ger bed,
As they of - fered gifts most rare at that man-ger plain and bare,
Ho - ly Je - sus, ev - 'ry day keep us in the nar-row way;

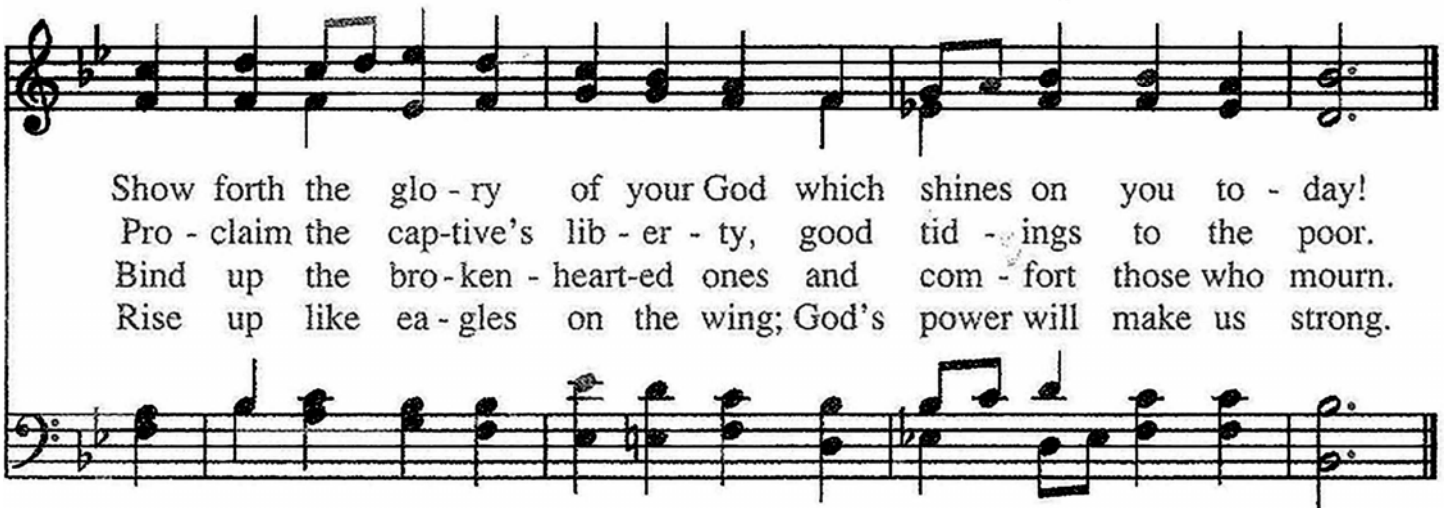
As with joy they hailed its light, lead - ing on - ward, beam-ing bright;
There to bend the knee be-fore One whom heav'n and earth a - dore;
So may we with ho - ly joy, pure and free from sin's al - loy,
And when mor - tal things are past, bring our ran - somed souls at last

So, true Morn-ing Star, may we ev - er - more your splen-dor see.
So may we with will - ing feet ev - er seek your mer - cy seat.
All our cost - liest trea - sures bring, Christ, to you from whom they spring.
Where they need no star to guide, where no clouds your glo - ry hide.

Arise, Your Light Is Come



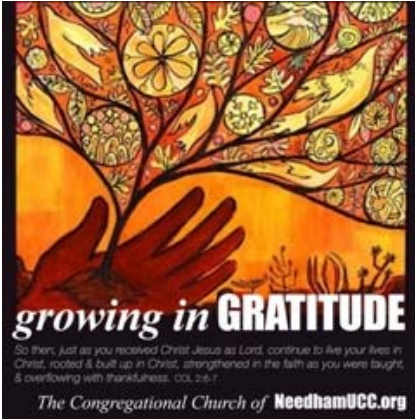
1 A - rise, your light is come! The Spir - it's call o - bey;
2 A - rise, your light is come! Fling wide the pris - on door;
3 A - rise, your light is come! All you in sor - row born,
4 A - rise, your light is come! The moun-tains burst in song!



Show forth the glo - ry of your God which shines on you to - day!
Pro - claim the cap-tive's lib - er - ty, good tid - ings to the poor.
Bind up the bro-ken - heart-ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.
Rise up like ea - gles on the wing; God's power will make us strong.

Events, Fellowship and Mission

Watch Our Online Christmas Concert Any Time! - Valerie Becker, our music director, has compiled a video reprise of some of the “greatest hits” of our Chancel Choir and Friendly Chimers from Christmas concerts past into an online Christmas concert to enrich our holiday season. The concert appears on our church YouTube channel (“Congregational Church of Needham”) and is available to watch any time! Direct connection info is available on our website at www.NeedhamUCC.org.



growing in GRATITUDE - Stewardship 2020 "Gratitude runs completely counter to the 'never-enough' culture of the world around us. It asks us to give thanks for everything in our lives, good or bad, that has brought us to the present moment; to receive this moment, with all its blessings and challenges, as a gift; and to look to the future with hope and commitment. With all that is happening in the world, this has definitely been a year for lots of gratitude practice." Please consider how you can generously support our church and work together from a place of generosity this year. Fill out a pledge form at www.NeedhamUCC.org/Giving

SAVE THE DATE

January 10, 2021

Please attend a special forum on Sunday, January 10 immediately following worship where the Finance Team will present streamlined budget scenarios and the Board will listen to your ideas and comments. Input from our members is essential in making these difficult decisions that will put the church on a path to a healthy and sustainable future.

Annual Hearing - January 24, 2021

Annual Meeting January 31, 2021

Soon after the forum the Finance Team and the Board will finalize the proposed budget for 2021, and that proposed budget will be presented at the **Hearing on January 24** at 11 am. The vote on the budget will be held during the **Annual Meeting on January 31** at 11 am. All of these events will be held on Zoom. We encourage those who are not online to call the Zoom phone numbers.