

Readings January 4, 2026 – Epiphany

FIRST READING: Isaiah 60:1-6

¹ Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.
² For darkness shall cover the earth
and thick darkness the peoples,
but the LORD will arise upon you,
and his glory will appear over you.
³ Nations shall come to your light
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

⁴ Lift up your eyes and look around;
they all gather together; they come to you;
your sons shall come from far away,
and your daughters shall be carried in their nurses' arms.
⁵ Then you shall see and be radiant;
your heart shall thrill and rejoice,
because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you;
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.
⁶ A multitude of camels shall cover you,
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;
all those from Sheba shall come.
They shall bring gold and frankincense
and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 72:1-7, 10-14

¹ Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the king's son;
² **that he may rule your people righteously and the poor with justice;**

³ that the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, and the hills, in
righteousness.
⁴ **Let him defend the needy among the people, rescue the poor, and
crush the oppressor.**

⁵ May he live as long as the sun and moon endure, from one generation to
another.
⁶ **Let him come down like rain upon the mown field, like showers that
water the earth.**

⁷ In his time may the righteous flourish; and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.

¹⁰ **May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles pay tribute, and the kings of Sheba and Seba offer gifts.**

¹¹ May all kings bow down before him, and all the nations do him service.

¹² **For the king delivers the poor who cry out in distress, the oppressed, and those who have no helper.**

¹³ He has compassion on the lowly and poor, and preserves the lives of the needy.

¹⁴ **From oppression and violence he redeems their lives, and precious is their blood in his sight.**

SECOND READING: Ephesians 3:1-12

¹ This is the reason that I, Paul, am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you gentiles, ² for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you ³ and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, ⁴ a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. ⁵ In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: ⁶ that is, the gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

⁷ Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. ⁸ Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ ⁹ and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God, who created all things, ¹⁰ so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹ This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹² in whom we have access in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**