

Twelve days after Christmas is the Feast of Epiphany (6 January). Epiphany means “*revealing*” or “*making known*.” For Christians, it celebrates God revealing Jesus Christ to the world, not just to Israel, but to all nations. The main story is the arrival of the Magi, who recognize Jesus as the true King and worship him.



Read Isaiah 60:1–6

Background

- Written to a people weary, diminished, and unsure of their future.
- Jerusalem was weak, yet God declares a future full of glory.
- This is God’s initiative, not human achievement.

Reflections



v.1 “Arise and shine”: **When I hear “arise and shine,” what first thought or feeling comes to mind?**

v.2 Darkness covers the earth, but the glory of God rises on His people: **What “darkness” do you see around you where God may want to reveal his light through you?**

v.3 “Nations will come to your light”: **Where might we be tempted to hide our faith rather than reflect God’s light?**

Read Matthew 2:1–12 (The Visit of the Magi)

The Magi, though Gentiles and outsiders, recognized Jesus and responded with faithful devotion, while the religious insiders (Herod and the leaders of Jerusalem) completely failed to see him. Our reading highlights these two very different responses to Jesus. Herod reacted with fear, defensiveness, and a desire to control, whereas the Magi approached with searching hearts, obedient spirits, and worshipful reverence.

Their story reminds us that following Jesus often involves leaving something behind, embarking on a journey that demands trust, dependence, and courage. It calls for a spirit of generosity and an attitude of reverence, grounded in worship.

Reflect

1. Where is God inviting you to step beyond comfort or familiarity in faith?
2. What might God call you/us to leave behind because its season has passed?
3. Who in your life might God be drawing toward his light through you?

LifeGroup: Epiphany and the Call to Reveal Christ

3rd January 2026

As you move into the week, take these reflections and questions with you as a guide for prayer and discernment, both personally and for our church community.

Personal Challenges for 2026

- Where is God asking you to be more visible in your faith?
- Who in your life might God be drawing toward his light through you?

Church Challenges for 2026

- Are we in step with God's mission or simply maintaining structures, activities and roles?
- Are we willing to explore new ways of reaching people with the gospel, even if it challenges long-standing habits or cherished traditions?



Prayer

*Lord of light,
As you revealed your son to the nations,
reveal your heart afresh to us.
Align us with your mission.
Give us courage to leave what has passed
and faith to step where you are leading.
Make our lives and our church
a living Epiphany
for your glory and the healing of the world.
Amen.*