

Arise, shine, for your light has come,  
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you

- *Isaiah 60:1*



**Sunday, January 4, 2026**

*Prayer candles are available at the communion rail  
Financial gifts may be made in the wooden offering boxes  
Please silence your electronic devices*

**THE GATHERING & CARILLON PRELUDE**

**THE WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**THE PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP**

*We Three Kings* Alec Wyton  
Text & Tune at UMH# 254

**THE CALL TO WORSHIP\***

*Liturgist*

We gather as people looking for the star,  
a sign that God is at work in the world.

**God, help us find your glory.**

*Liturgist*

We gather as people listening for the whispers of the  
Spirit, hints of the good news in the least likely  
places.

**God, help us notice your glory.**

*Liturgist*

We gather as people yearning for Love's presence,  
the assurance that we are not alone and Love will  
have the last word.

**God, help us encounter your glory.**

*Liturgist*

On this Epiphany Sunday, may the Light of Love  
shine among us, revealing divine glory through  
neighbors known and unknown, vulnerable  
children, a poor carpenter and a foot-washing  
servant who is the salvation of the world.

**God, reveal to us anew the glory of your  
expansive Love that gathers us together  
and sustains us in loving service to one  
another and all creation. AMEN.**

**THE ENTRANCE HYMN\***

*We Three Kings*

UMH #254

**THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION\***

O Gracious God,  
we would like to be among those who saw  
the coming of the Christ Child,  
those who dropped all that they were  
doing and traveled to worship the  
coming of God's love into this world.  
We would like to be like those who cared  
for God in infant vulnerability,  
that he might know love and safety.

And yet, merciful God,  
we must recognize all the times we are  
more like Herod.  
Whenever we find our own need for  
control more compelling than the needs  
of others' health and safety.  
Whenever we cling to the security of our  
privilege,  
rather than standing up for the rights of  
the oppressed.  
Whenever we are complicit in the  
harming of innocents  
for the sake of profit, or power,  
or because we fear to know and to change  
the injustices of this world.

Loving God,  
we confess our sins against you and one  
another,  
and pray that you will fill us with your  
light,  
that we may live our lives as true  
disciples in your name.  
In the name of Christ,  
the one who showed us the way,  
we pray. AMEN.

## THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON\*

*Pastor*

God's light is present in this world. Present in the Christ child, born to lead us out of darkness. Present in the star, in all that guides us to love. God's light is in the world, and the darkness did not overcome it. God's grace is in the world, and our missteps will not overcome it. We are loved; we are forgiven. Alleluia!

AMEN.

## THE EPIPHANY RESPONSE\*

*Angels From the Realms of Glory*

UMH #220

verse 3

## THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

## THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 60: 1 - 6

## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Leader*

Lord, in your mercy,  
hear our prayer.

## THE THANKSGIVING & DOXOLOGY\*

UMH #94

## THE GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 2: 1 - 12

**THE MESSAGE**      The Reverend Don Ackerman  
*Following Another Star*

**THE CLOSING HYMN\***      UMH #188  
*Christ is the World's Light*

## THE BENEDICTION\*

**THE POSTLUDE**      Louis-Claude Daquin  
*Noel Etranger*

\* - Please stand as you are able  
UMH - The United Methodist Hymnal

**SIGN UP FOR OUR EMAIL NEWSLETTER**  
*The Crossroads Chronicle Weekly*

[cantonforallpeople.org/email](http://cantonforallpeople.org/email)

## PARTICIPANTS IN WORSHIP

The Reverend Don Ackerman  
*Pastor*

Ted Hall  
*Liturgist*

Julie Smith  
*Director of Children's Ministries*

Bruce Shutrum  
*Guest Organist*

Happy  
Birthday

1/4 - Garrett Detchon  
1/5 - James Bagrich  
1/9 - Joe DiLauro  
1/10 - Annie Almou, Jill Ott

## Crossroads Community Action Meeting TODAY


11:15 am  
Conference Room

CELEBRATE  
THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD  
& A NEW MINISTRY

Welcome Mary Jo Yeakel  
Sunday, January 11, 2026 - 10:00 am  
Catered lunch & reception following the service

 CROSSROADS  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
120 Cleveland Ave SW Canton, OH 44702

SOUP-A-THON  
Sunday, January 18, 2026 - 11:15 AM

 CROSSROADS  
COMMUNITY ACTION

Everyone is invited to  
Wesley Hall on Sunday, January 18  
for hot soup and warm fellowship

Bring your favorite  
soup, side or dessert to share!

Donations taken to benefit  
Canton For All People's  
Safe Passage Program

To sign up to bring food, or for more information,  
contact Megan Smith  
adchic0819@yahoo.com

To help keep our sacred space clean, at the conclusion of the service,  
please return this bulletin to one of the wooden tables located throughout the sanctuary

CROSSROADS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
120 Cleveland Ave SW • Canton, OH, 44702 • 330-455-0153 • [cantonforallpeople.org](http://cantonforallpeople.org)