



# Epiphany

January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Cross sitting on the marbled glass table top. I like the way the light was hitting it and the ambiguity of the image.

Location: Good Shepherd Lutheran, Coquitlam, BC

Photography by: Joy Kirkwood

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## Readings Epiphany, year C

Epiphany - Wednesday, January 6, 2016 (W)

Isaiah 60:1-6 / Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14 / Ephesians 3:1-12 / Matthew 2:1-12

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## Connecting Words

### Alternate Prayer of the Day:

#### Epiphany

Radiant Morning Star,  
you are both guidance and mystery.  
Visit our rest with disturbing dreams,  
and our journeys with strange companions.  
Grace us with the hospitality  
to open our hearts and homes  
to visitors filled with unfamiliar wisdom  
bearing profound and unusual gifts. Amen.

#### OR

Bright Morning Star,  
your light has come,  
and the birth of Jesus  
has overwhelmed us with joy.  
Like the magi of long ago,  
may we be drawn to you  
and offer you such gifts as we are able. Amen.

#### Thematic Prayer:

O God of light and peace,  
whose glory, shining in the child of Bethlehem,  
still draws the nations to yourself:  
dispel the darkness that shrouds our path,  
that we may come  
to kneel before Christ in true worship,  
offer him our hearts and souls,  
and return from his presence to live as he has taught. Amen

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## Liturgical Possibilities for Epiphany

1. The Epiphany of our Lord, January 6th, is a Wednesday. Invite the community to celebrate "God with us." Begin with a meal. Begin outside looking for the star, process into the church singing. Hand out parts and "act" out the story of the magi, (with "costumes?"). Have families bring a star from home to light the worship space. Hang stars outside, a hint to the neighbourhood of what's happening inside. Move the magi to the manger.
2. Stamp each person's hand with a star, a reminder throughout the week of "God with us." Or hand out a little star to each person as they leave, a pocket reminder.
3. Chalking the door, asking God's blessing upon our church. There is a brief order for chalking the door in Sundays and Seasons. Hand out little baggies filled with chalk and a copy of the order so that each person can chalk the entrance to their own home.
4. The season after Epiphany is a series of stories showing God revealed in Jesus. Since children are familiar with the practice of show and tell at school, ask a family to show and tell their story of God with us, God in us during the children's time. The stories, with family pictures, could be compiled into a book, a contemporary retelling of God with us.