

**Following the Light of Christ**  
**Epiphany**  
**January 3, 2016**

**Prayer at the Beginning of the Meeting**

(You may want to invite the group to sing "We Three Kings" or simply listen to a good recording of it.)

***Invitation to Prayer***

**Leader:**        God of all peoples,  
                      You announced the mystery of your Son's incarnation  
                      through the light of a star visible to all whose hearts searched for it.  
                      Let that star shine brightly in our own time  
                      so that we might focus our hearts and lives  
                      upon him who is the Light of the World.  
                      We ask this through the One  
                      who willingly joined his divinity to our humanity.

**All:**             **Amen**

***Scripture Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6***

Rise up in splendor! Your light has come, the glory of the Lord shines upon you.  
See, darkness covers the earth, and thick clouds cover the peoples;  
but upon you the Lord shines, and over you appears his glory.  
Nations shall walk by your light, and kings by your shining radiance.  
Raise your eyes and look about; they all gather and come to you: your sons come from  
afar, and your daughters in the arms of their nurses.  
Then you shall be radiant at what you see, your heart shall throb and overflow, for the  
riches of the sea shall be emptied out before you,  
the wealth of nations shall be brought to you.  
Caravans of camels shall fill you, dromedaries from Midian and Ephah; all from Sheba  
shall come bearing gold and frankincense, and proclaiming the praises of the Lord.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

***Silent Reflection***



**Questions for Faith Sharing** (choose one or two for faith sharing)

1. *How have you experienced the light of Christ during this Christmas season within your home and in our parish?*
2. *Who are the Magi who have led you/us to follow the light of Christ in your/our life?*
3. *What are some of the distractions that can divert you/us along the way from following Christ, our Light?*
4. *What are some ways you think we can continue to focus attention (personally and in our parish) on Christ?*

**Prayer at the Conclusion of the Meeting**

***Intercessory Prayers***

**Leader:** In confidence we now offer God our prayers and our needs.

That the church may always have the courage to spread the light of Christ to the nations, we pray:

**All:** Lord, our light, hear our prayer.

*(The leader may add prayers that address the subjects/concerns dealt with in this evening's meeting.)*

**Leader:** Please offer any other needs so that we may pray for them...

(When all who choose are finished offering prayers)  
For these prayers and all those we hold deep in our hearts...

**All:** Lord, our light, hear our prayer.

***Closing Prayer***

**All:** God of the nations,  
let your light shine upon your people.  
Guide the hearts of all peoples to turn to you  
so that all nations may truly walk by your light  
and bring about justice and peace on this earth  
to your radiant glory.  
We ask this in the name of the One who is our Light and our Hope.  
Amen.