



# RAMSEY UMC

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## PRELUDE

## OPENING PRAYER

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

## HYMN

### We Three Kings #254

We three kings of Orient are;  
bearing gifts we traverse afar,  
field and fountain, moor and mountain,  
following yonder star.

#### **Refrain:**

**O star of wonder, star of light,  
star with royal beauty bright,  
westward leading, still proceeding,  
guide us to thy perfect light.**

Born a King on Bethlehem's plain,  
gold I bring to crown him again,  
King forever, ceasing never,  
over us all to reign.

#### **(Refrain)**

Frankincense to offer have I;  
incense owns a Deity nigh;  
prayer and praising, voices raising,  
worshiping God on high.

#### **(Refrain)**

Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume  
breathes a life of gathering gloom;  
sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,  
sealed in the stone-cold tomb.

#### **(Refrain)**

Glorious now behold him arise;  
King and God and sacrifice:  
Alleluia, Alleluia,  
sounds through the earth and skies.

#### **(Refrain)**

## SPECIAL MUSIC

## SCRIPTURE

### **Matthew 2: 1-12 (NRSV)**

2 In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, 2 asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.” 3 When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; 4 and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. 5 They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:  
6 ‘And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.’”  
7 Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. 8 Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.” 9 When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. 10 When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. 11 On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. 12 And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

### **Matthew 2: 1-12 (NLT)**

2 Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the reign of King Herod. About that time some wise men from eastern lands arrived in Jerusalem, asking, 2 “Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star as it rose, and we have come to worship him.”  
3 King Herod was deeply disturbed when he heard this, as was everyone in Jerusalem. 4 He called a meeting of the leading priests and teachers of religious law and asked, “Where is the Messiah supposed to be born?”  
5 “In Bethlehem in Judea,” they said, “for this is what the prophet wrote:  
6 ‘And you, O Bethlehem in the land of Judah,  
are not least among the ruling cities of Judah,  
for a ruler will come from you  
who will be the shepherd for my people Israel.’”  
7 Then Herod called for a private meeting with the wise men, and he learned from them the time when the star first appeared. 8 Then he told them, “Go to Bethlehem and search carefully for the child. And when you find him, come back and tell me so that I can go and worship him, too!”  
9 After this interview the wise men went their way. And the star they had seen in the east guided them to Bethlehem. It went ahead of them and stopped over the place where the child was. 10 When they saw the star, they were filled with joy! 11 They entered the house and saw the child with his mother, Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasure chests and gave him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.  
12 When it was time to leave, they returned to their own country by another route, for God had warned them in a dream not to return to Herod.

## SERMON

### **Our Response to Jesus**

*Rev. Claudia Stallings*

**PRAYER &  
LORD'S PRAYER**

Our Father, which art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy Name.  
Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be  
done on earth, as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory, for ever.  
Amen.

**CONSECRATING OUR  
TITHES & OFFERINGS**

**DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.  
Praise Him all creatures here below.  
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts.  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**CONSECRATION OF  
HOLY COMMUNION**

**HYMN**

**I Have Decided to Follow Jesus #2129**

I have decided to follow Jesus,  
I have decided to follow Jesus,  
I have decided to follow Jesus -  
no turning back, no turning back.

Though none go with me, still I will follow,  
though none go with me, still I will follow,  
though none go with me, still I will fol-  
low—  
no turning back, no turning back.

The world behind me, the cross  
before me,  
the world behind me, the cross be-  
fore me,  
the world behind me, the cross be-  
fore me -  
no turning back, no turning back.

**DISMISSAL WITH  
BLESSING**

Prayer Requests

	Gayle Miller	Rev. Tom Brown	Maureen
	Thomas Miller	Debbie Mullins	Erica
	Matt Amason	Peggy Burch	Carol Hotchkiss
	Pete Beville	Elnora Holmes	Tom Doyle
	Vance Richardson	Emily Bucknam	Lois Crafton
	Justus	Amy Salley	Libby