



First Baptist

ABILENE

Epiphany Sunday

The Greek word, *Epiphany* means “ a manifestation” or “a striking appearance.” We sometimes hear a person in casual conversation say, “I just had an epiphany” meaning some revelation from beyond what he or she knows. Epiphany Sunday represents a new vision of God’s grace and love being extended to all people in the coming of the Magi or Wise Men who were outsiders or Gentiles. Epiphany Sunday reminds us in the coming of the Son of God all are welcome to worship Him at the manger. The prophet Isaiah points to this promise as he declares: “*Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.*” This morning may you experience a “new dawning” of God’s love and grace as you come to worship Him. As we worship, may you experience an Epiphany, “a striking appearance” that God will guide you by His grace this New Year. Let us make the journey of the Magi, right now. We do not have all the time – “*for we are only a mist or a vapor.*” This hour hear our hope: “*Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you.*”

The Worship of God

January 8, 2012

Morning Worship—10:30 a.m.

Prelude		Camron Cummings
Chiming of the Hour		
Lighting of the Christ Candle		C.V. Blake
Congregational Call to Worship		Congregation
	<i>How Majestic is Your Name</i> (Celebration Hymnal #121)	
	<i>Majestic</i>	
Prayer and Welcome		C.V. Blake
	<i>Great and Mighty</i> (Celebration Hymnal #129)	
Deacon Emeriti Recognition		
Songs of Our Worship		Congregation
	<i>Be Strong in the Lord</i> (Celebration Hymnal #734)	
	<i>Step By Step</i>	
The Word of God	James 4:13-17	Teresa Ellis
	Reader: This is the Word of the Lord	
	Congregation: Thanks be to God	
Offertory Prayer		Bob Ellis
Offertory	<i>The Majesty and Glory of Your Name</i>	Sanctuary Choir
Message from God’s Word	What’s Your Life?	Phil Christopher
Invitation	<i>Wherever He Leads, I’ll Go</i> (Celebration Hymnal #598)	Congregation
Continuing Acts of Worship		Mike Greenfield
Recognition of Decisions		C. V. Blake
Benediction	<i>Be Strong in the Lord</i> (Celebration Hymnal #734)	Congregation
Postlude		Camron Cummings

Musicians: Beverly Warren—piano, Camron Cummings—organ