

What is the meaning of Epiphany?

Epiphany is an important part of the worship calendar where we celebrate the truth that **Jesus is a guiding light for everyone, not just a select few**. Epiphany doesn't stop at just knowing this; it calls on us to share this hopeful truth with others. The one who calls us forward to "come and see," also tells us we are to "go and tell." We too are the light of the world, called to go out on his behalf and invite others to live in the light. Epiphany reminds us that we're not just followers; we're also invited to participate in sharing the love and light of Jesus.



Epiphany

How can we commemorate the significance of Epiphany as a congregation? (Choose one of the practices below, or make your own.)

- ❑ **Global/Neighborhood Prayer Emphasis:** Highlight the universality of Christ's light reaching all people and all corners of the world. During your worship gatherings, incorporate specific intercessory prayers for issues in your neighborhood and nations across the globe.
- ❑ **Baptism or Baptism Renewal:** At the end of the season, incorporate a baptism or baptismal renewal ceremony into the worship service, as Epiphany is traditionally associated with the revelation of Jesus through his baptism. Invite members to reflect on their own baptismal commitments.
- ❑ **Neighborhood Engagement:** Engage in service activities or neighborhood events to embody the message of Epiphany. This could be coordinating a service project, aiding those in need, or partnering with a local organization in a meaningful way.

How can we participate in Epiphany with Jesus? (Choose one of the practices below, or make your own.)

- ❑ **Lectio Divina with the Gospel Narratives:** The lectionary passages during Epiphany center on Christ's earthly ministry, making it an opportune time to immerse oneself in the Gospels. Embrace a spiritual practice, such as lectio divina, to intentionally guide your time in encountering Jesus through the Gospel narratives.

There are four different movements associated with this practice (which is Latin for divine reading):
 1. **Lectio** (reading/listening) Slowly read the text aloud.
 2. **Meditatio** (meditation/reflection) Meditate on the word or phrase that captures your attention.
 3. **Oratio** (prayer/response) Open your heart to God and pray.
 4. **Contemplatio** (contemplation/rest) Quietly sit in the presence of the Father and rest in his arms.
- ❑ **Epiphany Feast and Celebration:** Host a special meal or gathering with friends and family to celebrate the Epiphany. Use this time for fellowship, gratitude, and sharing the light of Christ with one another.

