

Willow Springs Worship

January 4, 2026 9:30 a.m.

Epiphany

Be Amazed: Come and See

Scripture – John 1:43, 45-51 NRSVue

Welcome and Call to Worship – Beth

Based on John 1:35-51 NRSVue

One: The invitation has been spoken:
“Come and see.”

The door to a stable stands open.
The way is before us.

Many: We heard the call.

**Now we step forward in wonder;
ready to follow, open to the unexpected.**

One: “You will see greater things than these,”
Jesus says.

**Many: We stand in amazement,
waiting to be changed.**

One: Come, let us worship the One who calls us
by name, who sees us as we are and leads us
into new life.

**All: We come, ready to follow,
ready to see, ready to be amazed!**

Prayer – Beth Gerig

Songs – Phil Kaufmann

Children’s time – James Nicholson

Candlelighting

One: We celebrate as we reflect in amazement
at what you have done. You muted the
flames of our fears with hope.

**Many: Glory to God in the highest!
You amaze us!**

One: You resurrected the dry bones of our spirits
with peace.

**Many: Glory to God in the highest!
You amaze us!**

One: You quenched our thirsty souls with living
water of joy.

**Many: Glory to God in the highest!
You amaze us!**

One: You came to be among us, to show us the
way in love.

Many: Glory to God in the highest!

You amaze us!

One: You have called us to follow you
and walk the path of mercy and grace.

**Many: Glory to God in the highest!
You amaze us!**

**All: Lead us forward so that we too
may carry your Christ-light into the world!**

Song – Verses 1-6 of “Come, Hope of the World”
as the Advent and Christ candles are lit

Scriptures – John 1:35–51; Psalm
66:1–5; Matthew 2:1–12 NRSV

Sermon – Phil Waite

Following Jesus in Our Daily Living

Songs – VT 797 We are People of God’s Peace

Sharing and prayer – Pam Kaufmann

Song

Announcements

Sunday School ends at:

Sending

Look! The door is open!

Stand up! Jesus has called your name.

Go, for greater things await.

May you journey,

following Jesus boldly in faith,

trusting in the movement of the Spirit,

amazed by the God who leads you into new life.

Sending Song

Calendar

Jan. 11,18 Phil Waite Preaching

Jan. 9 Mennonite Women, 9:30 am

Jan. 10 Game Night, 5:30 pm

Jan. 17 Church Board Retreat

Tuesdays at 10:00 am: Praise, Prayer and Pacing:
If you would like company getting in your daily walk
join the group at the church.

Please remember to place your gifts in the basket
towards the back of the sanctuary.

Game Night: Saturday, January 10 at 5:30 pm.
Bring a snack to share and your favorite game!

The materials have arrived! For adult Sunday School today, we will continue discussing the booklet "What is an Anabaptist Christian?"

A memorial service for Jim Fitz will be held Saturday, January 17 at Reba Place Church. See additional details and RSVP in the email that was sent out to the church.

This Advent we have explored the theme "Be Amazed!" each week: Hope in the furnace, Peace in the valley of bones, Joy in the desert, Love comes down, God among us, and Come and see.

If pastoral care is needed, please contact Phil Waite or an Elder: Dale Bachman, Ellen Davis-Zehr, Pam Kaufmann, or Elvin Krabill.

John 1:35-51 (NRSV)

The First Disciples of Jesus

35 The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, **36** and as he watched Jesus walk by he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" **37** The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. **38** When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?" **39** He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. **40** One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. **41** He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated Anointed[a]). **42** He brought Simon[b] to Jesus, who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas"[c] (which is translated Peter[d]).

Jesus Calls Philip and Nathanael

43 The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." **44** Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. **45** Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the Law and also the Prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth." **46** Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." **47** When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!" **48** Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you." **49** Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" **50** Jesus answered, "Do

you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these."

51 And he said to him, "Very truly, I tell you,[e] you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

Psalms 66:1-5 (NRSV)

Praise for God's Goodness to Israel

To the leader. A Song. A Psalm.

- 1** Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth;
- 2** sing the glory of his name;
give to him glorious praise.
- 3** Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds!
Because of your great power, your enemies
cringe before you.
- 4** All the earth worships you;
they sing praises to you,
sing praises to your name." *Selah*
- 5** Come and see what God has done:
he is awesome in his deeds among mortals.

Matthew 2:1-12 (NRSV)

The Visit of the Magi

2 In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, magi[a] 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 in the east[b] 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[c] 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[d] my people Israel.' "

7 Then Herod secretly called for the magi[e] 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 in the east,[f] until it stopped over the place where the child was. **10** When they saw that the star had stopped,[g] 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.