



“On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother;  
and they knelt down and paid him homage.”

Matthew 2:11

January 3, 2021

**ROLLING HILLS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

310-377-6771

[www.rhumc.org](http://www.rhumc.org)

# OUR CHURCH AT WORSHIP

January 3, 2021

Epiphany Sunday

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PRELUDE

Althea Waites

CALL TO WORSHIP

*adapted from Psalm 72*

Leader: Let the king judge the people with righteousness, and the poor with justice, O God.

**People: May he defend the cause of the poor and deliver the needy.**

Leader: Let the kings of Tarshish and faraway lands bring him gifts.

**People: May all kings fall down before him, and all nations give him service.**

Leader: For he delivers the needy when they call, the poor and those who have no helper.

**People: He redeems them from oppression and violence; they are precious in his sight.**

\*HYMN #240

*“Hark! the Herald Angels Sing”*

Charles Dickerson

**Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King;  
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!”  
Joyful, all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies;  
With th’angelic host proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”  
Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”**

**Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings.  
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,  
Born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.  
Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND RENEWAL

**Unison: God of mystery and wonder, like wise travelers of old we come seeking you. We come from different places, with different questions in our hearts. As they covered many miles in their search, some of us have journeyed for years in our own. We know you well, but not completely. We have seen you in Bethlehem, and even in our neighbors. Help us to discover you in all the places where you would make yourself known, so that we may bear witness to your truth and love.  
Amen.**

SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Merrietta Fong

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

**Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty,  
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.  
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty,  
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!**

THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

Jonathan Chute

THE WORD FOR CHILDREN

ANTHEM

*“Light of the Stable”*

3rd service ensemble

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

April Herron

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who 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, forever. Amen.**

OFFERING OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES

OFFERTORY

Althea Waites

DOXOLOGY

#95

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him all creatures, here below;  
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE

- Matthew 2:1-12

Travelers from the East come to Bethlehem

Merrietta Fong

SERMON

*"Strangers in the Night"*

Jonathan Chute

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

April Herron

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them up to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

BLESSING AND SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

Jonathan Chute

\*HYMN #251

*"Go, Tell It on the Mountain"*

Charles Dickerson

**(Refrain) Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;  
Go, tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born.**

**While shepherds kept their watching, o'er silent flocks by night,  
Behold throughout the heavens, there shone a holy light.**

**(Refrain)**

**Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born,  
And God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn.**

**(Refrain)**

\*BENEDICTION AND CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

**Lord, dismiss us with thy blessing, fill our hearts with joy and peace.**

**Let us each, thy love possessing, triumph in redeeming grace.**

**O refresh us, O refresh us, traveling through this wilderness.**

POSTLUDE

*"Greensleeves"*

Althea Waites, Terry Wollman

3<sup>rd</sup> service ensemble:

*Paula Kuno* – guitar/mandolin/vocals, *Teresa James* – piano/flute/vocals

*Michael Starr* – guitar/violin/mandolin/vocals, *Zach Provost* – piano/vocals

*Cory Tramontelli* – bass/vocals, *Jack Sollecito* – percussion/guitar/piano

Rev. Jonathan Chute, Senior Pastor

Rev. Dr. Martha Rowlett, Senior Pastor Emeritus

Myra Ghabrial, Preschool Director

Annette Matsuda, Parish Nurse

Gabby Palacios, Kid Zone/Mid Zone Director

Debra DeLuca, Children's Ministry Director

Kristin Reksc, Youth Ministry Director

Rev. Dr. April Herron, Associate Pastor

Charles Dickerson, III, Music Director

Althea Waites, Organist

Paula Kuno, 3<sup>rd</sup> Service Music

John Fitzgerald, Treasurer

Nicole Lowery Zakman, Church Business Mgr.

Roksolana Vecerek, Exec. Asst. to Pastor

Peggy Roulette, Church Office Admin.

Miguel Portillo, Custodian