

Sermon for 2 January 2022 @ Bethesda UMC/Baltimore
Epiphany Sunday

Scriptures: Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14 (UM795); Ephesians 3:1-12;
Matthew 2:1-12

“All”

This is the Sunday when the Church “goes public.” We put together Bible texts, music, poems, art, and even dancing to tell the world our story.

We don’t leave off the personal side. We just announce, “This is our story. This is how we look at everything.”

In simple terms, we say “Wise ones came from far away to honor the birth of our leader. They followed the stars and left gifts. Our wise ones said it would happen this way, and when it did, it became a sign for us. It still is. Everyone is included in God’s love, and loving God and one another is the purpose of life itself. Amen.”

That word “All” is our whole story. We’ve turned and looked the other way, tried to interpret things in our favor, plenty of times. Church has been a power trip, colonizing whole continents in favor of some groups over others. Right now we’re seeing how unnatural we’ve been with nature itself.

But the wise ones were given a sign, and they followed it, and the good news is that we can all do the same.

I’d like to spend the rest of my sermon time hearing you.

What is your version of what I’ve just said?

“Epiphany” means “showing,” “appearing,” “revealing.”

How do you tell our story?

How do you tell your story personally, and how do you demonstrate. You can sing, or dance, or draw a picture, or read a scripture that says it best for you.