

Westhampton Congregational United Church of Christ
an Open and Affirming Congregation
Epiphany Sunday - January 4, 2026

Reflection - *"Everyday epiphanies encourage us to cherish everything. Today a new sun has risen. Everything lives. Everything can speak to your soul passionately if you will be still enough to listen." ~ Sarah Ban Breathnach*

Piano Prelude

Announcements / Lighting the Candle / Welcome to Worship

Piano Introit

Call to Worship

One: A star rises in the night.

Many: **We lift our eyes and follow.**

One: Look! God's light crosses every border.

Many: **It finds us right where we are.**

One: The light leads to Christ.

All: **We come to worship, to wonder, to shine.**

Hymn SL #202 We Three Kings

We three kings of orient are; bearing gifts we traverse afar –
Field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.

O – star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.

Born a King on Bethlehem's plain, gold I bring to crown Him again,
King forever, ceasing never, over us all to reign.

O – star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.

Frankincense to offer have I; incense owns a Deity nigh,
Prayer and praising, all men raising – worship Him, God on high.

O – star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.

Myrrh is mine, it's bitter perfume breathes a life of gathering gloom,
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying, sealed in the stone-cold tomb.

O – star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.

Glorious now behold Him arise – King and God and Sacrifice,
Alleluia, Alleluia! Earth to heaven replies.

O – star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.

Unison Prayer of Invocation

God of guiding light, you spoke into the darkness and set a star in the sky. You called seekers from far away and led them to the child who is your promise made flesh. Draw us now by that same light. Quiet our hurried thoughts, open our wondering hearts, and make room within us for Christ. Shine among us in this time of worship. Reveal what is hidden, welcome all who seek, and lead us deeper into your joy and peace. Amen.

Gloria SL #9

Glory be to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
World without end, Amen, Amen.

Anthem

Moment for All Ages

Scripture Reading	Isaiah 60:1-6	p. 844
	Matthew 2:1-12	p. 2

Message



KEEP SEEKING HIM



Prayers of the People – Help/Thanks/Wow

One: Now we come to the time where we lift up
our prayers of Help, Thanks, and Wow.
Lift up your hearts.

Many: We lift them up to God.

One: Does anyone have any prayers they would like to lift up?

After each individual prayer request...

One: Loving and beloved God; **Many: Hear our prayer.**

Prayer List

One: Let us read the first names of those on our prayer list.

Prayers of healing and hope for...

GRACE and GABRIELLA Gilbert, daughters of Danielle and Peter

AMANDA Ghali and family, niece of Kevin and Lorraine O'Keefe

LEO, friend of Swenson/Jeffords family

SUE Santerre, friend of the Robbins family

RON Hiltbold, father of Wendy Wilcox

BOB Gould, cousin of Steve and Julie Holt

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer using any version you wish



Response: Hear our prayer O Lord, hear our prayer O Lord,
Incline Thine ear to us, and grant us Thy peace.

Prayer List Statement - As a caring community, we hold one another in prayer through all of life's joys and challenges. Names on our weekly bulletin prayer list will remain on that list for eight weeks, then if needed, names can be moved to our Prayer Tree for continued prayer. (Today names were moved to the Prayer Tree.) The Prayer Tree names will be read in worship on fifth Sundays. Please let the WOW Committee or church secretary Julie Holt know of any updates or changes. We encourage everyone to stay connected with those on the Prayer Tree, in prayer and in person whenever possible.



Communion Hymn NC #332 *As We Gather At Your Table - vs 1, 3*

As we gather at your table, as we listen to your Word,
Help us know, O God, your presence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.
Nourish us with sacred story till we claim it as our own;
Teach us through this holy banquet how to make Love's victory known.

Gracious Spirit, help us summon other guests to share that feast
Where triumphant Love will welcome those who had been last and least.
There no more will envy bind us nor will pride our peace destroy,
As we join with saints and angels to repeat the sounding joy.



Service of Communion



Unison Prayer of Thanksgiving

**God of shining grace, we thank you for this holy meal,
where Christ has met us in bread and cup, fed us with
light and life, and united us with one another. As the
star once led seekers to your love, let this gift now lead
us out into the world with grateful hearts, ready to
welcome, to serve, and to shine. Amen.**

Offerings of the People – Time, Talents, Treasures, and Testimonies



Piano Offertory



Response SL #40 *We Praise Thee, O God*

We praise Thee, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;
In grateful devotion our tribute we bring.
We lay it before Thee, we kneel and adore Thee.
We bless Thy holy name; glad praises we sing.



Unison Prayer of Dedication

**God of radiant light, as the Magi followed the star to the
Christ child, may these offerings follow your call: to bless,
to serve, and to transform. Let our hearts, like these gifts,
be open to wonder, worship, and joy, that all we give and
all we are, may point to the glory of Christ, who comes for
all people, now and forever. Amen.**

↑ 🎵 **Hymn SL #200** *As With Gladness Men of Old*

As with gladness men of old did the guiding light behold,
As with joy they hailed its light – leading onward, beaming bright,
So, most gracious Lord, may we evermore be led to Thee.

As with joyous steps they sped to that lowly infant bed,
There to bend the knee before Him whom heav'n and earth adore,
So may we with willing feet ever seek Thy mercy seat.

As they offered gifts most rare in that dwelling rude and bare,
So may we with holy joy, pure and free from sin's alloy,
All our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to Thee, our heav'nly King.

Holy Jesus, every day keep us in the narrow way;
And, when earthly things are past, bring our ransomed souls at last
Where they need no star to guide, where no clouds Thy glory hide.

↑ 🙌 **Benediction / Passing of the Peace**

↑ 🎵 **Cong Response SL #785** *God Be With You*

God be with you till we meet again, by his counsels guide, uphold you;
With His sheep securely fold you; God be with you till we meet again.

↑ 🎵 **Piano Postlude**

↑ *Indicates you are invited to stand if you are comfortable doing so.*



EPIPHANY

Welcome to the Westhampton Congregational United Church of Christ, an open and affirming church. **To join online via Zoom: Press Ctrl and CLICK HERE** or visit zoom.us and click Join a Meeting, then enter Meeting ID 321 069 9076; Passcode 248423. To join by phone dial 646-558-8656, then meeting ID and Passcode.

Pastor and Church Contact Info

Rev. Carol Smith's cell phone and email:

860-798-7771; carolbsmith12@gmail.com

Office Hours – Tuesdays/Fridays 9 – 12. Pastoral needs anytime.

Julie Holt church secretary – church phone and email:

413-527-4204; westhamptonchurchucc@comcast.net

Worship Participants

Ministers -	People of the church
Minister -	Rev. Carol Smith
Greeters -	↑ Dolores and Mark Thornhill ↓ Wendy Blow
Lay Reader -	Ruth Tracy
Pianist -	Michele Feldheim
Special Music -	Stacey Jenkins
Zoom Tech-	Bob Miller
Coffee Hour -	Jean Webster and Stephen Holt
Flowers -	Poinsettias

This Week at the Church...

Today -	we invite gifts to the Discretionary Fund
Today after church -	Un-Deck the Halls, volunteers needed
Monday 7pm -	WaS
Wed/Fri/Sat -	Food Pantry - see website for hours
Thurs 12noon -	COA luncheon
Thurs 7pm -	Choir
Friday 7pm -	AA
Next Sun after church -	WF HH Fair Follow-up mtg
Next Sunday -	deadline to submit Annual Reports

Birthdays...

January 4 ★ -	Janice Tracy
January 7 ★ -	Suzanne Chudzik, Taryn Loven Erika Subocz, Ryan Wilcox