

SUNDAY, JANUARY 4

Walking with Jesus: A Journey through Matthew



Wise Ones Still Seek Him

Matthew 2:1-12 (Epiphany)

lake harriet
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Walking Together the
Words and Ways of Jesus

Inclusive, Intergenerational, and In Community

Walking together the words and ways of Jesus. We welcome all God's children whatever their race, gender, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, nationality, ethnicity, marital status, physical or mental ability. Following Christ's example, we open our hearts, minds, and doors to welcome all.

If you are young or old, *you are welcome.*

If you have brown skin, black skin, white skin, or any color of skin, *you are welcome.*

If you are married or single, *you are welcome.*

If you are gay, straight, transgender-whatever pronouns you use, *you are welcome.*

If you are sick or well, *you are welcome.*

If you are a perfect person, then you probably don't need a church, but if you are like us and are imperfect, mistake-making, still-trying, need all the encouragement I can get kind of person, then this is a community for you and *you are welcome.*

If you sing like a rock star or an opera singer, or you can not sing at all, *you are welcome.*

Whenever you arrived and however you came here, *you are welcome.*

If you believe in God some of the time or all of the time, or you're just beginning to explore who God is, *you are welcome.*

Come with your gifts, your pain, your hope, your fears.
Come with traditions that have helped you and hurt you.
Come with your experiences that have made you and broken you.
Come with a mind, ready to engage, and a heart, open to discern.
Come and listen for the Holy Spirit that calls you to love your neighbor wholeheartedly, seek justice, create peace and practice compassion.

You are welcome here!

Adapted from a welcome by Gordon Brown, published in Shaping Sanctuary

No matter
who you are
or where you
are on
life's journey,
you are
welcome here.



Connect with Us



Let Us Know You Are Here

Please register your attendance through the welcome pad.



Enewsletter

Stay informed by subscribing to our enews.



Visit Us Online

Stay informed, register for ministry events, give online, and more.



Prayer Requests

Let our staff pray for you and others in your life (prayers are confidential).



Share your talents

The opportunities abound to help your community, find where you fit.



WiFi

Access the church's WiFi with the password: LHUMCGuest.



Hearing Enhancement Aids

T-coil hearing assistance is available throughout the Sanctuary. Turn your hearing aid to the T (telephone) position or see a sound team member at the back of the sanctuary for wireless headphones.

welcome to worship!

Please note the following, the congregation reads/sings/prays the words in bold-faceprint and the ↑ symbol invites you to rise in body and/or spirit.

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

↑ CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Come, join the search for all God will reveal.

**All: God has sent light to dispel our fears.
The glory of God has risen upon us.**

One: The gospel of Christ reveals God's grace.
We share in the promise of Jesus Christ.

**All: We gather together and lift up our eyes.
The radiance of truth surrounds us.
Boldly and confidently, we approach our God. Amen.**

verses



1. Sing we the song of Em - man - u - el; this, the Christ, who was
 2. Come we to wel - come Em - man - u - el, King who came with no
 3. Go spread the news of Em - man - u - el. Joy and peace for the

long fore - told. Lo, in the shad - ows of Beth - le - hem,
 crown or throne. Help - less, He lay, the In - vin - ci - ble.
 wea - ry heart. Lift up your heads for your King has come.

choruses



prom - ise of dawn now our eyes be-hold. God, Most High in a
 Mak - er of Mar - y, now Mar - y's son. O, what wis - dom to
 Sing, for the Light o - ver - whelms the dark. Glo - ry shin - ing for

man-ger laid. Lift your voic - es and now pro-claim, "Great and glo - ri - ous,
 save us all. Shep-herds sag - es be - fore Him fall. Grace and maj - es - ty,
 all to see. Hope a - live, let the gos-pel ring. God has made a way.

Love has come to us." Join now with the hosts of heav - en.
 what hu - mil - i - ty. Come on bend - ed knee, a - dore Him.
 He will have the praise. Tell the world His name is Je - sus.

bridge



1. 2, 3. $\text{\textcircled{S}}$

Glo - ri - a. Glo - ri - a.
 Glo - ri - a. Glo - ri - a.

1. (back to v. 3) D.C. 2. (back to bridge) D.S. final

SHARE A GREETING

RAINBOW CHAT

Rev. Dr. Bea Mungania

SONG

This Little Light of Mine

The Visit of the Magi

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, magi from the east came to Jerusalem, 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.” When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him, and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it has been written by the prophet:

‘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 my people Israel.’ ”

Then Herod secretly called for the magi and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. 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.” When they had heard the king, they set out, and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen in the east, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. 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. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

MESSAGE

Walking With Jesus: A Journey Through Matthew
Week One: “Wise Ones Still Seek Him”

Rev. Karen Bruins

PRAYER BEFORE THE MESSAGE

Pastor: May the words of my mouth,

All: and the meditations of our hearts be acceptable in your sight O Lord, our Rock, and our Redeemer.

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY



OFFERING BOX

is found in the back
of the sanctuary



GIVE ONLINE

by visiting our website
at lakeharrietumc.org



SCAN THE QR CODE

with your
smartphone camera



MAIL IN TO

4901 Chowen Ave S
Minneapolis, MN
55410

OFFERTORY

Humble King

Shout Band

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

One: Follow the star to the table of grace.

All: Here we find gifts beyond price.

One: Follow the star to the table of blessing.

All: Here we find strength for the journey.

One: Follow the star to the table of peace.

All: Here we find rest and refreshment.

One: Follow the star to the table of Christ.

All: Here we find light and love.

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

One: It is right, and a good and joyful thing,
always and everywhere to give thanks to you,
Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth.
In ancient days, you created us in your image
to shine like the sun as reflections of your glory.
When we hid from your glory
and the brilliance of your light within us dimmed,
you led us out of the garden
and into the four corners of the earth.

From ancient times, through all the ages,
you have saved us from the forces of darkness,
and have guided us with the light of your love.

And so, with your people on earth,
and all the company of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one
who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

One: Holy are you and blessed is the Light of the World,
Christ Jesus, whom kings from the Orient worshipped
after following his natal star to a household of love.
Jesus shone with a light too wonderful
for the forces of darkness to endure.
His ministry and teachings stand, even today,
as beacons of justice and righteousness
in a world darkened by oppression and hate.
Through Jesus' humble beginnings,
you invite us to live simply,
that others may simply live.
Through Christ's patient love and unfailing grace,
your light shines on us with forgiveness
and your grace blesses us with deliverance,
that as your redeemed children
we might shine your light in the world
as signs of hope and love.

On the night when Jesus faced darkness,
he offered signs of light as he took the bread,
gave thanks to you, broke the bread,
and gave it to his disciples, saying:
"Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over
and Jesus prepared to face his darkest fears,
he took the cup, gave thanks to you,
and gave it to his disciples,
even those who would betray and reject him, saying:
"Drink from this, all of you;
this is my life poured out for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this, as often as you drink it,
in remembrance of me.”

With joy and gratitude, we break this bread,
remembering the many times Jesus was revealed
to his disciples in the breaking of the bread.
In remembrance, we will take and eat this bread,
With faith and hope, we take this cup,
remembering Jesus’ gifts of grace and forgiveness,
poured out for his disciples of yesterday,
today and tomorrow.
In remembrance, we will take and drink of this cup.

And so, in remembrance of your mighty acts,
and your signs of light and life in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving,
as signs of light and life,
in union with Christ’s offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**All: Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

One: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us,
that we may be your light in the world.
Pour out your Holy Spirit
on these gifts of bread and wine,
that we may be filled with your glory and grace.
By your Spirit, make us one with Christ,
one with one another
and one in ministry to all the world,
until Christ comes in final victory
and we feast at your heavenly banquet.
Through your Son, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church,
all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God,
now and forevermore. Amen.

↑ 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.

↑ SONG

Crown Him (Christmas)



1. Crown Him with man - y crowns, the King who left His throne.
2. Crowned by the an - gel choir, they tell His roy - al birth.
3. Crowned by their roy - al gifts, gold, frank - in - cense, and myrrh,
4. Crown Him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on His throne.



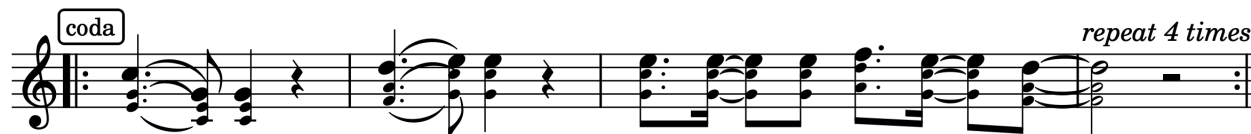
Cre - a - tor of the u - ni - verse born to the world He holds.
Sing glo - ry in the high - est height and peace up - on the earth.
wise ones ap - proach this man - ger throne with hon - ors from a - far.
Hark, how the heav'n - ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own.



And with that first drawn breath, the Word has be - come flesh.
They break the si - lent night, an - nounc - ing end - less worth.
Be - hold the Son of God and bow down in this place.
A - wake, my soul, and sing. God sent the Son for us.



Em - ma - nu - el has come to us. O crown Him, all the earth!
The King of grace and love is here. O crown Him all the world!
The Prince of Peace has come to us. O crown Him with your praise!
Now hail Him as your match-less King through all e - ter - ni - ty. (to coda)



Crown Him, crown Him, crown Him with man - y crowns!

↑ BLESSING

One: Go forth to shine with the light of Christ's love.
Go forth to shine with the glory of Christ's grace.
Go forth to shine with the justice and peace
of Christ's life. **Amen.**

POSTLUDE

Worship Leaders

Pastor: Rev. Karen Bruins

Associate Pastor: Rev. Dr. Beatrice Mungania

Director of Music Ministries: Jungjoo Park

Musicians: Shout Band

Scripture Reader: Rachel Bridges

Sound Technician: Chad Johnson

Streaming: Michael Perry

Slides: Ginger Mateer

Communion Prep and Servers: Martha Glass, Mary Yee, Jim & Barb Peterson

Greeters: Lorrie Sandelin, Zoe Johnson, Jane Kammerman, Ken Larson

Hospitality: Erika & Curt Soderberg, Verne Niemeier

Table Art: Katie Schneider-Bryan

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SUNDAY TO SUNDAY

This Week at Lake Harriet

SUNDAY JAN 4

- 9:30am In Person and Online Worship - Communion Sunday & Epiphany
- 10:30am ALSET Event - J is for Justice
- 11:00am Worship at the Waters

TUESDAY JAN 6

- 10:00am Crafters (Knitting) Group - Commons
- 7:00pm Men's Forum - Wesley Room

WEDNESDAY JAN 7

- 5:00pm Wednesday Night Dinner - Fellowship Hall
- 5:30pm Children's Choir Rehearsal (PreK - 5th Grade) - Sanctuary
- 5:30pm Prime Chimers Rehearsal (5th - 12th Grade) - Bell Room
- 6:00pm 9th Grade Confirmation - Conference Room
- 6:30pm Youth Group - Youth Room
- 6:30pm Festival Bells Rehearsal - Bell Room
- 6:30pm Shout Band Rehearsal - Sanctuary
- 7:30pm Christmas Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary

THURSDAY JAN 8

- 6:30pm Empty Nest Group - Fireside Room
- 7:00pm UWF Book Club - Zoom

SUNDAY JAN 11

- 9:30am Worship In-Person and On-line
- 9:45am Godly Play (PreK - 3rd Grade) - Godly Play Room
- 9:45am 4th & 5th Grade Sunday School - Conference Room
- 10:30am Church Conference - Sanctuary
- 11:00am By Faith Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary



To sign up, scan the QR code or visit
bit.ly/monarca-jan-7-training

It will also be livestreamed here:
<https://haumc.org/live>

JANUARY 7, 2026 @ 6:00PM – 8:00PM

Monarca: Rapid Response

Upstander Legal Observer Training

January 7, 2026 @ 6:00pm – 8:00pm

Hennepin Avenue UMC has invited Lake Harriet UMC to Monarca: Rapid Response. Every family deserves safety, dignity, and the peace of going to work or school without fear. But a group of politicians are pushing policies meant to divide us. They are relying on intimidation and raids that tear families apart and weaken whole neighborhoods.

Learn practical skills to keep families safe. Become part of a people-powered rapid response network. Learn more about Monarca: <https://monarcamn.org>



MORE DETAILS AND SIGN UP, by scanning the QR code or visiting the Adult Enrichment tab on our Connect page:
lakeharrietumc.org/connect

ADULT LEARNING & SPIRITUAL ENRICHMENT 2026

January Term - J is for Justice!

Join the Adult Learning & Spiritual Enrichment Team along with the Outreach Committee this January for all the ways Lake Harriet United Methodist Church supports justice work in our community. Then in February, we will begin an all-church read of *We Cry Justice: Reading the Bible with the Poor People's Campaign* to journey through sacred stories about the poor seeking healing, equity, and freedom. In a world roiled by poverty and injustice, Scripture still speaks. Small group and drop-in opportunities will be available throughout the winter to discuss the text.

- **January 4** – *We Cry Justice*: Introduction, sample devotion, opportunity to purchase books
- **January 11** – Church Conference
- **January 18** – Speaker from Beacon Housing
- **January 25** – Speaker from Immigrant Law Center of Minnesota



JAN 11TH 10:45AM

Church Conference

Date of Authorization: November 19, 2025

RE: AUTHORIZATION TO CONDUCT A CHURCH CONFERENCE

This letter authorizes the clergy member in full connection named below to preside at a Church Conference at Lake Harriet United Methodist Church. This meeting will be conducted in accordance with the "The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church – 2020/2024" paragraphs 246 through 248 and others as applicable.

Date of Conference: January 11, 2026

Time of Meeting: 10:45am

Presiding Clergy: Rev. Karen Bruins

Agenda:

- 1) Approve inactive/unresponsive membership report
- 2) Approve pastoral compensation updates if needed
- 3) Receive additional annual reports
- 4) Transfer of property of the Joyce Uptown Food shelf



JAN 20TH 7-8:30PM

Housing Justice

During our "J is for Justice" month you can act for housing justice by signing up to attend the Beacon Interfaith Housing Alliance Convening, Tues. Jan. 20th from 7 to 8:30pm at Hennepin Ave United Methodist.

Join with people from congregations across the Twin Cities as we learn how to defend funding for supportive housing during the Minnesota legislative session.



PLEASE REGISTER by scanning the QR code or visiting:
beaconinterfaith.org/event/beacon-convening-2
Date Reading

You can speak with members of the Lake Harriet Beacon Leadership Team after worship on Jan. 11th or Jan. 18th if you have questions or would like to carpool from our church to Hennepin Ave UMC or you can email any questions to Lauren Braswell at lbraswell@comcast.net.

READING PLAN

Welcome to Walking with Jesus: A Journey Through Matthew

In this seven-week sermon series, we explore essential themes of our Christian faith and discipleship, rooted in the life and teaching of Jesus.

As you read each day, notice what words or images jump out at you. Make a note of questions you have. You may wish to use the S.O.A.P. method, which is a simple Bible study framework:

- **Scripture** (write out a verse that speaks to you)
- **Observation** (what does it say or mean?)
- **Application** (how does it apply to my life?)
- **Prayer** (pray about the insights gained)

Blessings on your journey!

WEEK 1

4-Jan Sabbath/Worship
5-Jan Matthew 1
6-Jan Matthew 2
7-Jan Matthew 3
8-Jan Matthew 4
9-Jan Matthew 5
10-Jan Matthew 6

WEEK 2

11-Jan Sabbath/Worship
12-Jan Matthew 7
13-Jan Matthew 8
14-Jan Matthew 9
15-Jan Matthew 10
16-Jan Matthew 11
17-Jan Matthew 12

WEEK 3

18-Jan Sabbath/Worship
19-Jan Matthew 13
20-Jan Walking with Jesus Reflection:
Parables of the Kingdom
21-Jan Matthew 14
22-Jan Matthew 15
23-Jan Matthew 16
24-Jan Walking with Jesus Reflection: Who
Do You Say That I Am?

WEEK 4

25-Jan Sabbath/Worship
26-Jan Matthew 17
27-Jan Matthew 18
28-Jan Walking with Jesus Reflection:
Life Together
29-Jan Matthew 19
30-Jan Matthew 20
31-Jan Walking with Jesus Reflection: The
Upside-Down Kingdom

WEEK 5

1-Feb Sabbath/Worship
2-Feb Matthew 21
3-Feb Matthew 22
4-Feb Matthew 23
5-Feb Walking with Jesus Reflection: Power
& Faithfulness
6-Feb Matthew 24
7-Feb Matthew 25

WEEK 6

8-Feb Sabbath/Worship
9-Feb Walking with Jesus Reflection:
Readiness & Mercy
10-Feb Matthew 26
11-Feb Walking with Jesus Reflection:
Gethsemane
12-Feb Matthew 27
13-Feb Walking with Jesus Reflection:
The Cross
14-Feb Matthew 28

WEEK 7

15-Feb Sabbath/Worship

Connect with Staff

Rev. Karen Bruins Pastor karen.bruins@lakeharrietumc.org

Rev. Beatrice Mungania Associate Pastor bea.mungania@lakeharrietumc.org

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Jungjoo Park Director of Music Ministries jungjoo.park@lakeharrietumc.org

Neva Tuzzolino LHUM Preschool Director ntuzzolino@lakeharrietumcpreschool.org

Land Acknowledgement

Lake Harriet United Methodist Church is located on the land of the Wahpekute, one of the seven council fires of the Ojibwe (commonly Dakota) peoples. We recognize and pay tribute to the indigenous people who called this land home for centuries before us.



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