



January 8, 2023

Epiphany

We Gather Together

Prelude Sherry Steele

Welcome and Announcements

Introit *Hope Shines as the Solitary Star* MV 220

Call to Worship Isaac Schoenhardt, Lay Reader

One: In the beginning, God created light.

All: God calls us to be the light of the world.

One: Christ reveals the eternal light to us.

All: God calls us to be the light of the world.

One: The Spirit reveals the light in all things.

All: God calls us to be the light of the world.

One: Always growing as the light of the world,

All: We worship God together.

*Opening Hymn *Arise, Your Light is Come* VU 79

Children's Time Krystal Manuel

*Children's Hymn *This Little Light of Mine* (Please see screen)

We Listen for the Spirit Stirring

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 60: 1-6
Matthew 2: 1-12

Anthem

River in Judea

RUC Choir

Words by L. Marcus, Music by J. Feldman,
Arranged by John Leavitt

Reflection

"On Our Way Home"

Rev. Valerie Oden

*Hymn

I am Walking a Path of Peace
(Peace, love, hope, joy)

MV 221

Prayers of the People

Unison Prayer

**Radiant God, light for all people and all places,
by the guidance of a star
you led the Magi to worship the Christ Child.**

**By the light of faith lead us to worship you
in peace and love.**

**Turn our yearning for you into a journey to the manger,
where we may pay homage with our very lives.**

**Guide us home to a true way of being
as your children of light,**

and show us how to help heal this hurting world.

We pray in the name of Christ, light of the world. Amen.

We Respond with our Gifts and our Lives

Offering our Gifts

Offering plates can be found in the narthex. Electronic gifts are welcome by e-transfer to: contactus@riverbendunited.org or on the church website. We give in gratitude for God's grace and in hope that peace may spread to all.

*Closing Hymn

I Am the Light of the World

VU 87

*Benediction

(by Howard Thurman)

*Musical Response *I Am the Light of the World (chorus only)* VU 87

Postlude

**denotes you are invited to stand as you are able and inclined*

“VU” refers to the red hardback hymnal *Voices United*

“MV” refers to the spiral bound songbook *More Voices*

***Welcome to Riverbend United Church
If you're new with us, we'd love to meet you.***



Hearing assistance is available.

Please ask at the sound booth.

Riverbend United Church - Mission statement

We, the people of Riverbend United Church recognize the dignity, value, and the beauty of each and every individual as a beloved child of God. We seek to grow spiritually, deepening our connections to God and each other through worship, discussion, reflection, and service.

We embrace the gifts brought by all people of every age, culture, economic background, ethnicity, gender, gender expression, mental and physical ability, and sexual orientation that enrich the life of this faith community. As followers of Christ, we celebrate the diversity brought by each person who joins us on our journey and shares in our congregational life and work, welcoming their full participation in church membership, leadership, and celebration of life events.