Feast of the Epiphany

The Collect:

Rite I:
O God, who by the leading of a star didst manifest thy onlybegotten Son to the peoples of the earth: Lead us, who know thee now by faith, to thy presence, where we may behold thy glory face to face; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Rite II:
O God, by the leading of a star you manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: Lead us, who know you now by faith, to your presence, where we may see your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Old Testament: Isaiah 60:1-6

1 Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.
2 For darkness shall cover the earth
and thick darkness the peoples,
but the Lord will arise upon you,
and his glory will appear over you.
3 Nations shall come to your light
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

4 Lift up your eyes and look around;
they all gather together; they come to you;
your sons shall come from far away,
and your daughters shall be carried in their nurses' arms.
5 Then you shall see and be radiant;
your heart shall thrill and rejoice,

because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you;
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.
6 A multitude of camels shall cover you,
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;
all those from Sheba shall come.
They shall bring gold and frankincense
and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.

Psalm: Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14

1 Give the King your justice, O God, *
and your righteousness to the King's Son;
2 That he may rule your people righteously *
and the poor with justice;
3 That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, *
and the little hills bring righteousness.
4 He shall defend the needy among the people; *
he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.
5 He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, *
from one generation to another.
6 He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, *
like showers that water the earth.
7 In his time shall the righteous flourish; *
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.
10 The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay tribute, *
and the kings of Arabia and Saba offer gifts.
11 All kings shall bow down before him, *
and all the nations do him service.
12 For he shall deliver the poor who cries out in distress, *
and the oppressed who has no helper.
13 He shall have pity on the lowly and poor; *
he shall preserve the lives of the needy.
14 He shall redeem their lives from oppression and violence, *
and dear shall their blood be in his sight.

Epistle: Ephesians 3:1-12

1 This is the reason that I, Paul, am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you
gentiles, 2 for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that
was given me for you 3 and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation,
as I wrote above in a few words, 4 a reading of which will enable you to perceive
my understanding of the mystery of Christ. 5 In former generations this mystery
was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy
apostles and prophets by the Spirit: 6 that is, the gentiles have become fellow heirs,
members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the
gospel.

7 Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that
was given me by the working of his power. 8 Although I am the very least of all the
saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the gentiles the news of the
boundless riches of Christ 9 and to make everyone see what is the plan of the
mystery hidden for ages in God, who created all things, 10 so that through the
church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the
rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. 11 This was in accordance with the
eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, 12 in whom we
have access in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

1 In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, magi from
the east came to Jerusalem, 2 asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of
the Jews? For we observed his star in the east and have come to pay him homage."
3 When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him, 4 and
calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them
where the Messiah was to be born. 5 They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so
it has been written by the prophet:

6 '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.' "

7 Then Herod secretly called for the magi and learned from them the exact time
when the star had appeared. 8 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." 9 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. 10 When they saw that the star had
stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. 11 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. 12 And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for
their own country by another road.

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