

Announcements for January 7, 2018

For: Rev. Escandell

The **POWER OF HOPE FUND OFFERING**, created by the congregation as a way to provide assistance to persons/families with exceptional needs, will be received in the Narthex following today's worship. Look for an Usher with a marked container.

Please join us for our **BIRTHDAY / ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION** in the Parlor on Sunday, January 14, immediately following the Worship Service as we honor all birthdays and wedding anniversaries for January.

The **PRAYER QUILT MINISTRY** will gather here at the church on Tuesday, January 16. The Quilt Ministry meets on the first and third Tuesdays of each month from 1:30-3:30 p.m. on the second floor. For more information, contact Shirley Pippin at 956-358-0591.

Additional Liturgy for January 7, 2018

For: Maria Colvin-Lopez

Call to Confession

In the light of Christ, we see the shadows of our world and of our hearts.
Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sins before God and one another.

Prayer for Illumination

It's time to hear God's Word read and proclaimed. Let us pray:

O God, nations shall come to your light and rulers to the brightness of your dawn.
By the compelling radiance of your Spirit, draw us near, reveal your truth, and
teach us faithful obedience to your holy Word. Amen.

- 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 on 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.

Invitation to the Offering

The magi brought gifts to Christ at his nativity and offered their lives in worship. With thankful hearts, let us offer ourselves and our gifts to God.

Offertory Prayer

Loving God, we give you thanks for the light of the world, Jesus Christ, through whom we have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in your promise. Receive the gifts we offer in union with Jesus our brother, and help us to live to the honor and glory of your name. Amen.