

Dear Partners in Ministry,

As we prepare for worship in the season of Epiphany, we are reminded of the magi who journeyed from afar, bearing gifts for the Christ child. Their pilgrimage was more than an act of generosity—it was a profound sign that the light of Christ shines beyond borders, cultures, and nations. In their gifts, we see the beauty of mutual sharing and the call to recognize Christ revealed in the diversity of God’s people.

This season invites us to celebrate that same global connectedness through our **Companion Synod relationships**. Just as the magi’s gifts honored the newborn King, our partnerships with churches across the world honor Christ’s presence among us all. These relationships are not one-sided; they are exchanges of prayer, wisdom, and hope that enrich our witness to the Gospel.

Enclosed in this packet, you will find resources to help your congregation lift up these connections during Epiphany:

- **PowerPoint Slides**
- **Video sermon**
- **Hymn Suggestions**
- **Litany**
- **Prayer Petitions**
- **Bulletin Inserts**

We encourage you to use these materials in worship, education, and conversation. May they inspire your community to see the light of Christ shining through our companions near and far, and to respond with gifts of prayer, presence, and partnership.

Together, let us follow the star—not to a distant land, but toward deeper relationships that reflect God’s boundless love for the world.

In Christ’s light,

The Global Church Together Network, Dena Gable, Chair, Mark Yackel-Juleen, Susan Friedrich, Britney Burkas, Michael Wilker, Margaret Yackel-Juleen, with synod staff, Jen Thomas and Bishop Kevin Jones