

“O come let us adore him”: Matt 2:1-12

Fourth Sunday of Advent – “Worshipping” – Dec 20, 2020

Holy Trinity Church - Tom Mount

Scripture Reading - Matt 2:1-12

¹ After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem ² and asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.”

³ When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. ⁴ When he had called together all the people’s chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵ “In Bethlehem in Judea,” they replied, “for this is what the prophet has written:

⁶ “But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for out of you will come a ruler
who will shepherd my people Israel.” (Micah 5:2,4)

⁷ Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. ⁸ He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him.”

⁹ After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. ¹¹ On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. ¹² And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

Introduction

- In this, our final week of Advent we consider the theme of “worshipping” from Mt 2:1-12. It’s a great text to help us understand the nature of real worship.

Three sets of characters – Three different songs

1. King Herod (vv. 1-8)

- Who was he?
- What was his response?
- Herod's song was: "O Come Let Us _____ Him!"

2. The religious leaders (vv.4-6)

- Who were these guys?
- What was their response?
- Their song was: "O Come Let Us _____ Him!"

3. The magi (vv.1-2, 7-12)

- Who were these guys?
- What was their response?
- Their song was: "O Come Let Us _____ Him!"

Take away: "Which song are you singing today?"

- "O Come Let Us Abhor Him"?
- "O Come Let Us Ignore Him"?
- "O Come Let Us Adore Him"?