

Sermon Notes
Sunday, December 7, 2025
Speaker: Rev. Sarah Rios
Title: How do we Worship the King?

Scripture Reading & Scene 1 Matthew 1:18-25 NIV

In order of appearance:

Mary - Giuliana Rios
Joseph - Jaden Arevalo
Angel - Gabriel Rosado

Joseph Accepts Jesus as His Son

This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about^[d]: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet^[e] did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus,^[f] because he will save his people from their sins.”

All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: “The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel”^[g] (which means “God with us”).

When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.

How did Joseph worship the King? He worshiped through obedience.

1. Despite legalism
2. Despite his reputation
3. Despite the customs of that time

Application - How do we worship the King? Obedience and faithfulness to God trumps all other voices. We worship the King by knowing his voice and obeying it.

Scripture Reading & Scene 2 Matthew 2:1-12

In order of appearance:

King Herod - Cesar Rodriguez
Magi - Leighton O'Connor, Jeremiah Chandler, Josiah Chandler
Star/Scroll holder - Deborah Faris (Stage Manager)
Mary - Giuliana Rios
Joseph - Jaden Arevalo
Angel - Gabriel Rosado

The Magi Visit the Messiah

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem 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.”

When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. 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. "In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied, "for this is what the prophet has written:

"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."

Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. 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."

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. When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. 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. And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

How did Herod worship the King?

1. He was disturbed.
2. He was curious.
3. He pretended he wanted to worship him.
4. He became a killer.

Application - How do we worship the King? Worshiping Jesus requires us to stop worshipping ourselves. Jealousy of others may turn our hearts away from God. We cannot worship God and man. We can only have one master.

How did the Magi worship the King?

1. They searched for him.
2. They were overjoyed.
3. They bowed down.
4. They brought him treasures.
5. They followed the warning signs.

Application - How do we worship the King? Worship is an outward expression of an inward conviction. Our worship should draw us to God, fill us with joy and reverence. We should give God our very best of our time, talent, and treasure. Our worship unto God keeps us alert for wolves dressed in sheep's clothing. We worship the King by loving him with all our heart, mind, soul and strength.