

CHALKING OF THE DOOR

GREETING

Peace be to this house and to all who enter here. By wisdom a house is built and through understanding it is established, through knowledge its rooms are filled with rare and beautiful treasures. (Prov. 24: 3-4).

READING

As we prepare to ask God's blessing on this house of the church, let us listen to the words of scripture.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. (John 1: 1-4, 14, 19)

INSCRIPTION – [inscribe the symbols as the words are spoken. Leave room between CMB so that the '†' may be added after the numbers]

20 † C M B † 21

The magi of old known as

C	Caspar,
M	Melchior, and
B	Balthasar

followed the star of God's Son who came to dwell among us

20	two thousand
21	and twenty-one years ago.
†	Christ, bless this house,
†	and remain with us throughout the new year.

PRAYER OF BLESSING

O God, you revealed your Son to all people by the shining light of a star. Bless this church and all who worship and serve here, with your gracious presence. May your love be our inspiration, your wisdom our guide, your truth our light, and your peace our benediction, through Christ our Lord.

Amen.