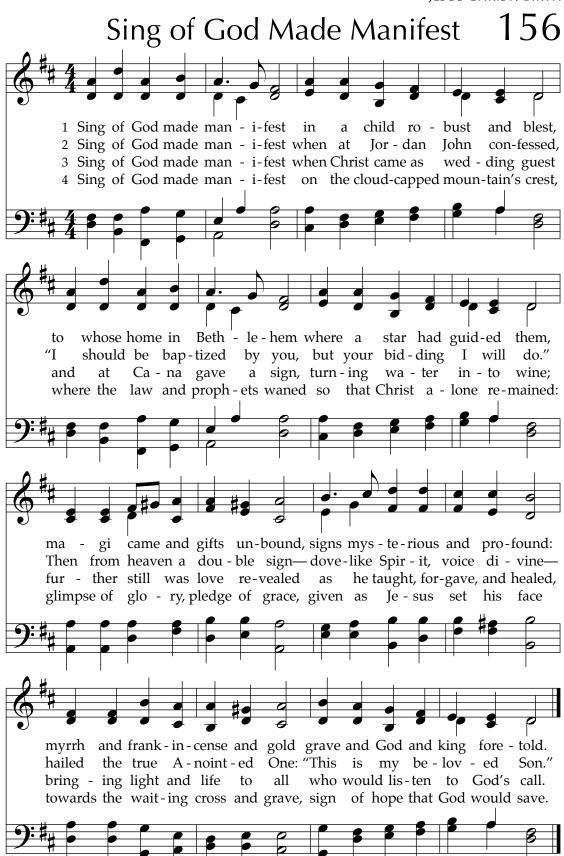
## 151 We Three Kings of Orient Are



Although Christians had begun by the 2nd century to speak of these visitors from eastern countries (Matthew 2:1–12) as "kings," perhaps because of passages like Psalm 72:10 and Isaiah 60:3, it is more accurate to think of them as magi or astrologers, the scholars of their day.



"Epiphany" means "manifestation" or "showing forth," and this text cites key disclosures of Jesus as Messiah: the coming of the Magi, his baptism by John the Baptist, the wedding at Cana. All are summed up in the Transfiguration, recalled on the Last Sunday after the Epiphany.