### WISE MEN WATCHED FOR IT

Star in the East and Its Message to Waiting

Rev. Dr. Glichrist Discourses on the Star of Bethlehem, the Babe in the Manger and the Effect of that Night on History.

The part the astrology of the Persian magi played in leading to the discovery of the Christ child's birth furnished Rev. Alexander Gilchrist at the Central United Presbyterian church with an interesting subject for his yesterday morning's sermon. Their study of the heavens, he said, had led them to expect a king to be born who was to radically change the destintes of his people and the whole world. As he was to be some great personality they came to pay homage to his sovereignty. Around the idea of Christ's kingship Dr. Gilchrist wove a wreath or beautiful thoughts appropriate to the day. Firmament," his text being taken from Matthew it, 1 and 2: "Now, when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod, the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, saying; Where is He that is born king of the Jews! for we have seen His star in the east and are come to worship him."

"Through the highest and best thoughts of men," said the preacher, "come the revelations of the divine. There had been a general expectancy among the Jews that the time for the appearance of the Messiah was at hand. It may not have been that so definite an expectancy was felt elsewhere, but there is much in the history of the world at that time to lead to the belief that most all the civilized peoples were looking for something very much out of the common. The Persian magi, or wise men, had been studying the stars and they had seen a new phenomenon in the heavens, the Star of Bethlehem. Whatever they may have thought of its portentiousness to the destiny of mankind at large, they were at least impressed with the idea that for God's chosen people of Israel a king had been born and that the new star was the celestial symbol. It might be well believed that the whole world was looking for some new star in the spiritual firmament. The wise men when they saw the light set out in a search for that which was to satisfy the needs of hu-

New Birth Had Been Sought.

"The thoughtful men of the world had been asking for some new birth-some introduction of new forces-and the significance of the new star to those ancient sages from the east was such that it led them to seek him who was fust born into the world and who was to spread a light destined to reach far beyond the confines of Judaism and to radiate its beneficence throughout the entire world.

"So these wise men came humbly, reverently, worshipfully. They were looking for kingship. There is an element of kingehip in every man. He has been given doship in every man. He has been given do-minion over the beasts of the field; he was crowned a little lower than the angels. The against God's laws and succeed. The laws wise men bowed down in recognition of the of nature are God's methods of doing things royalty of Bethlehem's bahe.

'Jesus Christ is king by divine appointment; but not only the King of the Jews, for He shall ever continue to be king among joke. men by virtue of His relationship to the Father. The magi discovered the marvelous power this single life would have over the

day for the presence of Jesus Christ in the world. The supreme question of our lives is the question of our relation to Him who harmony in Bathlehem and not until with harmony with divine law. was born in Bethlehem and not until, with Saying he believed in the gospel of good the wise men of the east, our souls bow in bealth and longavity and that any infringedoration of Him shall they be filled with

"He is king in the world of truth. These wise men found what they had been seeking for ages-the King of Truth. In the heavens they found a star to denote kingship and in the manger of Bethlehem they found the true King Himself, the King of Truth,

Hopefully peering into the future of destiny, Dr. Gilchrist saw a day when the true significance of the "Star of Jacob" would be universally understood. Then men would "kings and priests of our God and His In the evening he preached on the "Abiding and Perfect Loveliness of

MESSAGE OF CHRISTMAS TO ALL.

Dr. Turkle Applies the Beauty Christ's Example to Human Life. At the Kountze Memorial Lutheran church yesterday morning Rev. A. J. Turkle delivered a sermon on "A Joyful Christmas," choosing for his text Luke ii: 11, "For unte us a child is born."

The speaker said that it is fitting that a day should be set apart in which we could forget the general business principle of looking out for ourselves and think of others. In his estimation it is always better to give than to receive. Christmas day reminds one more forcibly each year of the golden rule which obtains more at that time than any other and also of that divine paradox "He that loses his life shall There had been an effort to secularize

the observance of Christmas. The Puritans had set their faces against it, but the festival is being more generally observed annually and soon he believed that all Christendom will join in its celebration. There is no greater event. The child of Bethlehem was worthy of worship. Many noble men have lived, but there was only without ein. His life was so pure that God himself said: "In Him I am Well

The speaker said that Christ did not be long to any particular people. He is the Savior of all mankind, "Unto you is born a Savior." He came for the poor and lowly, unto the sinner be brought tidings of great

Mr. Turkle thought the beauty of Christ's



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life is that it was human. He was not a hypocrite, there was no sham. His life was real, it was a true incarnation. True there was a mystery about it, but there is mystery in the color of the rose. None can tell from whence comes the magnificence of the flower. He is willing to undertake to explain the mystery of the Savior's life f someone will tell him how the rose gains

its beauty. In the speaker's estimation it is the merging of Christ's life in us that makes us love the story of the shepherds. The human life from the manger to the cross is full of trial, but it leads always to God. One must be patient and brave in meeting its sorrows. The noblest characters in history came from humble homes. Luther was a peasant. Columbus was born in poverty. Lincoln and Garfield, the nation's of every church service in Omaha yesterday. great astronomer, first saw the light in a ment of the great Christian anniversary and poor home. Haydn, the brilliant composer, doctrinal theology gave place to the strains spent his childhood amidst humble sur-

roundings. He had found it hard to make Christmas is hard to bear, but Christ renews love and

Christ, his love is unfailing. words, no busybodies, all should bear each would be done by, trusting Jesus. Someone says "a beautiful dream." But it is not, it is a prophecy of Christians, a coming reality. If we make our own lives brighter

SWEARING OFF IS A GOOD THING.

Dr. Stein Tells How a Good Resolution Helps Even if Not Kept.

Anticipating it by just a week, Rev. F. S. Stein of Lincoln preached at the First Presbyterian church last evening on "A Happy New Year." He announced that he would for the evening discourse was selected from Proverbs, iii, 16-17. The sermon was more of a talk to young people than anything else, as he said, and it amounted to a course of reasoning to demonstrate that the essentials of health, prosperity, good repute and standing, going to make up happiness, could best be secured by conformity to the Christian system of morals. He had his views of New Year's resolutions. Said he in brief:

I realize that we are standing on the threshold of a new year and I take advan-tage of the present to wish you all heartily a happy new year. How much that means

depends upon yourselves. We must recognize that we are living in a world of law and order and that God has ordained conditions is self-evident. Those who conform to the will of God succeed and those who do not fail. Men fail to recognize this commonplace truth. There is and would we prosper we must live in har-

mony with them.

In a very few days will be perpetrated what we have come to think a great annua joke. This is the general turning over of a new leaf. But I would rather a man would make a New Year's resolve than not to re-solve at all. even if the next minute he broke it. These resolutions fail because "There comes to us a special appeal to- they are not made from the right point of

ment of the laws of health was as sinful as any other transgression, he referred to Gladstone as an example of sturdy vigor in old age after a life of usefulness and to Napoleon as an exemplification of the consequences of dissipation. Napoleon, being indisposed at Waterloo, kept to his tent until a late hour and this allowed Blucher to come to Wellington's aid. Insurance figures, he said, showed that for 1,000 men addicted to tobacco and liquor their period of life is 35 years, whereas for 1,000 men free from those habits the span of existence is almost double. According to a law of biology that animals should live six times their period of growth, he thought man's life ought to last from 100 to 120 years.

On the essential of earthly possessions h selieved it to be God's will that all should be prosperous and that God had given to all men the key with which to unlock the treasure house of nature. He discounted the idea that Christianity and wealth are incompatible or that business and Christian principles do not agree, saying the entire labric of business is based upon confidence in integrity and other virtues and that God does not place any premium on rascality. Using Carroll D. Wright, Chauncey Depew John D. Rockefeller and others as authorities he argued that poverty is mostly traceable to intemperance and not at all due to industrial conditions. In this age and in this country he was satisfied a man would attain prosperity if he would put his hand in that of the Lord Jesus Christ. As to fame, Paul's name lives in the affections of the human race, while Nero, who had Paul beheaded, is ever execrated. Moses, who refused to be called the son of Phara-

the lawgiver of mankind. "So I commend Him whose anniversary we are commemorating today with so much joy and gladness," he said in conclusion, you as your Savior, Redeemer and Comforter and He will insure for you a happy

oh's daughter and to enjoy the pleasures of

sin for a season, is universally regarded as

Vin Washington to the East. Tickets to Philadelphia and New York via Washington do not cost any more over Pennsylvania Short lines than tickets to those points via their direct lines. Through trains leave Chicago union station daily at 10:30 a. m., 3 p. m., 5:30 p. m., 8:15 p. m. and 11:20 p. m. For further information address T. H. Thorp, traveling passenger agent, Omaha,

Grand Hollday Ball.

Social lodge, No. 102, Degree of Honor, Ancient Order of United Workmen, will give a grand holiday ball at Myrtle hall, corner Fifteenth and Douglas streets, on Tuesday evening, December 27. Good music and a good time for all. Tickets, 25 cents, at door.

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HARMONY CALLED TO EXPRESS SENTIMENT

Thousands of Worshipers of All Denominations Bow While Sweet-Voiced Choristers Pour Forth Melodious Jubilation.

The birth of a Savior was the theme two martyrs, were farmers. Herschel, the Song and sermon alike proclaimed the sentiof peace and hope and charity. It is not recorded that sermonizing had any place in that first Christmas celebration at Bethlea reality to all. Cares are always hard to hem. There was only the rustling of celesneet, sorrows come upon all and bitterness tial pinions and the swelling anthem that breathed the sentiment that has ever since removes the chill of dispair. He is not a been the controlling motive of the day. Not summer friend, ready to stand by us in inappropriately, therefore, there is a confortunate circumstances, but may be found stantly increasing tendency on the part of firm as a rock at all times. He is a winter the local churchmen to worship more in song than in story. While an appropriate In closing Mr. Turkle said we should discourse was included in yesterday's service, reverence the lowly cradle; it enobles our this was in many cases abbreviated, while thoughts. Life is more than the clothes it exceptionally elaborate musical programs wears or the houses it inhabits. Man's life were the salient features of the day. In s not what it has been. Christ was no nearly all the larger churches the choirs maker of money, but how glorious was his were reinforced for the occasion, and while ife, what treasures he laid up. We need the sublime masses which have been feathe Christly spirit, his self-sacrificing love. tures of Catholic services for centuries were He never thought of self. We need no sung by special choirs, the Protestant men with double lives, no women who churchgoers listened to the more elaborate drive their sisters to destruction, no unkind | works of more modern composers, a number of which had been rehearsed for weeks in other's burdens, doing unto others as we order that the Christmas music might adequately express the inspiration of the anthem that was born with the Savior.

The character of the music varied with the resources of the society. In the larger Christmas joy will safurate all our actions. churches musical programs were rendered that included some of the most famous compositions of the religious school and which should have been quite sufficient to fill the pews if the service included nothing else. Other choirs were compelled to be satisfied with less ambitious efforts, but all alike

sung the story of the cross. It was noticeable that in spite of the facfill the pulpit here next Sunday. His text that the holiday occurred on Sunday, there was no exceptional attendance at most of the churches. In many cases the congregations were somewhat smaller than usual and t seemed that the preparation for the Christmas dinner was allowed to interfere with the religious observance of many Omaha families. In the Catholic churches the attendance taxed the capacity of the building in nearly every instance, but with other lenominations small congregations were the

New Mass at St. Philomena's.

At St. Philomena's cathedral there was he usual elaborate Christmas observance This was largely of a musical character and the "Misse Pra Pace," by Von la Hache, was sung by the full choir, both at the early 5 o'clock service and at the more elaborate ceremonials later in the day. While this composition lacks the measured grandeur of Mozart's famous mass it contains some most fascinating tone pictures and blends appropriately with the spirit of the service. It was adequately rendered yesterday by the full choir under the direction of Chorister J. F. Tucker, while Mrs. Davis played the organ part. The choir consisted of Mrs. T. A. Colby and Misses Sadie Mahoney, Marie Durr, Veronica Doherty and Gwinn, sopra-

Miss Van Arman, altos; Mr. Bloom, tenor, and Messrs, Flickering, Getting and Tucker, The reputation of St. John's Catholic church for elaborate and impressive special services was amply sustained by its celebraion of Christmas day. It begun at 5 o'clock yesterday morning when the solemn high mass was celebrated before a congregation that packed the large edifice to the outer loors. The mass was celebrated by Father Dowling, president of St. John's college, with Father Hemann, deacon, and J. Dineen, ubdeacon. After the mass Father Dowling

nos; Mrs. O'Brien, Miss Lizzie Mahoney and

hem a merry Christmas and a happy New Year. At 10:30 o'clock Gounod's masse sofemn elle, "St. Cecilia," was sung for the first ime in Omaha by the full cathedral choir, assisted by some added singers. The greater part of the mass consisted of quartets, which were admirably rendered by Mrs. Sethge, soprano; Miss Rose Brady, alto; Mr. Doyle, tenor, and Mr. Harry Burkley, basso. The "Sanctus" and "Benedictus" by Mrs. Bethge were especially beautiful. Mr. 2. A. Jacobsen sang the "Veni Creator" with

briefly addressed the congregation, wishing

An antiphonal effect was introduced in Gilson's "Venite Adoremus," which was sung for the offertory. The Creighton University Glee club occupied the chance? with Miss Agnes McNamara at the organ and sang the responses while the regular choir retained its position in the organ loft, Father Rose, assisted by Father Rigge,

leacon, and Mr. Kenney, subdeacon. The discourse was delivered by Father Burrowes, professor of rhetoric in the college faculty.

At St. Peter's Catholic church the altar and chancel were both decorated with various flowers and with the winter evergreen. At 10:30 o'clock solemn high mass was celebrated. The celebrant was Father McNamara, the deacon was Father P. F. McCarthy, the subdeacon Father English and the latter delivered a sermon upon "Christian Peace." The musical program was a feature of this service. Prof. Provost was in charge and was assisted by the Smith orchestra. Karl Smith rendered a symphony and Mrs. Mullen and Mrs. Alexander solos. In addition to this service high mass was celebrated at 5 o'clock, another mass occurred at 7 o'clock and another for children at 9 o'clock. The Christmas service at the Church of the Holy Family at Eighteenth and Izard streets was held at 5 o'clock yesterday morning and in spite of the fact that the first gleams of daylight had not become visible at that hour the magnificent music was heard by a good congregation. The feature of the service was the rendition of Mozart's famous Twelfth mass by the choir under the direcion of Theodore A. Watterson. The solos were sung by Misses Shannon, Healey, Gentleman, Smith and Donahue and Messrs.

Attractive Service at Trinity.

Every seat in Trinity cathedral was filled before 11 o'clock yesterday morning, the Christmas music proving an attraction for many visitors, and nearly all members of the parish being present to participate in the communion service which followed the morning prayer. The beautiful interior of the cathedral was appropriately and elaborately decorated with greens of many kinds. These with backgrounds of purest white transformed the chancel into a vision of

Both Bishop Worthington and Dean Campbell Fair officiated at the morning services. Special offerings were taken for the aged and infirm clergy of Nebraska, the Nebraska clergy and the orphans of Nebraska clergy. The musical program was notably fine. The large surpliced choir unler the direction of Mrs. Cotton sang three eautiful anthems. In the anthem "Holy Night," with a female trio and violin Miss Edna Williams rendered the solo and obligate, the excellence of the choir was the choir sang special music. The sermon best appreciated.

All Saints church. Strings of holly were intertwined in the chancel arch and flowers and helly plentifully decorated the altar. The pulpit was also heavily adorned with the evergreen. The distinctively Christmas motto-"Peace on Earth, Good Will to

Men"-was conspicuously outlined. The usual services and special music comprised the services in the morning, no sermon being preached. The musical program was of exceptional character. The choir rendered chants and hymns in addition to processional, "Angels from the World of Glory' and the recessional, "Come Hither, Ye Faithful." In addition a quartet consisting of Mrs. J. S. White, Miss Bowman, D. H. Wheeler, jr., and G. W. Manchester, sang. Mr. Manchester also sang a solo and the offertory anthem.

The essentially church observation was held at St. John's Episcopal church Saturday night, beginning at 11:45 o'clock. This was the usual midnight celebration of the Holy Eucharist with special music. The customary services yesterday were also held, each in some way being associated with the great event commemorated by the day. The pulpit railing was draped with evergreen and holly, which were also festooned in the arches. One of the lessons read at the service yesterday morning was the New Testament story of the birth of Christ at Bethlehem and the vision to the shepherds. The usual Sunday school Christmas entertainment will be held next Wednesday evening at the parish house.

At the Church of the Good Shepherd the decorations were especially noticeable, all, however, being of a midwinter character. The altar railing, the pulpit and the chancel were draped with holly and evergreens, and there was used also in this drapery a moss indigenous to the south and which was brought to Omaha for this purpose. The music here, of course, was a large element in the service and was specially prepared for the day. Rev. George Edward Walk, the rector, delivered a discourse on the incidents attached to the birth of Christ and analyzed the connection in a church way between Christmas and Easter. The birth of Christ was important in itself, but it was the resurrection, when He was born again, that brought to the world with telling force the story of the life everlasting and gave every soul hope for eternity.

Special Service at First Methodist. One of the largest of Christmas congregations assembled at the First Methodist church yesterday morning and heard an able discourse by Rev. John McQuoid, D. D., on the subject, "The World's Preparation for Christ," and listened to a notably fine musical program. The church was exquisitely decorated, the entire front of the large auditorium being trimmed with holiday greens over white cloth background An arch of holly and a colonnade of evergreen pillars combined to enhance the

beauty of the decorations. The music was under the direction of Thomas J. Keily, organist and choirmaster, and was admirably rendered by a large chorus choir. At 10:30 o'clock the choir sang it the east t wor of the church, and during the morning service sang three beau-

tiful anthems and Christmas carols. The Christmas observance of the Sunday school class of the Hanscom Park Methodist church occurred last evening. A huge Christmas tree laden with gifts occupied the pulpit platform and the gifts were plucked from this and distributed during the course of the evening. Holly and other floral decorations beautified the church. The Christmes entertainment consisted of a considerable program of recitations and music, in which the children of the Sunday school had a great part. The morning services of the church were conducted by the pastor, Rev. Sisson, who preached upon a Christ-

The service at Trinity Methodist church was of the usual order, the pastor preaching a sermon on Christ and His gospel of peace The "On earth, peace," defined by the Nazarene, according to the minister, was to come when the whole world was to accept the bible as the word of God. The great conflict would come when the Christian civilization of today meets the civilization of centuries ago for final mastery. This, he predicted, was surely an event of the future, and as sure as it came just that sure would the Christian civilization triumph, and then would there be peace on earth. It being necessary that this conflict should come, the minister thought no nation had the right to withdraw into itself and refuse to accept the obligations thrust upon it through the evolutions of time. The real Christmas celebration at this church was held last night under the auspices of the Sunday school, when the interior of the auditorium presented more evidences of the glad holiday. As features of this program there were short addresses by lay members and songs

by the children. Music at Calvary Baptist. At Calvary Baptist church the music was made a feature at both morning and evening services. The choir had made careful preparation and presented good programs. The attendance at the morning service was not large, The pastor, Rev. Thomas Anderson, took for his text Matt. xi, 3: "Art thou He that should come or do we look for another?" He dealth with the life of the Christ in His work to bring the people to understand that He had come to save them, and not to rule, and recounted the trials put upon Him through doubt of His true character and divinity on the part of those who heard Him. In the evening the service was again appropriate to Christmas. This evening the Sunday school will present the

cantata, "Santa Claus Entertained." The Christmas services at the Beth-Eden Telephone 420. Baptist church were not much different from the regular Sunday services. In the morning Ralph Sunderland rendered the solo and the sermon was preached by the pastor, Rev. Allen, Holly was used to decorate the interior of the edifice in a simple

First Presbyterian Celebration. The Christmas services at the First Presbyterian church were very well attended. nearly every seat in the auditorium being occupied at the morning service. The music was notably good. The quartet choir rendered two splendid anthems and Mrs. Wilhelm sang a beautiful soprano solo. Mrs. Howard Kennedy presided at the organ and Mr. John Brown played the violin as an addition to the regular music for this occasion. The pulpit, altar and choir gallery were prettily decorated with holly and ever-

The pulpit was occupied by Rev. F. S. Stein of Lincoln. In the morning he preached Smith and Jacobson, while the choruses were on the theme, "What shall I do with Jesus? well sustained by the full choir of thirty Which is called Christ?" In a most fervent prayer preceding the sermon the minister returned thanks to God for the victory brought to the arms of this nation during the year and invoked the divine aid in the counsels of the government on the problem following the victorious results of the war. All the music for the evening service was from Handel's "Messiah." The quartet was assisted by John S. Brown with the 'cello. A pastoral symphony, organ and 'cello, began the evening program. This was followed by a large number of selections from Handel and the remainder of the program consisted of the selections: "He Was Despised and Rejected," a solo contralto by Miss Brown; "He Shall Feed His Flock Like a Shepherd," organ and 'cello; "O Thou that Tellest Glad Tidings to Zion," contralto solo disabled clergy of Nebraska, the widows of by Miss Brown, assisted by the quartet. The closing selection was the "Hallelujah

Chorus" by the organ. The music was the special feature of the services, both morning and evening, at the Westminster Presbyterian church. At both was preached by the pastor, Rev. T. V. One of the most prettily decorated church Moore, whose topics were of a Christmas interiors in the city was to be found at | character. The church was prettily adorned

with those floral pieces that are closely as-The music of the Central United Presbyterian church was appropriate to the day.

sociated with the Christmas seasor The choir, under Prot. A. G. Charlton's di-rection, sang Herbert's "Give Glory to the Lord" and McGranaban's "Lift Up Your Heads, O Ye Gates" for the principal anthems

At the First Congregational. Rev. Hubert C. Herring preached a masterly Christmas sermon before a large congregation at the First Congregational church yesterday morning. In the course of the ermon he said: "The world misunderstood God no longer after it had seen Him reflected in the person of His Son, Jesus Christ. Christ illustrated the life of heaven from whence He came. The only thought of God you can get is that of God as came in Jesus Christ. Henry Ward Beecher said that Jesus Christ was the only God we know anything about. No man need tell me God is unreal. He is. He lived in the flesh and was of the flesh. He came and dwelt among us. It is by Him and through Him that we best know God."

There were a number of appropriate anthems well sung by the chorus choir. A soprano solo by Mrs. Charles E. Squires, with violin obligato charmingly rendered by Miss Elizabeth Allen, was the feature of the fine musical program. Mrs. Frances E. Ford presided at the organ. The entire front of the church was prettily decorated with ever-

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Omaha to Chicago. The Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railway has just placed in service two mag-nificent electric lighted trains between Omaha and Chicago, leaving Omana Gally at 5:45 p. m., arriving Chicago at 8:25 a. m. and leaving Chicago 6:15 p. m. and arriving Omaha 8:20 a. m. Each train is lighted throughout by electricity, has buffet smoking cars, drawing room sleeping cars, dining cars and reclining chair cars and runs over the shortest line and smoothest roadbed be ween the two cities.

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\$6.50 men's kersey overcoats at	3,95
\$10 overcoats and ulsters at	5,00
\$12.50 fine kersey overcoats, Skinner's, satin sleeve	
linings, at	7.50
\$15 and \$18 overcoats and ulsters, at	10.00
\$20, \$22.50 and \$25 overcoats and ulsters at	12.50
All light colored covert overcoats, worth \$18, \$15, \$10	
and \$7.50 at \$4.75, \$7.50 and	12.50
Men's \$6.50 all wool suits at	3.75
Men's \$8.50 and \$9 suits. in worsteds and cassimeres	5.00
\$10 and \$12.50 suits, fine qualities at	7.50
\$18, \$20 and \$25 suits at	12.50

Ask to see the special values we are offering in men's pants at 95c, \$1.50 and \$1.75. Worth double.

Closing out Smoking Jackets at less than one-third price.

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the holidays. And more, too, because Economy coal lasts longer than most \$7.00 coals. Economy Nut for cooking is preeminently the coal for the people. We alone sell it.

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