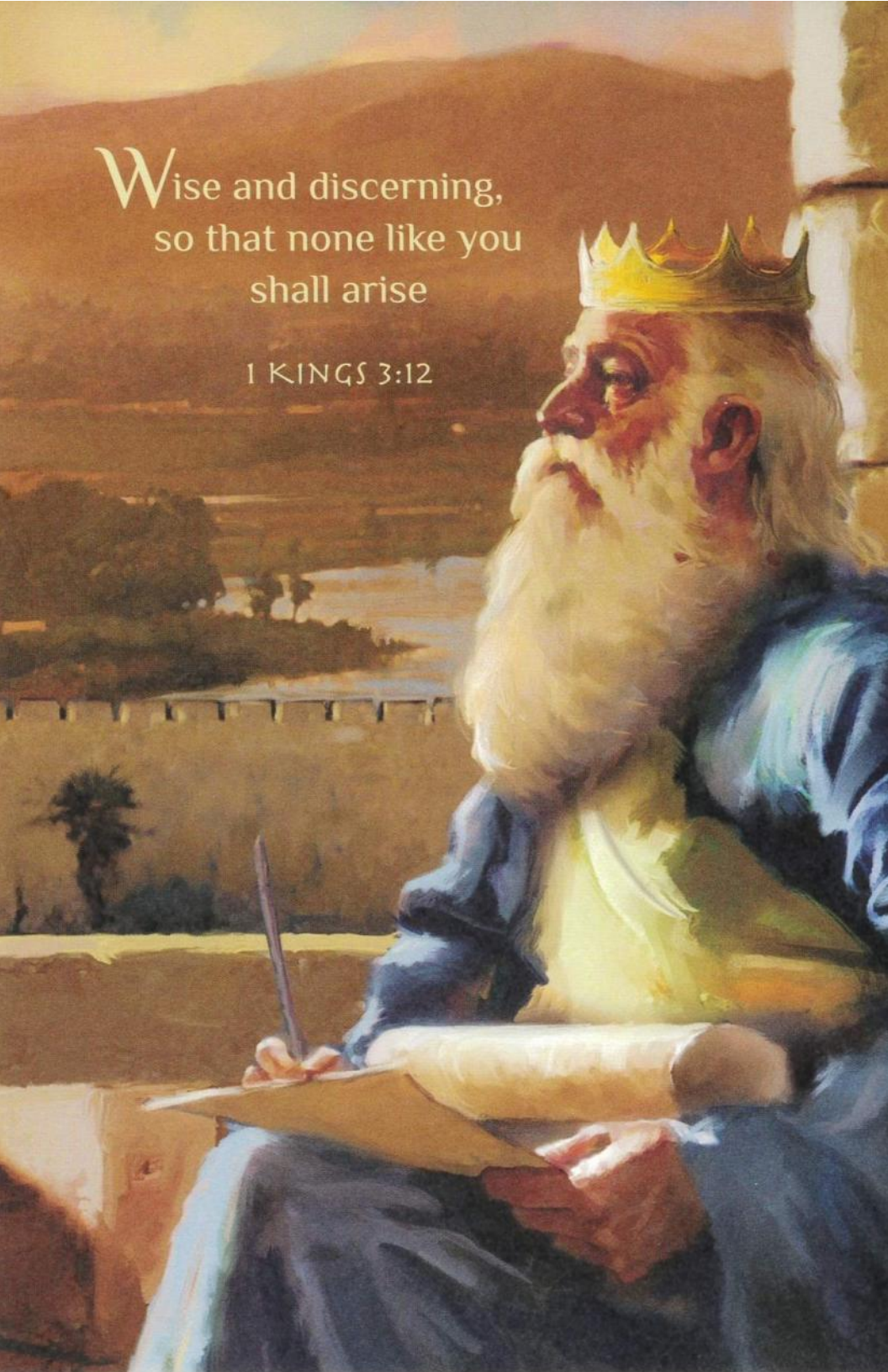


Wise and discerning,  
so that none like you  
shall arise

1 KINGS 3:12



## ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

22130 Ottawa Rd. Apple Valley, CA. 92308  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1645, Apple Valley, CA 92307  
Phone: (760) 247-7392, FAX: (760) 247-9014  
Pastor@ascensionav.org; office@ascensionav.org  
Website: www.ascensionav.org  
Rev. James Harris, Pastor

### EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

9:00 a.m. January 4, 2026

**DIVINE SERVICE SETTING ONE: Page 151**

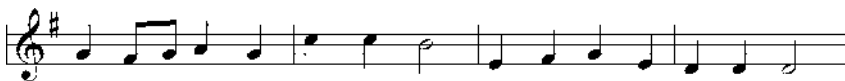
### Thoughts as we gather

*The Lord God Is Manifested in the Incarnate Son*

The Feast of the Epiphany centers in the visit of the Magi from the East. In that respect, it is a “Thirteenth Day” of Christmas, and yet it also marks the beginning of a new liturgical season. Where Christmas has focused on the incarnation of our Lord, that is, on God becoming flesh, the Season of Epiphany emphasizes the manifestation or self-revelation of God in that same flesh of Christ. For the Lord Himself has entered our darkness and rises upon us with the brightness of His true light (Is. 60:1–2). He does so chiefly by His Word of the Gospel, which He causes to be preached within His Church on earth, not only to the Jews but also to Gentiles (Eph. 3:8–10). As the Magi were guided by the promises of Holy Scripture to find and worship the Christ Child with His mother in the house (Matt. 2:5–11), so does He call disciples from all nations by the preaching of His Word to find and worship Him within His Church (Is. 60:3–6).

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

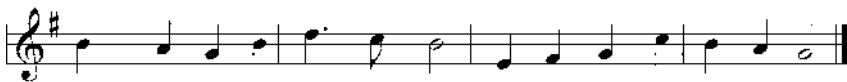
### 397 As with Gladness Men of Old



1	As with glad-ness men of old	Did the guid-ing star be-hold;
2	As with joy-ful steps they sped,	Sav-ior, to Thy low-ly bed,
3	As they of-fered gifts most rare	At Thy cra-dle, rude and bare,
4	Ho-ly Je-sus, ev-'ry day	Keep us in the nar-row way;
5	In the heav'n-ly coun-try bright	Need they no cre-at-ed light;



As with joy they hailed its light, Lead - ing on - ward, beam - ing bright;  
There to bend the knee be - fore Thee, whom heav'n and earth a - dore;  
So may we with ho - ly joy, Pure and free from sin's al - loy.  
And when earth-ly things are past, Bring our ran-somed souls at last  
Thou its light, its joy, its crown, Thou its sun which goes not down;



So, most gra-cious Lord, may we Ev - er - more be led by Thee.  
So may we with will - ing feet Ev - er seek Thy mer - cy seat.  
All our cost-liest trea - sures bring, Christ, to Thee, our heav'n-ly King.  
Where they need no star to guide, Where no clouds Thy glo - ry hide.  
There for - ev - er may we sing Al - le - lu - ias to our King.

Text: William C. Dix, 1837-98, alt.  
Tune: Conrad Kocher, 1786-1872  
Text and tune: Public domain

*Stand*

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**C** But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Kneel/Stand*

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

**P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**C** Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

**P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

*Stand*

## SERVICE OF THE WORD

### INTROIT

*Psalm 45:6–8a; antiphon: v. 17*

I will cause Your name to be remembered in all generations;  
therefore nations will praise You forever and ever.

**Your throne, O God, is forever and ever. The scepter of Your kingdom is a scepter of uprightness;**

**You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness.**

Therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness  
beyond your companions;

your robes are all fragrant with myrrh and aloes and cassia.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son**

**and to the Holy Spirit;**

**as it was in the beginning,**

**is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

I will cause Your name to be remembered in all generations;  
therefore nations will praise You forever and ever.

**P** In peace let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

**P** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

**P** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

**P** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

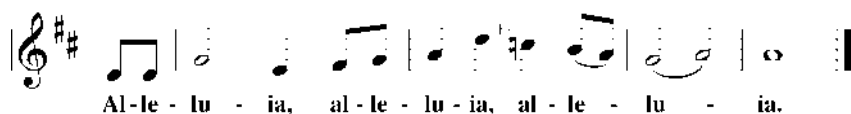
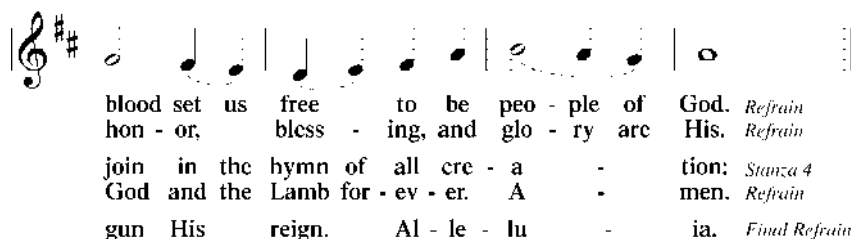
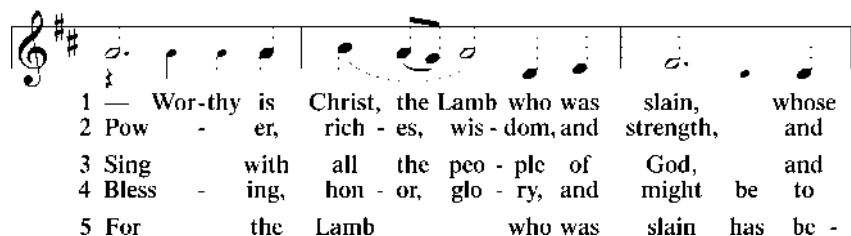
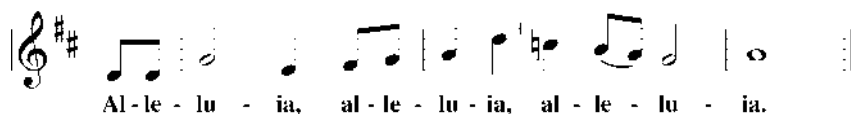


**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

**P** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



**C** A - men.



## SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

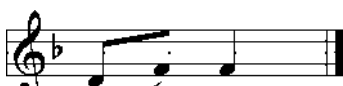
**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And al - so with you.

**P** Let us pray.

O God, by the leading of a star You made known Your only-begotten Son to the Gentiles. Lead us, who know You by faith, to enjoy in heaven the fullness of Your divine presence; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**C** A - men.

*Sit*

## OLD TESTAMENT READING

*Isaiah 60:1-6*

- <sup>1</sup> Arise, shine, for your light has come,  
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.
- <sup>2</sup> For behold, darkness shall cover the earth,  
and thick darkness the peoples;  
but the LORD will arise upon you,  
and His glory will be seen upon you.
- <sup>3</sup> And nations shall come to your light,  
and kings to the brightness of your rising.
- <sup>4</sup> Lift up your eyes all around, and see;  
they all gather together, they come to you;  
your sons shall come from afar,  
and your daughters shall be carried on the hip.
- <sup>5</sup> Then you shall see and be radiant;  
your heart shall thrill and exult,  
because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you,  
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.
- <sup>6</sup> A multitude of camels shall cover you,  
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;  
all those from Sheba shall come.  
They shall bring gold and frankincense,  
and shall bring good news, the praises of the LORD.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## PSALM

*Psalms 72:1–11; antiphon: v. 18*

- <sup>1</sup>Give the king Your justice, O God,  
and Your righteousness to the royal son!  
<sup>2</sup>**May He judge Your people with righteousness,  
and Your poor with justice!**  
<sup>3</sup>Let the mountains bear prosperity for the people,  
and the hills, in righteousness!  
<sup>4</sup>**May He defend the cause of the poor of the people,  
give deliverance to the children of the needy,  
and crush the oppressor!**  
  
<sup>5</sup>May they fear You while the sun endures,  
and as long as the moon, throughout all generations!  
<sup>6</sup>**May He be like rain that falls on the mown grass,  
like showers that water the earth!**  
<sup>7</sup>In His days may the righteous flourish,  
and peace abound, till the moon be no more!  
  
<sup>8</sup>**May He have dominion from sea to sea,  
and from the River to the ends of the earth!**  
<sup>9</sup>May desert tribes bow down before Him  
and His enemies lick the dust!  
<sup>10</sup>**May the kings of Tarshish and of the coastlands  
render Him tribute;  
may the kings of Sheba and Seba bring gifts!**  
<sup>11</sup>May all kings fall down before Him,  
all nations serve Him!

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## EPISTLE

*Ephesians 3:1–12*

<sup>1</sup>For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles—<sup>2</sup>assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for you,<sup>3</sup> how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly.<sup>4</sup> When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ,<sup>5</sup> which was not made known to the sons of men in other generations as it has now been revealed to His holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit.<sup>6</sup> This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

<sup>7</sup>Of this gospel I was made a minister according to the gift of God's grace, which was given me by the working of His power.<sup>8</sup> To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles



the unsearchable riches of Christ,<sup>9</sup> and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things,<sup>10</sup> so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places.<sup>11</sup> This was according to the eternal purpose that He has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord,<sup>12</sup> in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in Him.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

## ALLELUIA AND VERSE

*LSB 156*

**C** Al-le-lu-ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e-ter-nal life. Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

## HOLY GOSPEL

*Matthew 2:1–12*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the second chapter.

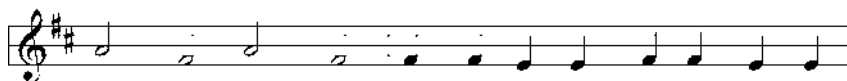
**C** Glo-ry to You, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup>saying, “Where is He who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw His star when it rose and have come to worship Him.” <sup>3</sup>When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; <sup>4</sup>and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. <sup>5</sup>They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:

<sup>6</sup>“And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;  
for from you shall come a ruler  
who will shepherd My people Israel.”

<sup>7</sup>Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup>And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found Him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship Him.” <sup>9</sup>After listening to the king, they





Low - ly, ho - ly! Great and glo - rious, All vic - to - rious,  
Now, though dai - ly Earth's deep sad - ness May per - plex us  
Let Your mer - cy Warm and cheer us! O draw near us!  
Al - le - lu - ia! Christ the liv - ing, To us giv - ing



Rich in bless - ing! Rule and might o'er all pos - sess - ing!  
And dis - tress us, Yet with heav'n - ly joy You bless us.  
For You teach us God's own love through You has reached us.  
Life for - ev - er, Keeps us Yours and fails us nev - er!

- 5 O let the harps break forth in sound!  
Our joy be all with music crowned,  
Our voices gladly blending!  
For Christ goes with us all the way—  
Today, tomorrow, ev'ry day!  
His love is never ending!  
Sing out! Ring out!  
Jubilation!  
Exultation!  
Tell the story!  
Great is He, the King of Glory!

- 6 What joy to know, when life is past,  
The Lord we love is first and last,  
The end and the beginning!  
He will one day, oh, glorious grace,  
Transport us to that happy place  
Beyond all tears and sinning!  
Amen! Amen!  
Come, Lord Jesus!  
Crown of gladness!  
We are yearning  
For the day of Your returning!

Text: tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978, alt.  
Text and tune: Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608  
Text: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000276  
Tune: Public domain

## SERMON

*Stand*

## NICENE CREED

**C** I believe in one God,  
the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth  
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father,  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary  
and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.  
He suffered and was buried.  
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures  
and ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of the Father.  
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and  
the dead,  
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and  
glorified,  
who spoke by the prophets.  
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life  $\text{✙}$  of the world to come. Amen.

*Sit*

## OFFERING



**C** What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to  
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will  
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-  
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my  
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the  
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

**P** In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** For a right knowledge of Christ, that we would abandon the darkness of this world and embrace the joy of His heavenly light, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** For all pastors, [*especially* Pastor James Harris,] that they would fulfill their calling with boldness and provide us the riches of Christ's Word and Sacrament, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** For families, that our Father in heaven would bless our households with grace and protection; and that we might remember Him in both joy and trouble and worship before Him forever, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** For the wisdom of God to enlighten the rulers of this world; and for His blessed Gospel to have free course in our land, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** For those who are afflicted and in need of deliverance, *[including \_\_\_\_\_]* that their prayers would be heard by the almighty God who has made us fellow heirs of the unsearchable riches of Christ; and that they would be preserved in the faith until that day when their eternal healing is fully revealed, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** For all who, like the Magi of old, have come to worship Christ and offer Him gifts, that receiving His body and blood, we may return home according to His holy way, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** For the Holy Christian Church, that God's Word would richly abide in her and that many would be led to Christ through her witness, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** All these needs, gracious Father, and whatever else You know that we need, grant for the sake of Him who shattered this world's darkness with everlasting light, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

*Following the prayers, the people may greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matt. 5:22–24; Eph. 4:1–3).*

# SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

## Communion Statement

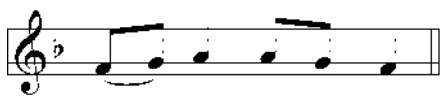
The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked first to speak with the Pastor or an Elder.

## PREFACE

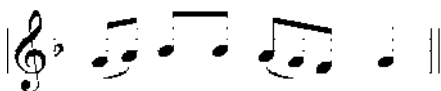
LSB 160

**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And al - so with you.

**P** Lift up your hearts.



**C** We lift them to the Lord.

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

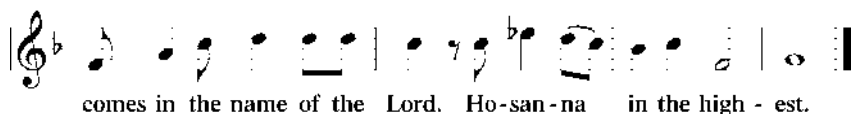
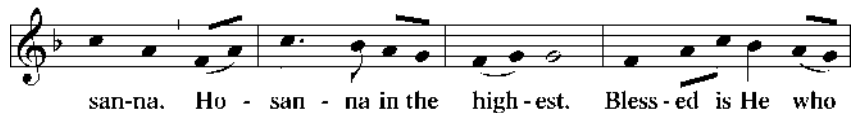
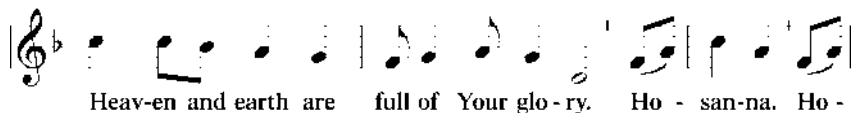
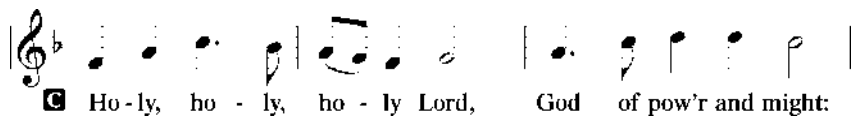


**C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

# SANCTUS

LSB 161



# PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

LSB 161

- P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

- C** Amen.



## LORD'S PRAYER

LSB 162

**P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**C** **Our Father who art in heaven,**  
hallowed be Thy name,  
Thy kingdom come,  
Thy will be done on earth  
as it is in heaven;  
give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For Thine is the kingdom  
and the power and the glory  
forever and ever. Amen.

## THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My  $\text{✠}$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My  $\text{✠}$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## PAX DOMINI

LSB 163

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.



Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the  
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION

# 631 Here, O My Lord, I See Thee Face to Face



1 Here, O my Lord, I see Thee face to face;  
 2 Here would I feed up - on the bread of God;  
 3 This is the hour of ban - quet and of song;  
 4 I have no help but Thine; nor do I need



Here would I touch and han - dle things un - seen;  
 Here drink with Thee the roy - al wine of heav'n;  
 This is the heav'n - ly ta - ble spread for me;  
 An - oth - er arm but Thine to lean up - on.



Here grasp with firm - er hand the e - ter - nal grace,  
 Here would I lay a - side each earth - ly load,  
 Here let me feast and, feast - ing, still pro - long  
 It is e - nough, my Lord, e - nough in - deed;

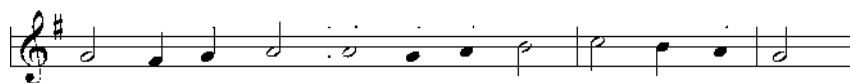


And all my wea - ri - ness up - on Thee lean.  
 Here taste a - fresh the calm of sin for - giv'n.  
 The brief bright hour of fel - low - ship with Thee.  
 My strength is in Thy might, Thy might a - lone.

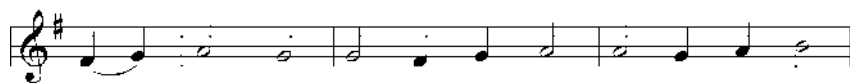
- 5 Mine is the sin, but Thine the righteousness;  
 Mine is the guilt, but Thine the cleansing blood;  
 Here is my robe, my refuge, and my peace:  
 Thy blood, Thy righteousness, O Lord my God.
- 6 Too soon we rise; the vessels disappear;  
 The feast, though not the love, is past and gone;  
 The bread and wine remove, but Thou art here;  
 Nearer than ever; still my shield and sun.
- 7 Feast after feast thus comes and passes by,  
 Yet, passing, points to that glad feast above,  
 Giving sweet foretaste of the festal joy,  
 The Lamb's great marriage feast of bliss and love.

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808–89, alt.  
 Tune: Henry Lawes, 1595–1662  
 Text and tune: Public domain

## 625 Lord Jesus Christ, Life-Giving Bread



1 Lord Je - sus Christ, life - giv - ing bread, May I in grace  
 2 To pas - tures green, Lord, safe - ly guide, To rest - ful wa -  
 3 O bread of heav'n, my soul's de - light, For full and free  
 4 I do not mer - it fa - vor, Lord, My weight of sin



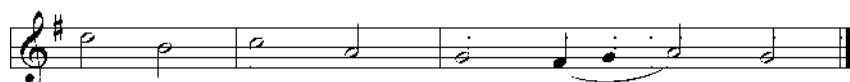
pos - sess You, Let me with ho - ly food be fed,  
 ters lead me; Your ta - ble well for me pro - vide,  
 re - mis - sion I come with prayer be - fore Your sight  
 would break me; In all my guilt - y heart's dis - cord,



In hun - ger I ad - dress You, Pre - pare me well  
 Your wound - ed hand now feed me, Though wea - ry, sin -  
 In sor - row and con - tri - tion, Your righ - teous - ness,  
 O Lord, do not for - sake me, In my dis - tress



for You, O Lord, And, hum - bly by my prayer im - plored,  
 ful, sick, and weak, Ref - uge in You a - lone I seek,  
 Lord, cov - er me That I re - ceive You wor - thi - ly,  
 this com - forts me That You re - ceive me gra - cious - ly,



Give me Your grace and mer - cy.  
 To share Your cup of heal - ing.  
 As - sured of Your full par - don.  
 O Christ, my Lord of mer - cy!

Text: Johann Rist, 1607-67; tr. Arthur T. Russell, 1806-74, alt.  
 Tune: Theütsch kirchen ampt, 1525, Strassburg  
 Text and tune: Public domain

*In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:*

**P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart † in peace.

**C** Amen.

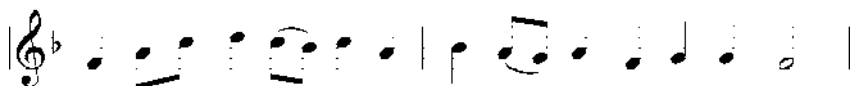
*Stand*

# THANK THE LORD

LSB 164



**G** Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy

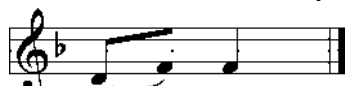


with shouts of thanks-giv-ing, Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

## POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

**P** Let us pray.

O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**G** A - men.

## BENEDICTION

LSB 166

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.



## HYMN TO DEPART

LSB 782

## **Acknowledgments**

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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**SERVING SERVICE TODAY:**

<b>ELDER</b>	Joe Yanco
<b>HEAD USHER</b>	Bruce Benson

**SUNDAY READINGS**

The readings for Sunday, January 11, 2026 are:

Isaiah 42:1-9

Psalm 29 (antiphon: v. 3)

Romans 6:1-11

Matthew 3:13-17



## **January 6 – The Epiphany of Our Lord**

**Matthew 2:11 – “And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary His mother, and they fell down and worshiped Him.** Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh.” For the wise men and for us, worshiping and offering gifts go together. How could this not be since our God is the great Giver of gifts? We receive His gifts in worship and then, being conformed to His image, we imitate His generosity.

## **THIS WEEK AT ASCENSION**

<b>Sun. (01/04)</b>	9:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	Service Bible Study
<b>Mon. (01/05)</b>	4:00 p.m.	Youth Confirmation Class
<b>Wed. (01/07)</b>	11:30 a.m. 6:00 p.m.	Bible Study Adult Confirmation Class
<b>Thurs. (01/08)</b>	6:00 p.m.	NAMI Family to Family and Peer Connections
<b>Sat. (01/10)</b>	9:00 a.m.	Ladies' Bible Study
<b>Sun. (01/11)</b>	9:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	Service Bible Study

### **ATTENDANCE:**

12/28/2025	9:00 a.m.	67
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### **OFFERING:**

Needed weekly:	\$ 4,197.00	Needed YTD	\$218,244.00
Rec'vd. 12/28/2025	<u>\$ 6,262.16</u>	Rec'vd YTD	<u>\$217,055.63</u>
Over Weekly	\$ 2,065.16	Short YTD	\$ (1,188.31)

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*We welcome you and invite you to join us for coffee in the Fellowship Hall after service. Be sure to check in with Debbie in the Narthex before service. Visitors are asked to sign the guest book in the Narthex, please include your address and home church. If this is your first time attending Holy Communion at Ascension, please speak with the Pastor or an Elder prior to the service.*

### **CONFIRMATION CLASSES**

**YOUTH**—Confirmation Class will be held on Monday, January 5 at 4:00 p.m.

**ADULT**—Confirmation Class will be held on Wednesday, January 7, at 6:00 p.m.

### **LADIES BIBLE STUDY**

We're having Ladies Bible Study with a video series called Unshakeable by Donna Snow. I hope you can make it Saturday, January 10th at 9:00 a.m. All women are welcome!

### **NAMI**

NAMI's Family to Family and Peer Connections will be meeting on Thursday, January 8th at 6:00. Family to Family is via Zoom only. Peer connections is in person and via Zoom.

### **FOOD4LESS**

We have received an email stating that because of our members shopping at Food4Less and Ralphs, they will be sending checks to us totaling \$61.18. Thank you! If you do not have a Rewards Card for them, please see Debbie and she will get one for you.

Prayer and Praises” is your personal invitation to join with the Prayer Ministry of our church in daily prayer. If you would like someone to stay on the prayer list, please call the church office at 760-247-7392, put your request on the prayer cards in the church, or go on-line at [www.ascensionav.org](http://www.ascensionav.org). Otherwise, names will be removed after two months.

## ACCORDING TO THEIR NEED:

Angela Alder	Mary Beuerle	Charles Blake
Tricia Blake	Devin Coole	Judy Cutler
Durfee Family	Jennifer Millgate	Beverly Moglich
Gaylon Pastella	Mildred Sears	Kevin Smith
Gwen Strasburg	Rory Tighe	Bob Albert
Leeta Amaro	Brendan Anderson	Jeff Austin
Mark Baker	Sistie Beauchamp	Red & MaryAnn Beck
Marilyn Belka	Ilona Berecki	Vivian Bingham
Grayson Blomberg	Sue Boers	Sue Brooks
Tiffany Brown	Vanessa Brown	Karrie Burke
Kyle Burton	Gabrielle Butcher	Marcia Byron
Mari Caroland	Renee Cates	Lane Ceballos
Carolyne Chaney	David Chavez	Tracy Cole
Elizabeth Collins	Cathy Connors	Pearl Coole
Robert Coole	Larry Cramins	William Creek
John Davis	Kathy Davis	Julie DeRose
Samuel & Sean Detwiler	Steve Dewiggins	Matt DeWitt
Mary Diaz	Christine Dunne	Kelley Dunne
John & Ann Duran	Marge Edwards	Egger Family
Don Eliason	Janice Estrick	Heidi Evans
Sam Fagan	Lynn Fairgrief	Rosie Fernandez
Shaunah Forrest	Christian Frash	Don Garcia
Chrissie Gates	Faigie Gawn	Grace Glass
Brielle Gondola	Government	Raquel Gudino
Roger Hall	David Hanson	Pastor Harris
Kelly Havens	Jace Haynes	Jeanne Hecksel
Hunter & Justin Hedden	Harry Heike	Karlee Henson
Mike Holtgrefe	Bill Huff	Dawn Husel
Maggie Ivy	Avery Jamison	Norma Jenkins
Eric Jones	Jacob Jones	John & Connie Kays
Kathy Kays	Chris Kelly	Emma Kraus
Dorothy Krentz	Steve Kuhn	Anthony Kwesie
Randy Lam	Addison Lange	Debbie Lange
Jeannette Lawler	Melody LeGray	Erin Liedtke
Anthony Lopez	Pete Maaske	Kelly Marscheider
David McDonald	Linda Merkle	Dave Meyer
Daniel Midgely	Military	Grace Miskimen
Debbie Moore	Renee Moore	Cesar Morales
Justin Morales	Violet Morales	Herbert & Elaine Moran
Amanda Netzell	Lauren Newmann	Michelle Nichol
Lori O'Neil	Donna Park	David Parker
Glenn & Nancy Pastella	Richard & Alice Pastella	Seunghee Pastella
Tim & Marguerite Pastella	Michele Patterson	Esperanza Perez
Heather Perez & Family	Jose Perez	Heidi Perry
Kelley Pulone	Sue Purbagha	Marilyn Quade
Mel & Mary Quicke	Michele Rawlins	Penny Reese
Christian Rhoades	Dave Riffel	Bill Robertson
Crystal Roblero	Kathy Rodere	Linda Roque
Carla Rosen	Jeffery Rout	Beth Rubio
Rick Schmidt	Josh Seau	Chris Segard
Margi Segnari	Noreen Selle	Ray Shaffer
Bea Shelby	Diane Short & Short Family	Ed Scott Smith
Shirley Smith	Ashley Skiffington	Manuel Sousa
Barbara Souza	Richard Souza	Vanessa Sowders
Janet Surber	Carol Thomas	Sarah Thomas
Matthew & Tina Thorn	Diana Thornbury	Stan Thorne
Randy Tilson	Curtis & Cyndy Todd	Joshua Todd
Richard Torres	Fran Truslow	Denise Turner
Sue Twarowski	Ron & Peggy Updike	Stan Vacek
Paula Varner	Blaise & Lisa Vasey	Brandon Vess
Victims of the Floods	Tammy Wall	Rosa & Paul Wallace
Melanie Waters	Sharon Waters	Charlie West
Nancy Williams	Beverly Wilson	Stacy Wilson
Wilma Wilson	Cynthia Yancho	Ray Zayas

## GRIEF & STRENGTH:

Family of Mo Gamas  
Family of Judy Winkler



**About the Cover:** By God's gift, no mere man has arisen with wisdom like Solomon. However, Jesus is Himself Wisdom. He is not merely wise in a human way like Solomon; He is the very source of all wisdom (1 Corinthians 1:24). He showed this when He taught the teachers in Jerusalem as a boy. No one will ever arise like Him. For Jesus alone is the only Savior of the world. He makes us wise unto salvation by way of His work on the cross and resurrection.