



**ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCHES**  
**Babbtown (Meta 8am)**  
**Schubert (Jefferson City 10am)**

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EPIPHANY OBSERVED

**January 10, 2021**

**Order of Worship:** Printed below  
(with P for Pastor, C for Congregation)

or

found on page 15 in The Lutheran Hymnal TLH

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**The Ringing Of The Bell**

**Prelude**

**Welcome**

**Opening Hymn:** TLH 128 "Brightest and Best Of The Sons Of The Morning"

**Brightest and best of the sons of the morning,  
Dawn on our darkness and lend us thine aid;  
Star of the East, the horizon adorning,  
Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.**

**Cold on His cradle the dewdrops are shining;  
Low lies His head with the beasts of the stall.  
Angels adore Him in slumber reclining,  
Maker and Monarch and Savior of all.**

**Shall we not yield Him in costly devotion,  
Odors of Edom and off'rings divine,  
Gems of the mountain and pearls of the ocean,  
Myrrh from the forest and gold from the mine?**

**Vainly we offer each ample oblation,  
Vainly with gifts would His favor secure.  
Richer by far is the heart's adoration;  
Dearer to God are the prayers of the poor.**

**Brightest and best of the sons of the morning,  
Dawn on our darkness and lend us thine aid;  
Star of the East, the horizon adorning,  
Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid. Amen.**

**Invocation:** p. 15 [*Responses Sung*]

**P:** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost.

**C:** Amen.

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God, our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.  
Our help is in the name of the Lord.

C: **Who made heaven and earth.**

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.

C: **And Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin.**

**Confession:** *[Spoken]*

ALL: **O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto Thee all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended Thee and justly deserved Thy temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray Thee of Thy boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Thy beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

**Absolution** p. 16

P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost.

C: *[Sung]* **Amen.**

**The Introit**

**Gloria Patri:** p.16 *[Sung]*

C: **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

**The Kyrie:** p.17 *[Sung]*

C: **Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.**

**The Gloria in Excelsis:** p. 17-19 *[Sung]*

C: **Glory be to God on high; And on earth peace, good will toward men.**

**We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee,**

**We glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.**

**O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty.**

**O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;**

**O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,**

**That takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.**

**Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer.**

**Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.**

**For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord.**

**Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

**Salutation And Response:** p.19

P: The Lord be with you

C: *[Sung]* **And with thy spirit.**

**The Prayer Of The Day:** [Spoken by all]

**O God, by the leading of a star You make 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.**

**Response** *[Sung]*: **Amen.**

**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.

**Epistle Reading:** Ephesians 3:1-12

<sup>1</sup>For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner of 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.

**The Gradual**

**The “Triple Hallelujah”:** *[Sung]*

C: **Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

P: The Holy Gospel that is appointed to be read for today is from the Gospel of St. Matthew, chapter 2, beginning with the 1<sup>st</sup> verse.

C: *[Sung]* **Glory be to Thee, O Lord!**

**The Gospel Reading:** Matthew 2:1-12

<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 went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup>When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. <sup>11</sup>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. <sup>12</sup>And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

P: Here ends the reading of the Holy Gospel.

C: *[Sung]* **Praise be to Thee, O Christ!**

**Nicene Creed, p. 22:** *[Spoken by all]*

**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 Ghost 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 sitteth on the right hand of the Father; And He shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead; Whose kingdom shall have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Ghost, The Lord and Giver of Life, Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, Who spake by the Prophets. And I believe 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 of the world to come. Amen.**

**Children's Song: "We Three Kings"**

**We three kings of Orient are; Bearing gifts we traverse afar,  
Field and fountain, moor and mountain, Following yonder star.**

**REFRAIN: O star of wonder, star of night, Star with royal beauty bright  
Westward leading, still proceeding, Guide us to Thy perfect light.**

**Born a King on Bethlehem's plain, Gold, I bring, to crown Him again,  
King forever, ceasing never, Over us all to reign. REFRAIN**

**Frankincense to offer have I, Incense owns a Deity nigh.  
Prayer and praising, all men raising Worship Him, God most high. REFRAIN**

**Myrrh is mine, its bitter perfume, Breathes a life of gathering gloom;  
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying, Sealed in the stone-cold tomb. REFRAIN**

**Glorious now behold Him arise, King and God and sacrifice,  
Alleluia, Alleluia; Earth to the heavens replies. REFRAIN**

**Children's Message: "Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh"**

**Sermon Hymn: TLH 127 "As With Gladness Men Of Old"**

**As with gladness men of old Did the guiding star behold;  
As with joy they hailed its light, Leading onward, beaming bright,  
So, most gracious Lord, may we Evermore be led by Thee!**

**As with joyful steps they sped, Savior, to Thy lowly bed,  
There to bend the knee before Thee whom heav'n and earth adore,  
So may we with willing feet Ever seek Thy mercy-seat.**

**As they offered gifts most rare At Thy cradle, rude and bare,  
So may we with holy joy, Pure and free from sin's alloy,  
All our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to Thee, our heav'nly King!**

**Holy Jesus, every day Keep us in the narrow way;  
And, when earthly things are past, Bring our ransomed souls at last  
Where they need no star to guide, Where no clouds Thy glory hide.**

**In the heavenly country bright Need they no created light;  
Thou its Light, its Joy, its Crown, Thou its Sun which goes not down.  
There forever may we sing Alleluias to our King! Amen.**

**Sermon: "Fact Versus Fiction" Text: Matthew 2:1-12**

*(Usual time for The Offering – Offering plates are at the entrances or can be mailed or given online.)*

**Offertory p. 22 [Sung]**

**C: Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation; And uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.**

**Prayers**

**The Lord’s Prayer:**

**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.**

**Benediction:**

**P: The Lord bless you and keep you, The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.**

**C: [Sung] Amen, Amen, Amen!**

**Closing Hymn: TLH 106, vs. 1,4, 5 to 7 “The People That In Darkness Sat”**

**The people that in darkness sat A glorious light have seen;  
The light has shined on them who long In shades of death have been,  
In shades of death have been.**

**To us a Child of hope is born, To us a Son is given,  
And on His shoulder ever rests All power in earth and heaven.  
All power in earth and heaven.**

**His name shall be the Prince of Peace, The Everlasting Lord,  
The Wonderful, the Counselor, The God by all adored.  
The God by all adored.**

**His righteous government and power Shall over all extend;  
On judgment and on justice based, His reign shall have no end.  
His reign shall have no end.**

**Lord Jesus, reign in us, we pray, And make us Thine alone,  
Who with the Father ever art And Holy Spirit, one.  
And Holy Spirit, one. Amen.**

**Silent Prayer**

**Announcements**

**The Celebration Of Holy Communion**

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***Have A Blessed Week!***

BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS: Schubert: Deb R., Ryan B., and Larry D.

NOTE: Please call or text Pastor with prayer requests and birthdays.

ORGANISTS: Babtown – Arline M.; Schubert – Keith B.

USHERS this Sunday: Gene W. and George K.

USHERS next Sunday: Gene W. and Mike F.

COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Allan F.

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WELCOME to each of you in the Name of Jesus, whose birth we continue to celebrate. What a joy it is to gather in the Name of our Savior and celebrate His gift to us – Eternal Life! If you are joining us online or are a guest we extend our hand of Christian fellowship to you. Though we are limited in our contact may we be renewed in our relationship to our Savior and to each other by the power of the Holy Spirit. Let us know if you have any need.

OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY is extended to the families of Keith and Pam Bohl, Pam’s mother died on Jan 2, and to John and Jeanette Essen, John’s sister died on Jan 7. May the comfort of the Risen, living Lord-Whose epiphany we celebrate- fill them with His peace through His victory over death.

TODAY: Pick up your January Newsletter, January Lutheran Witness and Portals of Prayer.

TODAY: Voter’s Meetings at both congregations: Schubert, following worship; Babtown, 6:00 p.m.

Both Congregations: Undecorate Church, Babtown, following worship; Schubert, following Voter’s Meeting.

WEDNESDAY: Confirmation Class, 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.

Elders’ Meeting, 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY: Mask-Only worship service, 6:00 p.m.

REMEMBER: We are encouraging all who are in high risk groups, and that are hesitant, to remain at home and continue worshiping online. If attending live worship services, the wearing of masks is encouraged. Call if you wish to have private communion.

SHARE THE GOSPEL with all those around. Encourage each other in Christ.

WE ARE TRYING TO get all of our email and phone information updated. Please let us know if you are not getting the congregational emails. Be sure to check your “junk” mail if you are not getting it. Also contact Pastor to see what might be the issue. Thanks.

LIFE THOUGHTS IN THE CHURCH YEAR: Even in a formless, dark, and empty early universe, God made Himself present and powerful (Genesis 1:2). Surprise pregnancies sometimes seem just so uncertain. Terminal diagnoses can feel that desperate. But this Lord buried Himself in our graveyard (Romans 6:4). This Savior sowed life in death’s shadowy valleys. We need not let abortion or assisted suicide root us there as residents. The Heavenly Father always comes close and brings His own new creation to blossom.

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**OFFERING PLATES** are placed at entrances for worship; or offerings can be mailed in to these addresses:

Schubert: St. John’s Lutheran Church  
4409 St John’s Road  
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Babtown: Dianna Schubert, Treasurer  
24 Evergreen Lane  
Meta, MO 65058

ONLINE OFFERINGS can now also be accepted online through a link posted on our website! We now are registered to use a secure third party company to accept online donations. Our new e-Giving service, Vanco, provides tools to make giving simple even when you’re unable to attend church. Their e-Giving is safe and secure, and it allows you to continue your contributions. On our St. John’s website Vanco page you can create your own password and login. If you have any questions, contact Terry Walkenhorst.

Thanks be to God that we can continue to open the church doors for worship.

**Babbtown**

**Schubert**

**8:00 a.m., Sunday Worship**

**Saturday: 6:00 p.m., Mask-Only Worship**

**Sunday: 9:00 a.m., Sunday School**

**9:30 a.m., Bible Study**

**10:00 a.m., Worship Service**

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PLEASE let Pastor or Elders know your spiritual and physical needs so we may be of help to you.

PAY ATTENTION to your neighbor and help those in need. Show care and concern for others.

PRAY EARNESTLY for strength and protection that only God can provide. Seek His deliverance from all evil.

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**Cover pic artwork:** Artwork from CPH, Photo by Gerald Schepeler

**The Lutheran Hymnal:** St. Louis: Concordia, 1941.

Hymn #128: Text: Matthew 22:11; Author: Reginald Heber, 1811; Tune: Morning Star; Composer: John P. Harding, 1892.

Hymn #127: Text: Matthew 2:1-11; Author: William Dix, 1860; Tune: Dix; Composer: Konrad Kocher, 1838.

Hymn 106: Text: Isaiah 9:2, Matthew 4:16; Author John Morison, 1770 , alt.; Lobt Gott, ihr Christen; Composer: Nikolaus Herman, 1554.

**“We Three Kings”:** Author and Composer: John Henry Hopkins, Jr., 1857; Tune: Three Kings of Orient.

**Bible Readings:** The Holy Bible, English Standard Version. ESV® Text Edition: 2016. Copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers.

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**CALVARY NEWS**

**CALVARY INSIDER –** What happened this past week at Calvary?

- Calvary faculty and staff headed back to school on Tuesday!
- The Calvary Archery Team completed at both Immanuel & Russellville this weekend.



**DISCOVER CALVARY DAY!** – Plans are underway for a Visit Day event for prospective students on the afternoon of February 4. This day is intended for 7<sup>th</sup> grade students to discover the advantages of a Lutheran high school education and the many opportunities available at Calvary. If you know a 7<sup>th</sup> grader (or 8<sup>th</sup> grader, if they haven’t attended before) who would benefit from knowing more about the Calvary experience, contact John Christman at 573-638-0228 to learn more.

**OPEN HOUSES SET –** Considering high school options for your student? You are invited to Open House Nights to hear first-hand from current students and parents about their experiences at Calvary. These will take place at 7:00 p.m. on:

- Monday, February 8, 2021
- Thursday, February 11, 2021
- Tuesday, February 16, 2021

Call the office at 573-638-0228 to RSVP or email John Christman at [administrator@calvarylhs.org](mailto:administrator@calvarylhs.org) to reserve your spot today!

**GIVING WITH GERBES –** If you frequently shop at Gerbes with a Plus Card, there is an easy way you can give back to Calvary when you shop! By going online to your digital account and selecting Calvary Lutheran High School as your Gerbes Community Rewards organization, a portion of your purchases will go back towards Calvary. Thank you!