



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

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THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

January 9, 2022

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 Bible speaks of two visits of faith to the Christ Child—the shepherds' and the Wise Mens'. They were separate events with perhaps as much as two years in between.

The Wise Men, probably observers of stars in Babylonia (modern day Iraq) or another country east of Judea, saw a star that convinced them that the Messiah of the nations had come. In faith they followed it until they came to Bethlehem, where according to Micah's prophecy, the Christ was to be born.

On entering the house where the Holy Family lived, the Magi worshiped Jesus, honoring Him with gold, frankincense and myrrh. Then they returned to their homeland, the first-fruits of faith in the pagan world.

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The Ringing Of The Bell

Prelude

Words of 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.**

Confession:

P: If you, O Lord, kept a record of sins,

C: **O Lord, who could stand?**

P: But with you there is forgiveness;

C: **Therefore You are feared.**

P: We join in the confession of our sins.

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.**

[A moment of silence for personal reflection and confession.]

Absolution

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.**

P: Let us pray:

All: **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.

The Hymn Verse Of Response: [*Sung*] TLH 87, vs. 3 “*Joy To The World*”

**No more let sins and sorrows grow Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found, Far as, far as the curse is found.**

Epiphany Versicles:

P: The people walking in darkness have seen a great light.

C: **The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it.**

P: On those living in the land of the shadow of death a Light has dawned.

C: We have seen His glory, the glory of the one and only Son who came from the Father.

P: For to us a child is born, to us a Son is given.

C: In Him was life, and that life was the Light of men.

[Please be seated.]

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6

¹Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

²For 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. ³And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. ⁴Lift 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. ⁵Then 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. ⁶A 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.

Hymn: “What Child Is This”

What Child is this, Who, laid to rest, On Mary’s lap is sleeping?

Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, While shepherds watch are keeping?

This, this is Christ the King, Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:

Haste, haste to bring Him laud, The Babe, the Son of Mary.

Why lies He in such mean estate Where ox and ass are feeding?

Good Christian, fear: For sinners here The silent Word is pleading:

Nails, spear, shall pierce Him through, The cross be borne, for me, for you:

Hail, hail the Word made flesh, The Babe, the Son of Mary!

So bring Him incense, gold and myrrh, Come peasant, king, to own Him!

The King of kings salvation brings, Let loving hearts enthrone Him.

Raise, raise the song on high! The Virgin sings her lullaby;

Joy, joy for Christ is born, The Babe, the Son of Mary!

Epistle Reading: Ephesians 3:1-12

¹For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles— ²assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for you, ³how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. ⁴When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, ⁵which 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. ⁶This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. ⁷Of 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. ⁸To 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, ⁹and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God, who created all things, ¹⁰so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the

heavenly places. ¹¹ This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹² in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him.

Verse (Spoken by all) [Please Rise]

**Alleluia! Arise, shine, O Jerusalem, For the glory of the Lord is risen upon Thee.
Alleluia! Alleluia! We have seen His star in the East, and are come with gifts to
worship the Lord. Alleluia!**

The Gospel Reading: Matthew 2:1-12

¹ 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, ² 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.” ³ When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴ and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. ⁵ They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet: ⁶ “‘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.’” ⁷ Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. ⁸ 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.” ⁹ 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. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. 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. ¹² And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

The Apostles’ Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; Who was conceived
by the Holy Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary; Suffered under Pontius Pilate,
Was crucified, dead and buried; He descended into hell; The third day
He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven and sitteth on the
right hand of God, the Father almighty; From thence He shall come to judge the
quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost; the Holy Christian Church, the communion
of saints; The forgiveness of sins, The resurrection of the body; And the life
everlasting. Amen.**

[Please be seated.]

Sermon Hymn: TLH 98 “Of The Father’s Love Begotten”

**Of the Father's love begotten Ere the worlds began to be,
He is Alpha and Omega, He the Source, the Ending He,
Of the things that are, that have been, And that future years shall see
Evermore and evermore.**

**Oh, that birth forever blessed When the Virgin, full of grace,
By the Holy Ghost conceiving, Bore the Savior of our race,
And the Babe, the world's Redeemer, First revealed His sacred face
Evermore and evermore.**

**O ye heights of heav'n, adore Him; Angel hosts, His praises sing;
Pow'rs, dominions, bow before Him And extol our God and King.
Let no tongue on earth be silent, Ev'ry voice in concert ring
Evermore and evermore.**

**This is He whom Heav'n-taught singers Sang of old with one accord;
Whom the Scriptures of the prophets Promised in their faithful word.
Now He shines, the Long-expected; Let creation praise its Lord
Evermore and evermore.**

**Christ, to Thee, with God the Father, And, O Holy Ghost, to Thee
Hymn and chant and high thanksgiving And unending praises be,
Honor, glory, and dominion, And eternal victory
Evermore and evermore. Amen.**

Sermon: “Lets Begin At The Beginning” Text: John 1:1-14

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

Installation Of Officers

Prayers

The Celebration Of Holy Communion

[We invite those who are communicant members of Sister Lutheran Congregations in the fellowship of the LC-MS, and are repentant, to commune with us.]

The Invitation

The Words Of Institution

The Distribution

Distribution Hymn: TLH 136 “Angels From The Realms Of Glory

**Angels from the realms of glory, Wing your flight o'er all the earth;
Ye who sang creation's story, Now proclaim Messiah's birth:
Come and worship, Come and worship; Worship Christ, the new-born King.**

**Shepherds in the field abiding, Watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with man is now residing, Yonder shines the Infant Light:
Come and worship, Come and worship; Worship Christ the new-born King.**

**Sages, leave your contemplations, Brighter visions beam afar;
Seek the great Desire of nations, Ye have seen His natal star:
Come and worship, Come and worship; Worship Christ the new-born King.**

Saints before the altar bending, Watching long in hope and fear,
Suddenly the Lord, descending In His temple shall appear:
Come and worship, Come and worship; Worship Christ the new-born King. Amen.

The Prayer Of Thanksgiving

The Benediction

Closing Hymn: “We Three Kings Of Orient Are”

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*

Silent Prayer

Announcements

Postlude

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Organists: Babbtown: Arline Mueller; Schubert: Keith Bohl,
Ushers this Sunday: Gene Walkenhorst and George Kuhlmann.
Ushers next Sunday: Gene Walkenhorst and Mike Forbis.
Communion Assistant: Allan Forbis.

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BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS: Schubert – Debra Rademan and Ryan Braun.
(NOTE: Please call or text Pastor with prayer requests and birthdays.)

HAVE A BLESSED WEEK!

A WARM WELCOME to each of you in the Name Jesus, whose birth we continue to celebrate. Today we commemorate Epiphany (January 6). We are reminded that Jesus is the Savior of all (Jews and Gentiles). Our Christmas celebrations continue during this season of Epiphany (The Gentile's Christmas). We are glad that you have joined us for worship.

If you are a guest, we greet you with special joy. Please be sure to let us know if we can minister to your needs.

POINSETTIAS: If you have not done so, please drop the payment for your poinsettia in the offering plate. Small, \$5; Medium, \$8.75 and Large, \$15. Thanks so much. NOTE: We plan to use the poinsettias throughout the Epiphany Season.

TODAY: Babbtown – Please stay to undecorate the church following worship; Voters' Meeting is planned for 6:00 p.m. Thanks.

TODAY: Schubert – Following worship: Voters Meeting. Please stay after the Voters' Meeting to help undecorate the church. Thanks.

WEDNESDAY: Weekday / Confirmation Classes, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

MISSOURI DISTRICT NEWS: The storms of December 10th have left many Missourians in need of comfort. A member of Christ Lutheran in Augusta lost her life, and the family home was destroyed. Families from St. Paul Lutheran in New Melle have incurred residential damages. The sanctuary roof of St. Trinity Lutheran in St. Louis was damaged beyond repair and requires replacing. The stories of loss and grief are mounting.

The Missouri District will continue to support affected congregations and families in the days ahead—sharing the “peace that passes all understanding” to ease their burden, as well as our financial resources. Due to the significant property damage that has occurred, we invite all of you to join in these efforts of comforting our brothers and sisters in Christ. God's continual care and concern for all of us has made us well-equipped to do the same for others. Thank you for showing the love of Christ to a state needing comfort. Should you have any questions, please reach out to the District office at 314-590-6200 or donate directly at <https://mo.lcms.org/donate>.

LIFE THOUGHTS IN THE CHURCH YEAR: The Heavenly Father welcomed outsiders into His household at Christmas (Matthew 2:11). He even escorted them toward His nativity and incarnation by an extraordinary gesture. His loving grace held the magi as precious as His own Son, regardless of their origin and location. God's favor shines the same way upon unborn ones, even in their sometimes unfavorable circumstances. And His forgiveness embraces all sinners—even those with histories checkered by violence against life

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK:	<u>Babbtown</u>	<u>Schubert</u>
December 30	15	49
New Year's Eve	16	18

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The Lutheran Hymnal: St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House, ©1941.

Hymn #128: Text: Matthew 2:11; Brightest and Best Of The Sons of the Morning; Author: Reginald Heber (1811); Tune: Morning Star; Composer: John P. Harding (1892).

Hymn # 87: Text: Luke 2:10; Psalm 98; Joy To The World; Author: Isaac Watts (1719; Tune: Antioch; Composer: George F. Handel (1742, arr.).

Hymn # 98: Text: 1 Timothy 3:16; Corde natus ex Parentis; Of the Father's Love Begotten; Author: Aurelius C. Prudentius, d. 413 (cento); Trs., John M. Neale (1854) and Henry W. Baker (1861); Tune Divinum Mysterium; Source: Plain Song Tune, 12th Century

Hymn #136: Text: Matthew 2:2; Angels From The Realms of Glory; Author: James Montgome).(1816, 1855, ab.) Tune: Regent Square; Composer: Henry Smart (1867).

Lutheran Service Book: St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House, ©2006.

Hymn #370: Texts: Luke 2:1-20; Matthew 2:1-11; Philemon 2:5-8; Isaiah 53:3-6; What Child Is This; Author: William C. Dix, 1837-1898; Tune: English (Greensleeves), 16th Century; John Stainer, 1840-1901, Alt.;Text and Music: Public Domain.

We Three Kings Of Orient Are: Author and Composer: John Henry Hopkins, Jr., (1857); Tune: We Three Kings Of Orient Are.

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

CALVARY NEWS



THANK YOU – Calvary is blessed by everyone who supports us through prayer, words of encouragement, and financial gifts. As we begin the season of Epiphany, we join with the Magi to know more about our newborn King and Messiah so that we can share the good news with the world.

CALVARY INSIDER – What happened at Calvary in the past week?

- We had a wonderful turn out on Monday for Parent/Teacher Conferences to share first semester successes and set goals for the second semester.
- Tuesday, students, faculty, and staff, returned to classes after a break for Christmas and New Year's.
- Pastor Gledhill led chapel on Wednesday sharing a message about Epiphany.
- 16 teams competed in the 11th Annual Calvary Basketball Tournament on Friday and Saturday. Go Lions!

LION ATHLETICS – Upcoming home (or near home) sporting events:

- Varsity Girls Basketball – Mon., Jan. 10 v. Sacred Heart – 6:00pm
- Calvary Archery Tournament – Thurs., Jan. 13 through Sat., Jan. 15
- JV Boys, Varsity Girls, & Varsity Boys Basketball – Mon., Jan. 17 @ Eugene – 5:00pm

BE A CALVARY AMBASSADOR – Have you seen our commercial on TV yet? Has it been a point of conversation with friends or strangers? Could it be? Early registration is ongoing for next school year. Invite your friends to join you on a tour a Calvary! Call the school to set up a time that works for all.

FINANCIAL PLANNING FOR CHRISTIAN EDUCATION – Missouri allows private K-12 tuition to be paid from a 529 fund. This is a great opportunity for families (or extended family) to contribute specifically to a student's education through state-tax deductible contributions. Qualified withdrawals for tuition expenses can happen now or well into the future. Call John Christman (638-0228) or your financial advisor today to learn more.

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION TO VOLUNTEER MORE? With countless ways to help *Build Christian Leaders* at Calvary, what role can you fill? We have opportunities to serve by volunteering at Calvary's Gift, serving on the Golf Tournament Committee, helping with our annual dinner auction, and other day-to-day opportunities! Where does your passion lie? We would love to have you *Build Christian Leaders* with us! Contact John Christman (administrator@calvarylhs.org) to get more details!

SAVE THE DATE –

- Feb. 3 Discover Calvary Day (7th grade students invited.)
- Feb. 11 Homecoming Basketball Games