

## Epiphany of Our Lord January 5, 2024



*Ringing of Bell*

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### ◆ CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,  
whose steadfast love is everlasting.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God  
and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: God-with-us,

**C: we confess that we have turned away  
those seeking shelter, claiming there is no room  
when we have plenty. We have made power and  
wealth our idols, while you show us true glory: a  
baby in a manger. We have overlooked the  
shepherds, expecting good news in prettier  
packaging. Too often, we have valued violence  
instead of your peace. Turn us from our ways to  
your ways. Grant us the grace to begin again.  
Free us from all that keeps us bound, and forgive  
our sin, through Jesus Christ, who gives himself  
for us. Amen.**

P: Hear the good news and rejoice! You are  
God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, ☩ forgiven  
in Christ, and freed to respond in joy.

**C: Amen.**

HYMN vs. 1,2,3,5 No. 303

*Brightest and Best of the Stars*

**1 Brightest and best of the stars of the morning,  
dawn on our darkness and lend us your aid. Star  
of the east, the horizon adorning, guide where our  
infant redeemer is laid.**

**2 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.**

**3 What shall we give him, in costly devotion?  
Shall we bring incense and off'rings divine,  
gems of the mountain and pearls of the ocean,**

**5 Brightest and best of the stars of the morning,  
dawn on our darkness and lend us your aid.  
Star of the east, the horizon adorning,  
guide where our infant redeemer is laid.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY *We pray together*

L: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

L: O God, on this day you revealed your Son to the  
nations by the leading of a star.

**C: Lead us now by faith to know your presence  
in our lives, and bring us at last to the full vision  
of your glory, through your Son, Jesus Christ  
our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the  
Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*Please be seated for the readings*

FIRST READING: ISAIAH 60:1-6

*Nations come to the light*

<sup>1</sup>Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the  
glory of the LORD has risen upon you. <sup>2</sup>For dark-  
ness shall cover the earth and thick darkness the  
peoples, but the LORD will arise upon you, and his  
glory will appear over you.

<sup>3</sup>Nations shall come to your light and kings to the  
brightness of your dawn. <sup>4</sup>Lift up your eyes and look  
around; they all gather together; they come to you;  
your sons shall come from far away, and your  
daughters shall be carried in their nurses' arms.

<sup>5</sup>Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart  
shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the  
sea shall be brought 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 proclaim the praise of the LORD.

WORD OF GOD. WORD OF LIFE. **THANKS BE TO GOD**

PSALM 72:1-7, 10-14 *We read responsively*

Give the king your justice, O God, and your  
righteousness to the king's son;  
**that he may rule your people righteously and  
the poor with justice;**

that the mountains may bring prosperity to the  
people, and the hills, in righteousness.

**Let him defend the needy among the people,  
rescue the poor, and crush the oppressor.**

May he live as long as the sun and moon endure,  
from one generation to another.

**Let him come down like rain upon the mown  
field, like showers that water the earth.**

In his time may the righteous flourish; and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.

**May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles pay tribute, and the kings of Sheba and Seba offer gifts.**

May all kings bow down before him, and all the nations do him service.

**For the king delivers the poor who cry out in distress, the oppressed, and those who have no helper.**

He has compassion on the lowly and poor, and preserves the lives of the needy.

**From oppression and violence he redeems their lives, and precious is their blood in his sight.**

## SECOND READING: EPHESIANS 3:1-12

*The gospel promise extends to all*

<sup>1</sup> This is the reason that I, Paul, am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you gentiles, <sup>2</sup> for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you <sup>3</sup> and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, <sup>4</sup> a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. <sup>5</sup> In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: <sup>6</sup> that is, the gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

<sup>7</sup> Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. <sup>8</sup> Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ <sup>9</sup> and to make everyone see 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 wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. <sup>11</sup> This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, <sup>12</sup> in whom we have access in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

WORD OF GOD. WORD OF LIFE. **THANKS BE TO GOD**

## ◆ GOSPEL: MATTHEW 2:1-12

**C: GLORY TO YOU, O LORD.**

*Revelation of Christ to the nations*

<sup>1</sup> In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, magi from the east came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup> asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star in the east and have come to pay him

homage." <sup>3</sup> When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him, <sup>4</sup> and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. <sup>5</sup> They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it has been written by the prophet:

<sup>6</sup> 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah, for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.' "

<sup>7</sup> Then Herod secretly called for the magi and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup> Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." <sup>9</sup> When they had heard the king, they set out, and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen in the east, until it stopped over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup> When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. <sup>11</sup> On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. <sup>12</sup> And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

P: THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD.

**C: PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST.**

*Please be seated*

## CHILDREN'S WORD

MESSAGE *Pr. D.J. Chatelaine*

## HYMN What Child Is This

No. 296

<sup>1</sup> **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!**

<sup>2</sup> **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!**

<sup>3</sup> **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!**

## APOSTLES CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: God of grace, C: receive our prayer.

## SHARING OF PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

## OFFERTORY—OFFERING—GLOBE OFFERING

*Children are invited to bring an offering to the globe in the front of the church.*

## ◆ OFFERING PRAYER

P: God of heaven and earth,

**C: from the beginning, you have called forth life, in which you take delight. The trees, the fields, and the seas sing for joy. Bless now these gifts, received from your bounty, that we may join the chorus of creation to tell of your salvation from day to day. Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING Spoken

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION & LORD'S PRAYER

### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

*A child has been born for us, a Son given to us.  
Come, receive the gift of Jesus.*

*Please be seated*

### DISTRIBUTION & HYMN

The First Noel

No. 300

1 The first Noel the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay; in fields where they lay, keeping their sheep, on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

*Refrain* Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel!

Born is the King of Israel.

2 They looked up and saw a star shining in the east beyond them far; and to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night. *Refrain*

3 And by the light of that same star three wise men came from country far; to seek for a king was their intent, and to follow the star wherever it went. *Refrain*

4 This star drew near to the northwest, o'er Bethlehem it took its rest; and there it did both stop and stay right over the place where Jesus lay. *Refrain*

5 Then entered in those wise men three, full rev'rently upon their knee, and offered there in his presence their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense. *Refrain*

## TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Merciful God, we thank you for Jesus, who is our heavenly food.

**C: Strengthened by this goodness, send us forth to announce your peace, comfort the afflicted, and share the good news of great joy. Amen.**

## BENEDICTION

P: The God of love, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, lavish you with grace, illumine your path, and increase your joy, today and always. **C: Amen.**

## ◆ HYMN This Little Light of Mine No. 677

- 1 This little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine;  
this little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine;  
this little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine,  
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
- 2 Ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine;  
ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine;  
ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine,  
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
- 3 Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine;  
Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine;  
Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine,  
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

## DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. The Word of God dwells in you richly. **C: Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

## PARTICIPANTS

PASTOR—Pastor DJ Chatelaine  
WORSHIP ASSISTANT—Tanya Short  
ORGANIST—Tammy Hanson  
COMMUNION SET-UP—Sherry Sathrum  
GREETERS—Sherry Sathrum  
COMMUNION SERVERS—Cora Lee Monroe, Sherry Sathrum, Michael Short  
COFFEE SERVERS—Cora Lee Monroe  
TECH CREW—Heidi Haugen, Barb Groth, Steve Johnson, Holly Aldorfer.

## REMEMBER IN PRAYER

*Jennifer Lerfald, Lavon Underdahl, Kevin Hildebrandt, Jim Fountaine, Dick Overby, Dax Eggert, the Family of Mary Skundberg, the Family of Maurine Olson, and the family of Carol Lozon.*

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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## CALENDAR & ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUN 1/5	9 AM WORSHIP – <i>Chr. 2 / Epiphany</i> 10 AM Sun. School 10 AM Coffee
MON 1/6	11 AM Maurine Olson Memorial Service
TUE 1/7	NOON TO 1 PM Open Prayer Time
WED 1/8	5:30-7 PM Confirmation
WED 1/9	1 PM Love Day 7 PM AA
FRI 1/10	11 AM Carol Lozon Memorial Service
SUN 1/12	9 AM WORSHIP 10 AM Sun.School 10 AM Coffee

### SUN 1/26 - Annual Meeting Date

#### Epiphany Concert of Song & Word *'In the Fullness of Time'*

Sunday January 5, 3:00 pm.

You are Invited.

*(A few First members are taking part)*

EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
ASPELUND, CNTY RD 1, KENYON

### FAMILY SNOW TUBING

Saturday, Jan. 18th, 6-8 pm  
at Steeplechase-Mazeppa.

Call or e-mail Bryana Lothert at:  
507-210-0814 or  
[flcyouth45@gmail.com](mailto:flcyouth45@gmail.com)

**Hymn Sing & Supper,  
Organ Repair Fundraiser  
4 to 7 pm – Sun. Jan. 19**