

THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

January 9, 2022

THE SERVICE OF PREPARATION

PRELUDE

THE RINGING OF THE BELLS

Special Music

“We Three Kings of Orient Are”

Pastor: When the Magi arrived in Jerusalem, everyone was surprised and troubled. Few in Israel remembered God’s promise through Isaiah that other nations would be attracted to them. They had forgotten that Gentiles would come bearing gifts to a future just and righteous King. Only after God worked faith in Saul/Paul’s heart was the message clearly announced that all people share in the promise of Christ. Today, God’s Word calls us not only to see the light of God’s love in Christ but also to emulate the Magi. With joy, our faith moves us to follow where God leads and to worship our Lord, in whom alone we have boldness and access with confidence to the grace of God. That is, Epiphany is not only a celebration of the past but also a call to shine God’s light in our lives today.

PREPARATION

(Please stand)

HYMN

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” *LSB 380*

**Hark the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King
Peace on earth and mercy mild
God and sinners reconciled
Joyful all you nations rise
Join the triumph of the skies
With the angelic hosts proclaim
Christ is born in Bethlehem
Hark the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King**

**Christ by highest heav’n adored
Christ the everlasting Lord
Late in time behold Him come
Offspring of a virgin’s womb
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see
Hail incarnate deity
Pleased as Man with man to dwell
Jesus our Immanuel
Hark the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King**

**Hail the heav’n-born Prince of Peace
Hail the Sun of Righteousness
Light and life to all He brings
Ris’n with healing in His wings
Mild He lays His glory by
Born that man no more may die
Born to raise the sons of earth**

**Born to give us second birth
Hark the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King**

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and
of the Holy Spirit.

People: (spoken) **Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES

Isaiah 60:1, 5–6; Matthew 2:2, 10–11

Pastor: Arise, shine, for your light has come.

**People: We saw His star when it rose and have come to
worship Him.**

Pastor: You shall see and be radiant.

People: They rejoiced exceedingly with great joy.

Pastor: They shall bring good news, the praises of the
LORD.

People: And they fell down and worshiped Him.

(Please be seated or kneel for the confession and absolution)

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Psalm 124:8; 130:3, adapt.; Ephesians 3:11–12

Pastor: Our help is in the name of the LORD,

People: who made heaven and earth.

Pastor: If You, O LORD, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who
could stand?

**People: But with You there is forgiveness; therefore
You are feared.**

Pastor: Although God has graciously showered the light of His love on us, we have not responded in lives of total devotion. But because He has graciously promised to forgive, let us go to Him in the name of *“Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in Him.”*

People: Gracious heavenly Father, we confess that we have let the distractions of this world turn our eyes from seeing the true Light. We have not loved You with our whole hearts. Forgive us and renew in us hearts to see, follow, and worship You alone.

Pastor: In the mercy of almighty God, our heavenly Father sent His Son to take to His cross all our sins, and His Holy Spirit has graciously shined the light of faith in Christ into our hearts. I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: (spoken) **Amen.**

(Please stand)

✠ WORD ✠

KYRIE

Pastor: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

People: (spoken) **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For peace shining down on us from above and for the salvation of all people, let us pray to the Lord.

People: (spoken) **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For peace so that the Church of God would more brightly shine the light of the Gospel in the nations of the world, let us pray to the Lord.

People: (spoken) **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For all who join us here to thank God for the unsearchable riches of Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

People: (spoken) **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

People: (spoken) **Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

“Gloria In Excelsis, Glory to God in the Highest” *LSB 154*

Pastor: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.

People: (sing)

Lord God, heavenly king almighty God and Father:

We worship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God:

You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.

For You alone are the Holy One. You alone are the Lord,

**You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the
Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: (spoken) **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

O God, You led the Magi to see in the star the news of Christ's birth. We give thanks that You have enabled us to see Him as our Savior.

People: Grant us strength of faith to follow where He leads and to worship Him with all that we are and have;

Pastor: through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: (spoken) **Amen.**

(Please be seated)

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Isaiah 60:1-6 ESV*

Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. 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. And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. 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. 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. 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.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: (spoken) **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL *Psalm 117:1–2a; 96:8*

Pastor: Praise the LORD, all nations!

People: Extol Him, all peoples!

Pastor: For great is His steadfast love toward us,

People: and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever.

Pastor: Ascribe to the LORD the glory due His name;

People: bring an offering, and come into His courts!

EPISTLE *Ephesians 3:1-12 ESV*

For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for you, how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, 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. 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. 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. 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, and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God, who created all things, so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: (spoken) **Thanks be to God.**

(Please Stand)

THE TRIPLE HALLELUJAH (sung)

People: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

VERSE *Matthew 2:2b*

Pastor: Alleluia. Where is He who has been born king of the Jews?

People: For we saw His star when it rose and have come to worship Him. Alleluia.

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the second chapter.

People: (sing) **Glory to You, O Lord.**

HOLY GOSPEL *Matthew 2: 1-12 ESV*

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

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: (sing) **Praise to You, O Christ.**

CREED Nicene Creed

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 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 shall 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 worshipped 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 of the world to come. Amen.

HYMN OF THE DAY

“As With Gladness Men of Old” *LSB 397 vs 1-3*

**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**

(Please be seated)

+ SERMON+

“Wisdom of Faith: Seeing, Following, Worshiping”

Text: Matthew 2:1-12 (The Gospel Lesson)

The Wisdom of Faith is Seeing, Following and
Worshipping Jesus.

- I. Surely the Magi were wise to see, follow, and worship Jesus.
- II. But not everyone who should be able to see does see, follow
And worship Jesus.
- III. Still, God brightly points you to see, follow, and worship
Jesus.

HYMN

“As With Gladness Men of Old” *LSB 397 vs 4 & 5*

**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 heav'nly 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**

(please be seated or kneel for the prayer)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH *Ephesians 3:6–7, 10*

Pastor: Let us pray for ourselves, the Church around the world, and all people in their various circumstances.

For ourselves, that we thank God as a congregation and in our individual lives for revealing to us that we are all *“partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel,”* let us pray to the Lord.

People: (spoken) **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For all who minister “according to the gift of God’s grace” that has been given to them, people of faith who are in government, armed forces, local police departments, professional and volunteer caregivers, and workers in the health professions, that they serve those under their care in safety and with wisdom, let us pray to the Lord.

People: (spoken) **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For all for whom the mystery of Christ is still hidden, that through the Church here and around the world *“the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known”* to them, so that they approach God in confident faith for Jesus’ sake, let us pray to the Lord.

People: (spoken) **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For those near and dear to us, . . . , that they boldly bring their petitions to God in faith and that we open ourselves to be part of the answers that God so graciously provides, let us pray to the Lord.

People: (spoken) **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For those who have gone before us in faith—the Magi, the writers of the Scriptures, patriarchs, prophets, saints, martyrs, and those who brought the Good News to us, let us give thanks to the Lord.

People: (spoken) **Thanks be to God.**

Pastor: These and any other things You would have us ask of You, heavenly Father, grant to us for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, in whose name we pray.

People: (spoken) **Amen.**

(Please stand)

✠ SACRAMENT

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

People: (spoken) **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

Colossians 3:1

People: (spoken) **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. *Psalms 136*

People: (spoken) **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: 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, whose birth was announced by a star seen by the Magi, whose coming was foretold in Scripture and followed by

those Wise Men, and who was worshiped by them with gifts and great joy. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

SANCTUS (Sing) LSB 195

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth
Heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory**

Hosanna Hosanna

Hosanna in the highest

Blessed is He

Blessed is He

Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord

Hosanna, Hosanna

Hosanna in the highest

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for having mercy on us and sending Your only-begotten Son into our history to die as one of us. Because of Your gift of faith, we see Him as our Savior and seek to follow His ways. Gathered now in joyous worship to partake of His body and blood, we ask that You 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.

People: (spoken) Amen.

WORDS OF OUR LORD

Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25

Pastor: 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 ✠ 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 ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

1 Corinthians 11:26; Revelation 22:20

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

People: (spoken) **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Pastor: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER (*Matthew 6:9–13*)

All: 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.

PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: (spoken) **Amen.**

AGNUS DEI (Sung) LSB 198

**O Christ, Thou Lamb of God that takest away the sin of
the world have mercy upon us**

**O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of
the world, have mercy upon us**

**O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of
the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.**

(Please be seated)

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

“Brightest and Best of the Stars of the Morning”

LSB 400

Brightest and best of the stars 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 Fragrance 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 stars 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

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

(Please stand)

THE POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

Pastor: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ
strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to
life everlasting.

People: (spoken) **Amen.**

(Please stand at the conclusion of the distribution for the blessing
followed by the Post-Communion Canticle)

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

THE NUNC DIMITTIS (sung) TLH p. 29-30

**Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant
depart in peace according to Thy word,
for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
which Thou hast prepared before the face
of all people, a light to lighten the
Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel.
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 with-out end. Amen**

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have
given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament.

Trusting in Your gracious forgiveness,

**People: we pray that we see You accompanying us each
day, follow where You lead, and give You praise
and worship in all that we do and say;**

Pastor: through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: (spoken) **Amen.**

BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24–26*

Pastor: 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.

People: (spoken) **Amen.**

HYMN

“Hail, O Source of Every Blessing” *LSB 409*

**Hail O Source of ev'ry blessing
Father of our human race
Gentiles now Your grace possessing
In Your courts obtain a place
Grateful now we fall before You
In Your Church rejoice to live
See Your glory and adore You
Thankful for the grace You give**

**Once far off but now invited
We approach Your sacred throne
In Your covenant united
Reconciled redeemed made one
Now revealed to eastern sages
See the Star of Mercy shine
Myst'ry hid in former ages
Myst'ry great of love divine**

**Hail O all inviting Savior
Gentiles now their off'rings bring
In Your temples seek Your favor
Jesus Christ our Lord and King
May we body soul and spirit
Live devoted to Your praise
Glorious realms of bliss inherit
Grateful anthems ever raise.**

THOSE SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE

Rev. Paul Pollatz, Pastor

Marie Brown, Organist

Dave Hamilton, Elder & Reader

Gary Mason, Glenn Cairns & Kim Armstrong, Ushers

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Join us for a...

January 16th
after service

PANCAKE
Breakfast

The youth invite the congregation to a kid's Club pancake breakfast following worship on the 16th of January, next Sunday.

Kids Club donations

Collecting Men & Women WHITE socks to donate to a homeless shelter. Collection begins now until Jan. 31st. There will be a box for WHITE SOCKS ONLY placed in the Narthex/Hallway.

KIDS CLUB REMINDER

Kid's Club meeting next Saturday, the 15th to get our "ducks in a row"

Quilters – Change of date

New date: Thursday January 13th.

Attendance

Sunday January 2nd 9:30 am 21

Prayer List

If sudden illness or the need for immediate prayers occurs, please feel free to contact our Prayer Chain leader, Joan Hafkesbrink, at 313.565.6871. Prayer requests will remain on the list for two weeks.

Anniversary

Birthdays

Alex Haney – January 13th

For the Shut-Ins

Dorothy MacTavish, at home

George Morton, at home

Mack Mayfield, at home

Carmell Faulk, at home

Phyllis Witte, at home

Melvin Kimbrough, at home

Lynn Mayfield, at home

For Those Who Are Sick or Healing

Mary, Frank Pignanelli's Sister, Hospitalized after stroke.

Jim and Karen Bumgarner, covid

The family of Nadine Serra, cousin of Ruth Pollatz, called to glory this past Monday, she was laid to rest yesterday, with Pastor Pollatz conducting the service

Lynn Mayfield, daughter of Mack Mayfield, with ruptured cervical discs, confined to a neck brace;

Melvin Kimbrough, Carolyn's husband, hospitalized this past week

For the family of Eddie Jones, Val Mason's brother, who was called to glory last Wednesday morning

For the family of Mark Leger, nephew of Phyllis Witte, who was called to glory

Barbara Kuderik, friend of Janet Witte, anticipating surgery tomorrow, January 10th

Jack Gurney, Paul Utcai's Nephew, hospitalized

Barbara and Frank Parise, Frank Pignanelli's family, suffering from COVID

Kent James, nephew of Linda Panich, Hospitalized with and open wound infection on foot