

† *Wherever you are in your spiritual journey, you are welcome here. We invite you to journey with us as we explore the life of faith together. At First Lutheran all are welcome in every aspect of our congregational life. We believe that worship is central to our life together. God empowers us to live out our purpose which is to share his word and the promise of salvation.*



THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

Sunday, January 6, 2019
GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

Epiphany means "manifestation." On this day we celebrate the revelation of Christ to the Gentiles—that is, to all nations. Some Christian traditions celebrate three great epiphanies on this day: the magi's adoration of the Christ child, Jesus' baptism in the Jordan River, and his first miracle, in which he changes water into wine. The word and sacraments are for us the great epiphany of God's grace and mercy. We go forth to witness to the light that shines brightly in our midst.

PRELUDE

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN No. 301
"Bright and Glorious Is the Sky" (vs. 1,2,4,6)

CONFESSION OF SIN

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, +one God, the Lord of Israel who creates and forms us, who redeems us and calls us, who unites us and sends us.

C: Amen.

P: Gathered in God's presence, let us confess our sin.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P: Mighty and loving God,

C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We seek our own way. We divide the body of Christ. In your mercy, cleanse us and heal us. Let the words of our mouths, the thoughts of our hearts, and everything that we do be filled with faith, hope, and love. Amen.

P: Hear the voice of Jesus: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me to proclaim release to the captives." In the name of +Jesus Christ, I proclaim to you that your sins are forgiven and you are released. The joy of the Lord is your strength, and the gifts of the Holy Spirit are yours forever. **C: Amen.**

KYRIE Page 184

HYMN OF PRAISE Page 187

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

C: Almighty and ever-living God, you revealed the incarnation of your Son by the brilliant shining of a star. Shine the light of your justice

always in our hearts and over all lands, and accept our lives as the treasure we offer in your praise and for your service, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

CHILDREN’S SERMON

HEARING GOD’S WORD

FIRST LESSON Isaiah 60:1-6

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. 2For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. 3Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. 4Lift 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 on their nurses’ arms. 5Then 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 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 proclaim the praise of the Lord.

Here ends the first lesson.

C: Thanks be to God.

SECOND LESSON Psalm 71:1-7, 10-14

Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the king’s son; **C: 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.

C: 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.

C: 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.

C: 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.

C: 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.

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

The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Page 151

C: Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

GOSPEL Matthew 2:1-12

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the second chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

1In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, 2asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.” 3When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; 4and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. 5They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: 6‘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.’ ” 7Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. 8Then 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.” 9When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. 10When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. 11On 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. 12And 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.

SERMON Pastor Joyce Tollefson Capp

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

HYMN OF THE DAY No. 646 WOV “We Three Kings”

APOSTLES’ CREED Page 105

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

P: Lord in your mercy, C: Hear our prayer.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always. C: And also with you.

RECEIVING OF OUR MORNING OFFERING

OFFERTORY HYMN No. 294 “In the Bleak Midwinter” (vs. 1,3)

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Let us pray.

C: God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING/WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also 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 our thanks and praise.

LORD’S PRAYER

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Come to the table. Feast on God’s abundant life for you.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS

COMMUNION HYMNS 471, 671, 479

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Let us pray.

C: We thank you, O God, that you have fed us at the banqueting table with bred and wine beyond compare, the very life of Christ for us. Send your Spirit with us now, that we may set the captive free, use your gifts to build one another up, and in everything reflect your glory revealed in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

GOD’S PEOPLE SENT FORTH

BLESSING

P: The God of glory dwell in you richly, name your beloved, and shine brightly on your path; and the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the +Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always.

C: Amen

SENDING HYMN No. 665..... “Rise, Shine, You People!”

DISMISSAL:

P: Go in peace. Christ is your light. **C: Thanks be to God.**

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WELCOME! Great to have you here! Thank you for choosing to worship with us here today. We practice open Communion at First Lutheran. If you believe that Christ is truly present in the bread and wine, his body and blood shed for you, you are welcome to our table. Apple juice is available upon request.

THE WORSHIP RADIO BROADCAST today is sponsored in honor of Betty Ann Stueven’s 53rd Birthday by Dwight & Sheila Horton & family.

Ministers.....	Members of First Lutheran Church
Pastor	Rev. Joyce Tollefson Capp
Reader.....	Nancy Finzen
Organist	Paul Henriksen
Acolytes	Merrick Heidebrink & Madison Gunnink
Ushers.....	Scott Barduson, Wade Smith, Jake & Gen Velde
Sound	Jason Weber & Mike Straw
Communion Assistant	Chris Hollingsworth

† **Continuing Prayer Concerns:** Deb Smith, Gladys Ihlen and Lorraine Johnson as they deal with health issues, Sarah & Harold Meyer's daughter, Crystal, as she undergoes cancer treatment, Sarah Meyer's sister, Mary, and Chuck & Dorie Sendelbach on the death of their sister-in-law, Nancy.

- ❖ Assisted listening devices are available from the ushers.
- ☎ PLEASE remember to turn off Cell Phones and Pagers during worship.

THIS WEEKS' SCHEDULE — January 6, 2019

<u>TODAY</u>	
9:30am - Worship/Holy Communion	
4:30pm - 9th Annual First Lutheran Epiphany Party	
<u>MONDAY</u>	
6:00pm - Worship Comm. meeting	
<u>TUESDAY</u>	
8:30am - Ministerial Assoc. meeting	
10:30am - Good Samaritan Worship Service	
<u>WEDNESDAY</u>	
7:00pm - Confirmation	8:00pm - Council meeting
<u>THURSDAY</u>	
9:30am - Quilting	4-5:00pm - Second Harvest
<u>NEXT SUNDAY</u>	
9:30am - Worship	10:30am - Coffee Fellowship

Stewardship Quote:

"We make a living by what we get; we make a life by what we give."
Winston Churchill



2018 December Giving

Monthly Income Required to Operate	\$ 17,800.00
Weekly Giving - Dec. 2	\$ 5,288.12
Weekly Giving - Dec. 9	\$ 4,073.36
Weekly Giving - Dec. 16	\$ 11,377.88
Weekly Giving - Dec. 23	\$ 11,171.16
Christmas Eve - Dec. 24	\$ 5,189.48
Weekly Giving - Dec 30	\$ 3,107.47
Total	\$ 40,207.47
Net Revenue	\$ 22,407.47



NOISY OFFERING

Thank you for your support of the 'Noisy Offering' that was collected for the Heifer Project. The total amount given toward the project was \$1,523.49.

9th Annual First Lutheran
Epiphany Party

Celebrating the Spirit of Epiphany "Lighting the Way to a Balanced Life" is **TODAY**. Arrive at 4:30 p.m. We eat at 5:00. Menu: Potluck of your favorite holiday foods will be provided - meatballs, potatoes & lutefisk. (Donations appreciated) Meet in the Fellowship Hall. RSVP by calling Nancy Johnson @ 507-227-5335 if you don't get a chance to sign-up on the sheet in the Narthex.



2019 Offering Envelopes

The Offering envelopes are available in the Narthex. Please stop to pick up your envelopes before or after Church. They will also be available in the Church office.

2019 RADIO BROADCAST OPENINGS

Thank you for your continued support of sponsoring the First Lutheran Radio Broadcast. The 2019 Radio Broadcast schedule is now posted in the office hallway. If you wish to sponsor a 2019 RADIO BROADCAST - please sign up for the Sunday of your choice. The cost of sponsoring a broadcast is \$58.00.



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, January 20, 2019 @ 10:30 a.m. We encourage all members to attend and be a part of this important process.

We will be voting on the updated constitution and bylaws.

WANTED: Sound Video Operator

to work in the Sound booth on Sundays & special occasions. Training will be provided. Please contact the Church office @ 825-5837.

