

The Festival of Epiphany (January 6)



Jesus is the Light of the World, The Savior for All



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Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod - Christ's Love, Our Calling.

"I rejoiced with those who said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the LORD." Psalm 122:1



Lord of Love Lutheran Church

January 2, 2022

DIVINE SERVICE II



Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, abr., alt.

Tune: REGENT SQUARE (87 87 87) Henry T. Smart, 1813-79.



CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

STAND

INVOCATION

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION

M: Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

C: Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin.
For faithless worrying and selfish pride,
For sins of habit and sins of choice,
For the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do,
You should cast me away from your presence forever.
O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.

ABSOLUTION

M: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant:

I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

LORD, HAVE MERCY

Mark 10:47

Kyrie

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

For the well-being of all people everywhere, that they may receive from you all they need to sustain body and life, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: For the spread of your life-giving gospel throughout the world, that all who are lost in sin may be brought to faith in you, hear our prayer, O Christ.

C: Christ, have mercy.

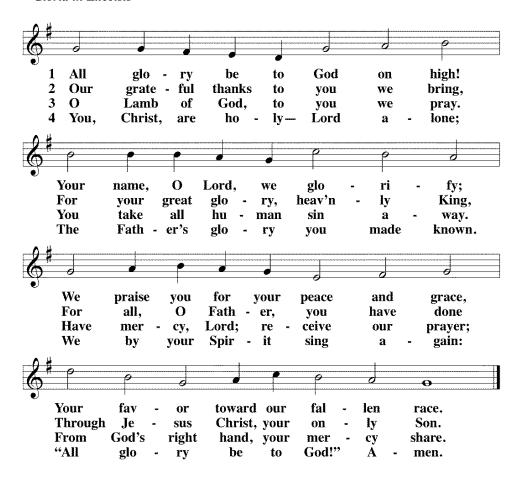
M: For patience and perseverance in this life, that we may not lose the hope of heaven as we await your return, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: Lord of life, live in us that we may live for you.

C: Amen.

Gloria in Excelsis





THE WORD

SALUTATION

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

Lord God, by the leading of a star you once made known to the nations your one and only Son. Guide us, also, who know him now by faith, to come at last to the perfect joy of your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BE SEATED

FIRST LESSON Isaiah 60:1-6

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

² Look, darkness covers the earth, and deep darkness covers the peoples, but the LORD will dawn upon you, and his glory will be seen over you.

³ Nations will walk to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

⁴ Look up. Look all around and see!
All of them have been gathered. They are coming to you. Your sons will come from far away,

and people will carry your daughters on their side.

⁵ Then you will look and be radiant.

Your heart will race with excitement and burst with joy.

For great riches from the sea will be delivered to you.

The wealth of the nations will come to you.

⁶ Caravans of camels will cover your land, young camels from Midian and Ephah.

All those from Sheba will come.

They will carry gold and incense, and they will announce the good news of the praise of the LORD.

SECOND LESSON

Ephesians 3:2-12

² Surely you have heard of the administration of God's grace given to me for you, ³ namely, that the mystery was made known to me by revelation (as I have already written briefly). ⁴ When you read this, you will be able to understand my insight into the mystery of Christ. ⁵ This mystery was not made known to people in past generations as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to his holy apostles and prophets. ⁶ This mystery is that in Christ Jesus the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and people who also share in the promise through the gospel.

⁷ I became a servant of this gospel, in keeping with the gift of God's grace that was given to me by the working of his power. ⁸ To me—even though I am the very least of all the saints—was given this grace: to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ ⁹ and to enlighten everyone about the administration of this mystery. In past ages this mystery remained hidden in God, who created all things. ¹⁰ He did this so that, through the church, the multifaceted wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹ This was done according to the eternal purpose that he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord. ¹² In him we can freely approach God with confidence through faith in him.

VERSE OF THE DAY

M: Alleluia. We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him. Alleluia. (Matthew 2:2b)

As with Gladness Men of Old



Text: William C. Dix, 1837-98, alt.

Tune: Dix (77 77 77) Conrad Kocher, 1786-1872, alt.

SERMON Matthew 2:1-12

2 After Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, when Herod was king, Wise Men from the east came to Jerusalem. They asked, ² "Where is he who has been born King of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." ³ When King Herod heard this, he was alarmed, and all Jerusalem with him. ⁴ He gathered together all the people's chief priests and experts in the law. He asked them where the Christ was to be born. ⁵ They said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, because this was written through the prophet:

⁶ You, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are certainly not least among the rulers of Judah: because out of you will come a ruler, who will shepherd my people, Israel."

⁷ Then Herod secretly summoned the Wise Men and found out from them exactly when the star had appeared. ⁸ He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the child. When you find him, report to me, so that I may also go and worship him."

⁹ After listening to the king, they went on their way. Then the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them, until it stood still over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they rejoiced with overwhelming joy. ¹¹ After they went into the house and saw the child with Mary, his mother, they bowed down and worshipped him. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts: gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹² Since they had been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they went back to their own country by another route.

Who Are These People Come to Worship Jesus?

STAND



NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,

maker of heaven and earth,

of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,

eternally begotten of the Father,

God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,

begotten, not made,

of one being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,

was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,

and became fully human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,

and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God and Mary's son, in the fullness of time you came into our world to save us from sin and death.

C: You ushered in the day of grace so long foretold.

- **M:** Beloved Son of the Father, revered by the Magi, baptized by John, you came preaching and teaching, healing and comforting, forgiving and encouraging:
- C: You brought the light of life to those walking in darkness, and the joy of salvation to those doomed to death.
- M: Prince of peace, shine like a beacon for us and the people of our world. Let the good news of salvation be heard in the remotest corners of the earth. Open our own lips to speak your name to those around us who still live without faith or hope:
- C: Arouse us and our missionaries to flood the world with the light of your gospel.
- M: Lord of the Church, let your peace rule our hearts that we may use our gifts to serve you and each other in willing gratitude and joy. Watch over our loved ones near and far, that they may remember your love and rejoice in your salvation. Strengthen the faith of the sick and the disheartened. Give hope to those in despair and comfort those who mourn:
- C: Be gracious to all and lead us to reflect your love in everything we say and do.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions. *Silent prayer*.

M: Finally, bring us and all your believers to the heavenly home where we will stand in the full light of your glory and with all your saints and angels sing the everlasting song of triumph.

C: Amen.

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The recorded Service of the Word for members at home concludes here. We continue with the Service of the Sacrament with those gathered in the sanctuary.



THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is good and right so to do.

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who came as the Light of the world so that the world may have light and life through him.

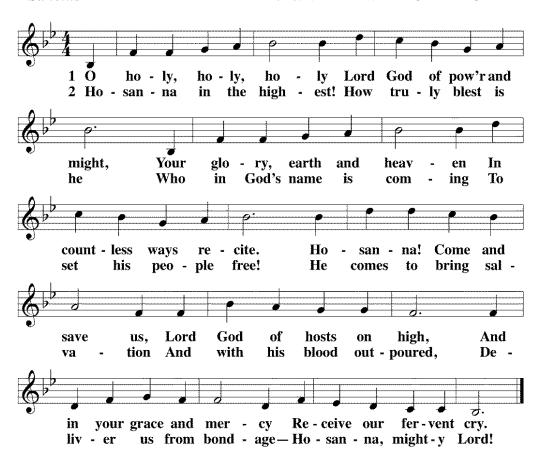
Therefore with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Sanctus

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9

Tune: VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBER



PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

M: Blessed are you, O Lord of heaven and earth. We praise and thank you for sending your Son, Jesus Christ, and we remember the great acts of love through which he has ransomed us from sin, death, and the devil's power.

By his incarnation, he became one with us.

By his perfect life, he fulfilled your holy will.

By his innocent death, he overcame hell.

By his rising from the grave, he opened heaven.

Invited by your grace and instructed by your Word, we approach your table with repentant and joyful hearts. Strengthen us through Christ's body and blood, and preserve us in the true faith until we feast with him and all his ransomed people in glory everlasting.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER Matthew 6:9-13

C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Matthew 26:26-28 1 Corinthians 11:24,25

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my (+) body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my (+) blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

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

C: Amen.

LAMB OF GOD

John 1:29



BE SEATED

DISTRIBUTION

In accordance with the Scriptural practice of closed Communion, we invite to the Sacrament of Christ's body and blood the communicant members of this congregation. We invite also the communicant members of our sister congregations in our fellowship (the WELS and the ELS) who have made their intention known to one of our pastors. We ask other guests in attendance to refrain from taking the Sacrament with us today, and we invite you to speak with a pastor about how you may join our fellowship and commune with us in the future.

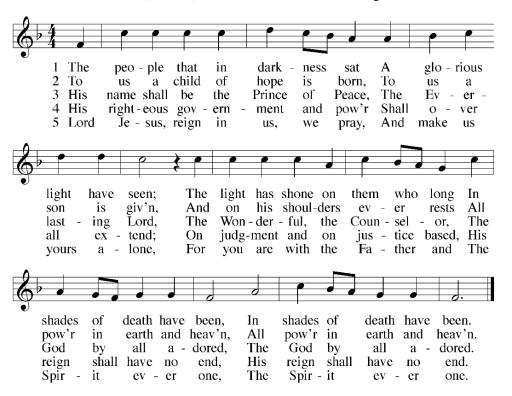
DISTRIBUTION HYMN (CW 79)

How Lovely Shines the Morning Star



DISTRIBUTION HYMN (CW 90)

The People that in Darkness Sat



Text: John Morison, 1750-98, abr., alt.

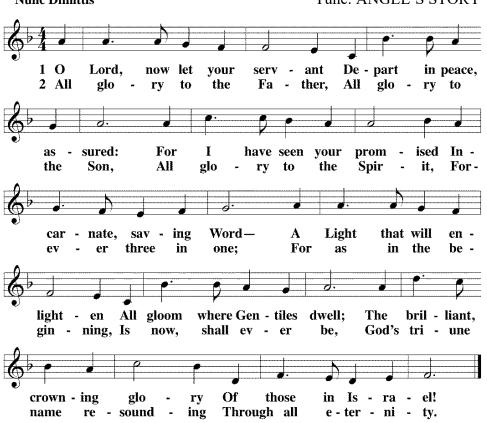
Tune: LOBT GOTT, IHR CHRISTEN (86 866) Nikolaus Herman, c. 1480–1561.

STAND

SONG OF SIMEON

Nunc Dimittis

Luke 2:29-32 Tune: ANGEL'S STORY



M: We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet that you have given us to eat and to drink in this sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BLESSING Numbers 6:24-26

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on yo

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

Amen.

BE SEATED

CLOSING HYMN (CW 577:1, 3-4) Rise, O Light of Gentile Nations Rise, Light of Gen - tile O na - tions, Je - sus, bright and 2 Know-ing you and vour sal - va - tion, Grate - ful love dare 3 May our help the hea - then in-creased from zeal to Be 4 Say - ior. shine in all your glo - ry On the na - tions glad - some Morn - ing Star; Let your Word, the ti - dings, То nev - er cease pro - claim your ten - der mer - cies, day, As plead in true com - pas - sion day to we high - ways near and far; From the and the by - ways Ring out loud - ly and far, Bring - ing near cious Let Gra -Lord. vour heav'n - ly peace. us for the And their con - ver - sion pray. For Call them forth, O Morn - ing Star. Guide them free - dom the cap - tives, Peace and com - fort to sound the pel ti - dings To the earth's gos re faith - ful work - ers, For the gos - pel man - y whom your grace has cho - sen Out of Sa - tan's from the slave, free to That the hea - then, mot est bound That the sin - ner has been they pro claim, Let us all be cheer ful dread - ful thrall To the man - sions of your bond - age, May pro - claim pow'r your to save. par - doned And for _ give - ness can be found.

Text: Herman Fick, 1822-85, abr.; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, St. Louis, 1941, alt. Tune: O DU LIEBE MEINER LIEBE (87 87 D) Erbaulicher Musicalischer Christen-Schatz, Basel, 1745, alt.

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There is no adult Bible study, teen group and Sunday school between services today. They will resume next Sunday January 9.

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Personal Prayers for Worship

Before Communion:

Lord, I am not worthy to be a guest at your holy table. But you are the friend of sinners, and you will not cast me out. This bread is your body, which bore my sins upon the tree. This wine is your blood, which purifies me from all guilt. At your invitation, I come rejoicing. Receive me, my Savior.

After Communion:

Thank you, Lord Jesus Christ, for nourishing me in this sacrament with your body and blood. You have given me forgiveness, life, and salvation. Let me always remain in you as a branch remains in the vine. Send me out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory.

O living Bread from heaven, how richly you have fed your guest! The gifts you now have given have filled my heart with joy and rest. Lord, grant me that thus strengthened with heavenly food, while here my course on earth is lengthened, I serve with holy fear. And when you call my spirit to leave this world below, I enter through your merit where joys unmingled flow.

Sunday January 2: 2nd Sunday after Christmas Worship Services at 8:00 & 10:30 with Holy Communion

No adult Bible study, teen group or Sunday school today

- Preaching Pastor: Joel Jenswold
 Presiding Pastor: Michael Willitz
- Pianist: Kimberly Duve
- Councilman/Elder: Dave Olson (8:00) and Mitch Myhre (10:30)
- Ushers 8:00 am: Ryan Jaeger and Aaron Oughton
- Ushers 10:30 am: Ushers needed
- Counters: Lynn Biwer and additional counter needed
- Altar Guild: Donna Cotter

• A/V & Recording: Joe Hornbeck

Sunday January 9: Baptism of our Lord Worship Services at 8:00 & 10:30 with Holy Communion 9:15 am: Adult Bible study, Teen Group and Sunday School

- Preaching Pastor: Michael Willitz
 Presiding Pastor: Michael Willitz
- Organist: Jennifer Boll
- Councilman/Elder: Dave Olson (8:00) and Greg Zeman (10:30)
- Ushers 8:00 am: Sef Fox, Dave Olson and Ben Olson
- Ushers 10:30 am: Joshua Hodkiewicz and Greg Zeman
- Counters: Rose Marie Foley and Kim Bauer
- Altar Guild: Donna Cotter
 A/V & Recording: Devin Anderson

Happy Birthday: We wish God's blessings to Sharon Freund (1/2), Linda Dobbins (1/3), Christian Rimmert (1/4), Gary Ruplinger (1/5), Brooklynn Tutaj (1/5), Heather Hurth (1/6), Angela Bakken (1/7) and Willa Craney (1/8) who celebrate their birthdays this week.

In Our Prayers: Fred Bakken, Joyce Hamburg (sister-in-law of Karen Tobison), Wyatt Kingsland, Roger LaGrange, Peter Leege, Marilyn Lund, Rose Lund, Barb Noltemeyer, Marge Ripp, Peg Schroeder and the Willitz family who are experiencing difficulties.

A special prayer for all of our men & women who are serving in the Armed Forces. Among them are Shannon & Matthew Garrett, Sara Goss and John J. Schueman (son of Bonnie & John Schueman).

Looking Ahead:

- Feb. 5, 2022: Seminar on Home Devotions at Lord of Love, 9 12 noon. (Snow date is Feb. 12.)
- March 2: Ash Wednesday Worship, 12:30 and 6:30 pm