



Stained glass depicting the visit of the Magi, Immanuel Lutheran Church, Seymour, Indiana

# The Epiphany of Our Lord

Divine Service 3

January 6, 2024 6:30pm

## Scripture of the Day

Isaiah 60:1–6

Ephesians 3:1–12

Matthew 2:1–12

## A Prayer before Worship

*O Lord, my creator, redeemer, and comforter, as I come to worship You in spirit and in truth, I humbly pray that You would open my heart to the preaching of Your Word so that I may repent of my sins, believe in Jesus Christ as my only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear me for the sake of His name. Amen.*

**Prelude:** WIE SCHON LEUCHTET (“O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright”), P. Manz

*Please stand and face the Processional Cross.*

**Processional Hymn: Brightest and Best of the Stars of the Morning** *LSB 400 sts. 1, 3–5*



1 Bright - est and best of the stars of the morn - ing,  
3 Shall we not yield Him, in cost - ly de - vo - tion,  
4 Vain - ly we of - fer each am - ple ob - la - tion,  
5 Bright - est and best of the stars of the morn - ing,



Dawn on our dark - ness and lend us thine aid;  
Fra - grance of E - dom and of - f'ring di - vine,  
Vain - ly with gifts would His fa - vor se - cure.  
Dawn on our dark - ness and lend us thine aid;



Star of the East, the ho - ri - zon a - dorn - ing,  
Gems of the moun - tain and pearls of the o - cean,  
Rich - er by far is the heart's ad - o - ra - tion;  
Star of the East, the ho - ri - zon a - dorn - ing,



Guide where our in - fant Re - deem - er is laid.  
Myrrh from the for - est and gold from the mine?  
Dear - er to God are the prayers of the poor.  
Guide where our in - fant Re - deem - er is laid.

Text: Reginald Heber, 1783–1826, alt.

Tune: James P. Harding, 1850–1911, adapt.

Text and tune: Public domain

## Confession and Absolution

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

*Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]*

**P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

*[Hebrews 10:22]*

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C** who made heaven and earth.

*Psalm 124:8*

**P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

**C** and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

*Psalm 32:5*

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

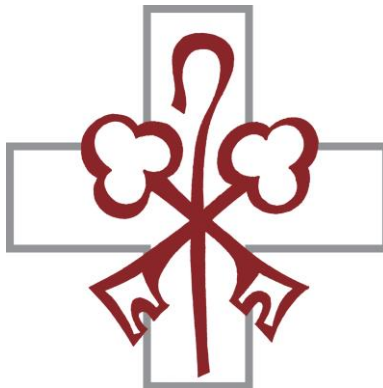
**P** O almighty God, merciful Father,

**C** I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

**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 Spirit.

*[John 20:19-23]*

**C** Amen.



## ✠ Service of the Word ✠

Introit *Psalm 45:6–8a; antiphon: v. 17*



- P** I will cause your name to be remembered in all gener- | ations;\*  
therefore nations will praise you forever and | ever.
- C** Your throne, O God, is forever and ever. The scepter of your kingdom is a  
scepter of up- | rightness;\*  
you have loved righteousness and hated | wickedness.
- P** Therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your com-  
| panions;\*  
your robes are all fragrant with myrrh and aloes and | cassia.
- C** Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\*  
and to the Holy | Spirit;  
as it was in the be- | ginning,\*  
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.
- P** I will cause your name to be remembered in all gener- | ations;\*  
therefore nations will praise you forever and | ever.

Kyrie

*Mark 10:47*



- C** Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -  
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

  
*Kyrie Eleison*  
LORD, HAVE MERCY

# Gloria in Excelsis

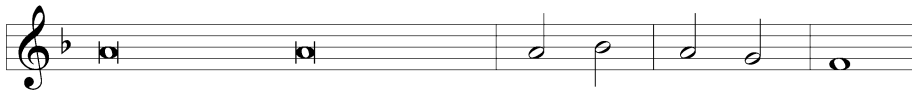
*Luke 2:14; John 1:29*



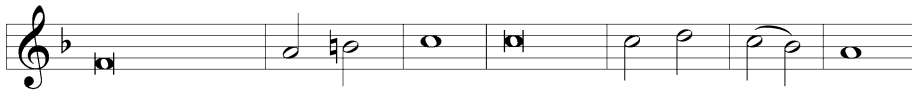
Glory be to God on high: and on earth peace, good - will toward



men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,



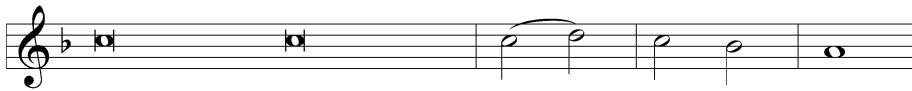
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.



O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty.



O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;



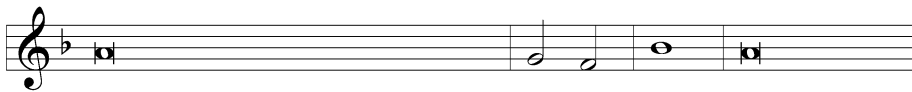
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,



that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up - on us.



Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re - ceive our prayer.



Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up -



on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord.

Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,  
 art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

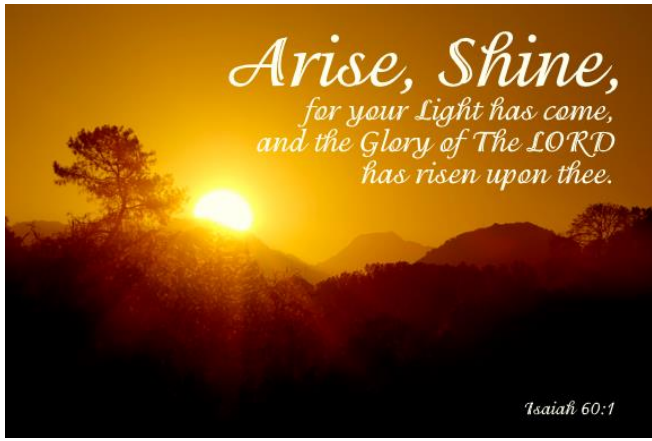
**Salutation and Collect of the Day**

**P** The Lord be with you.  
**C** And with thy spir - it.  
**P** Let us pray.

*2 Timothy 4:22*

- P** 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.
- C** Amen.

*Sit*



## The Old Testament Reading *Isaiah 60:1–6*

<sup>1</sup>Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. <sup>2</sup>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. <sup>3</sup>And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. <sup>4</sup>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. <sup>5</sup>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. <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 bring good news, the praises of the LORD.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## The Epistle Reading *Ephesians 3:1–12*

<sup>1</sup>For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles—  
<sup>2</sup>assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God’s grace that was given to me for you, <sup>3</sup>how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. <sup>4</sup>When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, <sup>5</sup>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. <sup>6</sup>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.

<sup>7</sup>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. <sup>8</sup>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, <sup>9</sup>and to bring to light for everyone 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 manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. <sup>11</sup>This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, <sup>12</sup>in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

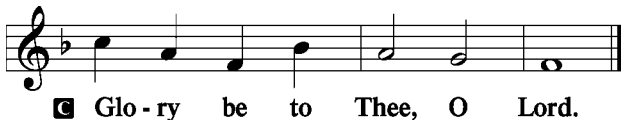
## Alleluia



Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

## The Holy Gospel *Matthew 2:1–12*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the second chapter.



Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, magi from the east came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup>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.” <sup>3</sup>When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; <sup>4</sup>and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. <sup>5</sup>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.””

<sup>7</sup>Then Herod summoned the magi secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup>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.” <sup>9</sup>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. <sup>10</sup>When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. <sup>11</sup>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. <sup>12</sup>And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Praise be to Thee, O Christ.



## Nicene Creed

**C** I believe in one God,  
the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth  
and of all things visible and invisible.

*Deuteronomy 6:4; Isaiah 44:6  
Matthew 6:9; Exodus 6:3  
Genesis 1:1; John 1:1  
Colossians 1:16*

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 will have no end.

*Romans 10:9  
John 3:16; Matthew 16:16  
John 1:2  
John 17:22; John 8:12; John 1:1  
Colossians 2:9  
John 1:2  
John 10:30  
Hebrews 1:2; John 1:3  
Matthew 20:28; Galatians 4:4-5  
John 3:13, John 6:38  
Luke 1:34-35  
John 1:14  
Mark 15:25; John 19:16-18  
John 19:1-3; Luke 23:53  
1 Corinthians 15:4; Luke 24:6  
Acts 1:9  
Acts 7:55  
Matthew 26:64  
Acts 10:42; Matthew 3:12  
2 Peter 1:11*

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 worshiped 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  $\dagger$  of the world to come.  
Amen.

*John 14:26; Genesis 1:2; Acts 2:38  
Titus 3:5; 1 Corinthians 12:3  
John 15:26  
Mt. 3:16-17; Lk. 2:14  
Ezekiel 11:5; 2 Peter 1:20-21  
1 Peter 2:5; Ephesians 2:19-22  
Ephesians 4:5; Acts 2:38  
1 Corinthians 15:35-49; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18  
Isaiah 65:17-19; Revelation 21:1-4  
Psalm 106:48*

*Please remain standing for the Hymn of the Day.*

# Hymn of the Day: O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright

LSB 395



1 O Morn-ing Star, how fair and bright! You shine with God's  
 2 Come, heav'n-ly Bride-groom, Light di - vine, And deep with - in  
 3 Lord, when You look on us in love, At once there falls  
 4 Al - might - y Fa - ther, in Your Son You loved us when



own truth and light, A - glow with grace and mer - cy!  
 our hearts now shine; There light a flame un - dy - ing!  
 from God a - bove A ray of pur - est plea - sure.  
 not yet be - gun Was this old earth's foun - da - tion!



Of Ja - cob's race, King Da-vid's son, Our Lord and mas -  
 In Your one bod - y let us be As liv - ing branch -  
 Your Word and Spir - it, flesh and blood Re - fresh our souls  
 Your Son has ran - somed us in love To live in Him



ter, You have won Our hearts to serve You on - ly!  
 es of a tree, Your life our lives sup - ply - ing.  
 with heav'n-ly food. You are our dear - est trea - sure!  
 here and a - bove: This is Your great sal - va - tion.



Low - ly, ho - ly! Great and glo-rious, All vic - to - rious,  
 Now, though dai - ly Earth's deep sad - ness May per - plex us  
 Let Your mer - cy Warm and cheer us! O draw near us!  
 Al - le - lu - ia! Christ the liv - ing, To us giv - ing



Rich in bless-ing! Rule and might o'er all pos - sess - ing!  
 And dis - tress us, Yet with heav'n - ly joy You bless us.  
 For You teach us God's own love through You has reached us.  
 Life for - ev - er, Keeps us Yours and fails us nev - er!

- 5 O let the harps break forth in sound! Our joy be all with music crowned,  
Our voices gladly blending!  
For Christ goes with us all the way, today, tomorrow, ev'ry day!  
His love is never ending!  
Sing out! Ring out! Jubilation! Exultation! Tell the story!  
Great is He, the King of Glory!
- 6 What joy to know, when life is past, the Lord we love is first and last,  
The end and the beginning!  
He will one day, oh, glorious grace, transport us to that happy place  
Beyond all tears and sinning!  
Amen! Amen! Come, Lord Jesus! Crown of gladness! We are yearning  
For the day of Your returning!

Text: tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978, alt. Text and tune: Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608

Text: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001376 Tune: Public domain

*Sit*



*Stand*

**Prayer of the Church**

**P** Lord, in your mercy.

**C** Hear our prayer.

*Thank you for continuing to support the Lord's Work here at Bethany. Offering plates are available at the back of the sanctuary, or consider giving through the Vanco Mobile app or online at [www.bethanylcs.org](http://www.bethanylcs.org).*

**Offertory**

*Psalm 51:10-12*

**C** Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -  
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -  
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it  
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -  
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

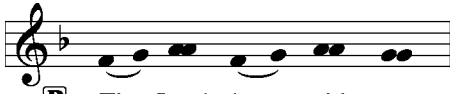


## ✠ Service of the Sacrament ✠

### About Receiving the Lord's Supper at Bethany

As we receive the Lord's Holy Supper according to His institution, we receive the salvation, forgiveness, and life eternal won for us on the cross. Also, we believe that when a person communes at an altar, one confesses unity with the teachings of that church. Therefore, if you are not in fellowship with the teaching of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, we ask that you refrain from communion until you have had opportunity to speak with one of the pastors about Christ's bodily presence and the forgiveness of sins given in this meal. However, all are welcome to receive a blessing, for the forgiveness of Jesus is still yours. Please indicate this as your intention by crossing your arms over your chest when the pastor comes by.

### Preface



**P** The Lord be with you.

*2 Timothy 4:22*



**G** And with thy spir - it.



**P** Lift up your hearts.

*[Colossians 3:1]*



**G** We lift them up un - to the Lord.



**P** Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.

*[Psalm 136]*



**G** It is meet and right so to do.

**P** It is truly meet, right, and salutary ... evermore praising You and saying:

### Sanctus

*Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9*



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;  
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,  
ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,  
bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.  
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

### Lord's Prayer

*Matthew 6:9-13*

**C** 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.

The  
**L**ORD'S  
Prayer

## The Words of Our Lord

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

**P** 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  $\text{✠}$  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  $\text{✠}$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## Pax Domini

*John 20:19*



**P** The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



**G** A - men.

## Agnus Dei

*John 1:29*



**G** O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the



world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that



tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us.



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the



world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

*Sit*

## A Prayer for Right Reception of the Lord's Supper

*Dear Savior, at Your gracious invitation I come to Your table to eat and drink Your holy body and blood. Let me find favor in Your eyes to receive this holy Sacrament in faith for the salvation of my soul and to the glory of Your holy name; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

### Distribution Hymn: Hail, O Source of Every Blessing

LSB 409



1 Hail, O Source of ev - 'ry bless - ing, Fa - ther of our  
2 Once far off but now in - vit - ed, We ap - proach Your  
3 Hail, O all - in - vit - ing Sav - ior! Gen - tiles now their



hu - man race! Gen - tiles now, Your grace pos - sess - ing, In Your  
sa - cred throne, In Your cov - e - nant u - nit - ed, Rec - on -  
of - f'ring bring, In Your tem - ples seek Your fa - vor, Je - sus



courts ob - tain a place. Grate - ful now, we fall be - fore You,  
ciled, re - deemed, made one. Now re - vealed to east - ern sa - ges,  
Christ, our Lord and King. May we, bod - y, soul, and spir - it,



In Your Church re - jice to live, See Your glo - ry  
See the Star of Mer - cy shine, Mys - t'ry hid in  
Live de - vot - ed to Your praise, Glo - rious realms of



and a - dore You, Thank - ful for the grace You give.  
for - mer a - ges, Mys - t'ry great of love di - vine.  
bliss in - her - it, Grate - ful an - thems ev - er raise.

Text: Basil Woodd, 1760–1831, alt.

Tune: Geist-reiches Gesang-Buch, 1704, Halle, ed. Johann A. Freylinghausen

Text and tune: Public domain



# Distribution Hymn: The Star Proclaims the King Is Here

LSB 399 sts. 1, 2, 5



1 The star pro - claims the King is here; But, Her - od,  
2 The east - ern sa - ges saw from far And fol - lowed  
△ 5 For this Thy glad e - piph - a - ny All glo - ry,



why this sense - less fear? For He who of - fers heav'n - ly  
on His guid - ing star; And, led by light, to light they  
Je - sus, be to Thee, Whom with the Fa - ther we a -



birth Seeks not the king - doms of this earth.  
trod And by their gifts con - fessed their God.  
dore, And Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more.

Text: Coelius Sedulius, 5th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt.

Tune: Geistliche Lieder aufs new gebessert, 1535, Wittenberg, ed. Joseph Klug Text and tune: Public domain

*Stand*



## Thanksgiving after Receiving the Sacrament

*Almighty and everlasting God, I thank and praise You for feeding me the life-giving body and blood of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Send Your Holy Spirit that, having with my mouth received the holy Sacrament, I may by faith obtain and eternally enjoy Your divine grace, the forgiveness of sins, unity with Christ, and life eternal; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.*

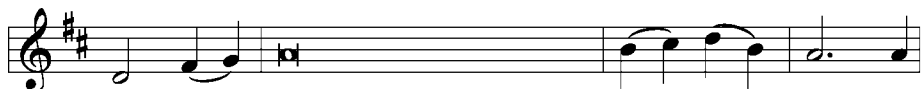
### Dismissal

**P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.

**C** Amen.

### Nunc Dimittis

*Luke 2:29-32*



**C** Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac-



cord-ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,



which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,



a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy



peo-ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and

to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ev - er shall be, world without end. A - men.

### Thanksgiving

*Psalm 107:1*

**A** O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,  
**C** and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

### Post-Communion Collect

- A** Let us pray.  
O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

### Salutation and Benedicamus

**P** The Lord be with you.  
**C** And with thy spir - it.

*2 Timothy 4:22*



**A** Bless we the Lord.

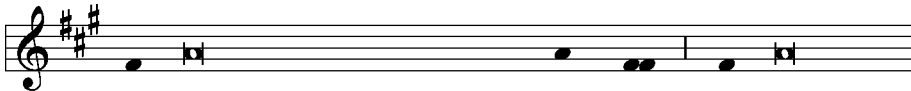
*[Psalm 103:1]*



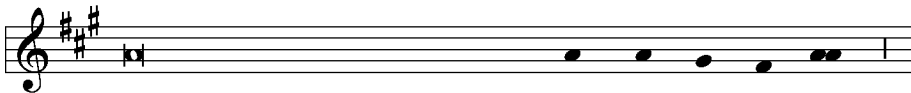
**C** Thanks be to God.

### Benediction

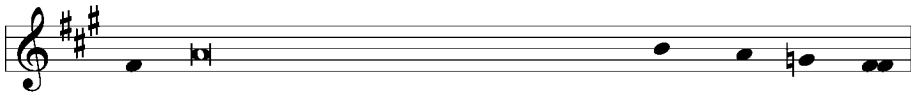
*Numbers 6:24-26*



**P** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make



His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.



**C** A-men, a-men, a - men.



## Hymn to Depart: As with Gladness Men of Old

LSB 397



1 As with glad-ness men of old Did the guid-ing star be-hold;  
2 As with joy-ful steps they sped, Sav-ior, to Thy low-ly bed,  
3 As they of-fered gifts most rare At Thy cra-dle, rude and bare,  
4 Ho-ly Je-sus, ev-'ry day Keep us in the nar-row way;  
5 In the heav'n-ly coun-try bright Need they no cre-at-ed light;



As with joy they hailed its light, Lead-ing on-ward, beam-ing bright;  
There to bend the knee be-fore Thee, whom heav'n and earth a-dore;  
So may we with ho-ly joy, Pure and free from sin's al-loy,  
And when earth-ly things are past, Bring our ran-somed souls at last  
Thou its light, its joy, its crown, Thou its sun which goes not down;



So, most gra-cious Lord, may we Ev-er-more be led by Thee.  
So may we with will-ing feet Ev-er seek Thy mer-cy seat.  
All our cost-liest trea-sures bring, Christ, to Thee, our heav'n-ly King.  
Where they need no star to guide, Where no clouds Thy glo-ry hide.  
There for-ev-er may we sing Al-le-lu-ias to our King.

Text: William C. Dix, 1837–98, alt. Tune: Conrad Kocher, 1786–1872 Text and tune: Public domain

**Postlude:** DIX (“As with Gladness Men of Old”), W. Pelz



## A Prayer after Worship

*Almighty and merciful God, I have again worshiped in Your presence and received both forgiveness for my many sins and the assurance of Your love in Jesus Christ. I thank You for this undeserved grace and ask You to keep me in faith until, with all Your saints, I inherit eternal salvation; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.*

## Those Serving You Today

**Preacher and Celebrant:** Rev. Stephen Schumacher

**Assisting Pastors:** Rev. Seth Clemmer, Rev. Emmett Bartens

**Organist:** Kari Janetzke

**Live Stream Tech:** James Blasius

**Acolyte:** Lily Keller, Walter Keller

**Sacristan:** Glenn Luehrsen, Dominic Salvino

**Ushers:** Jonathan Knussman, Keith Luhrs

**Communion Care:** Ashly Koenig



# + + + KIDS IN THE DIVINE SERVICE + + +



## What is “The Epiphany of Our Lord”?

The word “epiphany” (pronounced ee-PIF-uh-nee) comes from the Greek word meaning “manifestation.” Jesus was made known to all people simply by being born. If we had been alive back then, we could have actually reached out and touched Jesus! He was real, and the evidence was in His birth!

## Why do we celebrate Epiphany?

Epiphany is the third part of the Christmas season. During this special season in the Church Year, we remember the visit of the Wise Men. Traditionally, this visit is celebrated on Jan. 6.



Epiphany also brings to mind many other important events in Jesus’ life. For example, we remember Jesus’ Baptism, the star that guided the Wise Men, and most importantly, His birth! Wow! There sure is a lot happening after Christmas!



**Parents:** “God in flesh made manifest” is a hard statement for children to understand. Be sure to remind them that Jesus is real, alive and once walked on the earth for all to see. When Holy Communion is offered, be sure to let your children attend with you. Instruct them that this is where Christ manifests and gives His true body and blood for us.





For information on activities and updates at Bethany, please subscribe to the “Week at a Glance” by emailing [office@bethanylcs.org](mailto:office@bethanylcs.org). If you prefer, some paper copies are available at the Welcome Center.



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