

"After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen in the east went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was." (Matthew 2:9)

# THE FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

January 6, 2018 + 5:30pm

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church Waukesha, WI

## THE FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

January 6, 2018

#### "CHRIST IS THE WORLD'S LIGHT"

#### WELCOME TO TRINITY

The word 'epiphany' comes from a Greek word meaning "to show forth," referring to the appearance of Christ as the Savior (Titus 3:4). Christmas lights may be coming down, but the Light of the world still shines for all to see. We receive this Light as we celebrate the Epiphany of Our Lord. Today we hear how the mysterious Wise Men from the East are led by the Lord to follow the star of wonder to the everlasting eternal Light. Jesus shines the brightness of heaven into the darkness of their hearts, and they respond with gifts of honor and praise. Jesus does the same for you today as we receive His Word and share in His body and blood. Dispelling the darkness of sin, He covers you with the light of His presence and invites you, as He did the Wise Men, to respond to Him in honor and praise.

We welcome all of our guests and visitors to worship this evening, this twelfth day of Christmas!

#### HYMN ENLARGEMENT INSERTS

Hymn enlargement inserts with the texts to the chosen hymns for today's worship, printed in larger print are available from the ushers upon request.

#### **OUR COMMUNION PRACTICE**

We believe that gathering together at God's altar to receive Holy Communion is a testimony of the confession and commitment we share as members of the Lutheran Church. We ask guests who are not members of our Lutheran denomination to speak with one of the pastors before joining us at the altar so that all may have a clear understanding of our faith and practice. Thank you.

#### **OUR FACILITIES**

Our restrooms are located to the left as you leave the sanctuary. They are located near the coat room. The members of Trinity believe that families should be encouraged to worship together. If your young child needs to be quieted, we have an audio-equipped children's room just outside of the church doors to your right. If you need anything during the service, please feel free to ask an usher.



## ORDER OF SERVICE

Please light your candle by tipping the UNLIT candle into the flame. At the direction of the presiding minister, please stand and face the back of church.

#### **INVOCATION**

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

C: Amen.

#### **OPENING SENTENCES**

based on John 1

- M: In Christ is life; the life which is the light of the world.
- C: The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it.
- M: There came a man who was sent from God; his name was John. He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all men might believe.
- C: He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.
- M: The true light that gives light to every man was coming into the world.
- C: Jesus Christ is the light of the world. Whoever follows him will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life.

### **CONFESSION OF SINS**

- M: Jesus Christ is the light of the world and through him God has manifested the fullness of his saving glory.
- C: But we have loved the darkness instead of the light and we are afraid of the light, because it exposes our sin.
- M: Let us confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to grant us forgiveness.
- C: Merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed. We justly deserve your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name.
- M: You are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a holy people, belonging to God by Baptism and faith, that you may declare the praises of him who called you from the darkness of sin and death to the marvelous light of forgiveness and life. By the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: Amen.

Remain standing to sing the hymn. Follow the procession as it passes by.

#### PROCESSIONAL HYMN

#### As with Gladness Men of Old

Christian Worship 83 *Setting by Richard Rose* 



#### **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.

Candles may be extinguished. The sanctuary lights are turned to full strength.

#### THE WORD

#### **OLD TESTAMENT READING**

Numbers 24:15-17a

A star will come out of Jacob

<sup>15</sup>Then Balaam uttered his oracle: "The oracle of Balaam son of Beor, the oracle of one whose eye sees clearly, <sup>16</sup>the oracle of one who hears the words of God, who has knowledge from the Most High, who sees a vision from the Almighty, who falls prostrate, and whose eyes are opened: <sup>17</sup>"I see him, but not now; I behold him, but not near. A star will come out of Jacob; a scepter will rise out of Israel."

#### **RESPONSORY**

M: The Word of the Lord.C: Thanks be to God!

#### **HYMN RESPONSE**

Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

Christian Worship 82:1,5 *Setting by Richard Rose* 

Songs of thankfulness and praise, Jesus, Lord, to you we raise, Manifested by the star
To the Magi from afar,
Branch of royal David's stem,
In your birth at Bethlehem.
Anthems be to you addressed,
God in man made manifest.

Grant us grace to see you, Lord, Mirrored in your holy Word. May our lives and all we do Imitate and honor you That we all like you may be At your great epiphany And may praise you, ever blest, God in man made manifest.

#### **EPISTLE READING**

#### Romans 11:13-15, 28-32

We who are disobedient have received God's mercy through the gospel

<sup>13</sup>I am talking to you Gentiles. Inasmuch as I am the apostle to the Gentiles, I make much of my ministry <sup>14</sup>in the hope that I may somehow arouse my own people to envy and save some of them. <sup>15</sup>For if their rejection is the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance be but life from the dead?

<sup>28</sup>As far as the gospel is concerned, they are enemies on your account; but as far as election is concerned, they are loved on account of the patriarchs, <sup>29</sup>for God's gifts and his call are irrevocable. <sup>30</sup>Just as you who were at one time disobedient to God have now received mercy as a result of their disobedience, <sup>31</sup>so they too have now become disobedient in order that they too may now receive mercy as a result of God's mercy to you. <sup>32</sup>For God has bound all men over to disobedience so that he may have mercy on them all.

#### RESPONSORY

M: The Word of the Lord.C: Thanks be to God!

#### **HYMN RESPONSE**

Hail, O Source of Every Blessing Christian Worship 87:1-2

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.

Stand for the Holy Gospel

HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 2:1-12

The wise men worship the Christ-child

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem <sup>2</sup>and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him." <sup>3</sup>When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. <sup>4</sup>When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Christ was to be born. <sup>5</sup>"In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied, "for this is what the prophet has written: <sup>6</sup>" 'But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will be the shepherd of my people Israel.' <sup>7</sup>Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared.

<sup>8</sup>He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and make a careful search for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him." <sup>9</sup>After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen in the east went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup>When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. <sup>11</sup>On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh. <sup>12</sup>And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

#### RESPONSORY

M: The Gospel of the Lord!C: Thanks be to God!

#### **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.

Be seated

**HYMN OF THE DAY** 

How Lovely Shines the Morning Star Christian Worship 79 Setting by Jeffrey Blersch

Stanza 3 is an organ solo.

SERMON Matthew 2:1-12

Pastor Donn G. Dobberstein

### "EPIPHANY'S INVITATION: SEE JESUS!"

Stand

#### **HYMN RESPONSE**

Hail to the Lord's Anointed

Christian Worship 93:1,3 *Setting by Charles Schramm* 

Hail to the Lord's Anointed,
Great David's greater Son!
Hail, in the time appointed,
His reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression,
To set the captive free,
To take away transgression,
And rule in equity.

Kings shall bow down before him And gold and incense bring; All nations shall adore him; His praise all people sing. To him shall prayer unceasing And daily vows ascend, His kingdom still increasing, A kingdom without end.

Be seated

#### OFFERING

Please take a moment during the collection of the offering to sign the Friendship Register in each of the pews. We encourage you to take a moment after the service to get to know those seated around you! Worshipers choosing to take communion, please make a record of your attendance in the Friendship Register.

Stand

#### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- M: Jesus Christ, Lord of glory, you delight in making yourself known to us and others. Bring us to recognize and rejoice in your majesty and your ministry. In love you chose to exercise your greatest strength to serve us in our greatest need.
- C: You revealed the brightness of your glory through humble deeds of love.
- M: You called ordinary men to do extraordinary things as your disciples and apostles. You also call us confidently to follow you, diligently to learn from you, and lovingly to imitate you. Equip and empower us to serve you and our neighbor faithfully.
- C: Use us as your witnesses to bring many throughout the world to the light of your gospel.

- M: You revealed your glory through mighty signs and wonders. Assure us that you still rule all things in the universe and use them to serve our eternal good. In wise compassion you often exercise your power to help and heal people with physical and emotional needs.
- C: Give us courage and compassion to relieve the distress of the hurting, to pray for all according to their needs, and to be content and cheerful when in your wisdom you ask us to endure hardship.

*Special prayers and intercessions may follow.* 

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

Silent prayer.

- M: Preserve your truth among us, and by that truth preserve us until you appear in dazzling splendor to bring us to the glory of heaven. Let our anticipation of the heavenly kingdom ennoble our thinking and speaking, enrich our conduct, and increase our joy in all aspects of earthly life
- C: Hear us, Light of the Gentiles and Glory of Israel. Amen.

#### LORD'S PRAYER

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.

#### 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; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world you have made known to the nations in your Son. As you by a star once guided Wise Men from the East, you now guide your sons and daughters from every corner of the earth to come to him who is the Light of the world.

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

Sanctus



Text: Lutheran Book of Worship, © 1978, Augsburg Fortress Music: Holy Communion: Creation Setting; Marty Haugen; © 1992, GIA Publications, Inc.

#### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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."

#### **PAX DOMINI**

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

## O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD

Agnus Dei

Marty Haugen



Text: Lutheran Book of Worship, © 1978, Augsburg Fortress Music: Holy Communion: Creation Setting; Marty Haugen; © 1992, GIA Publications, Inc.

Be seated

#### **ANTHEM**

## Lord, Now Lettest Thou Thy Servant Depart in Peace The Nunc Dimittis

Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy

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, To be a light to lighten the Gentiles, and to be 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 without end. Amen.



Stand

### **THANKSGIVING**

#### **PRAYER**

M: We give thanks to you, dear Father in heaven, that you continue to guide people of every nation to the One who is the Light of the world. Having tasted and seen your goodness in his body and blood, grant that we who have seen this light may reflect his glory in all we say and do; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

#### **BENEDICTION**

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

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

C: Amen.

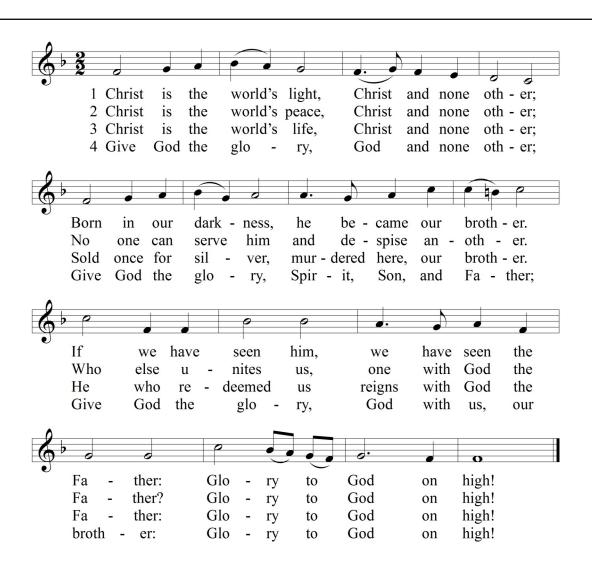
#### **RECESSIONAL HYMN**

Christ Is the World's Light Christian Worship 343

Setting by K. Lee Scott

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### POSTLUDE & DISMISSAL

**How Lovely Shines the Morning Star** 

Michael Burkhardt

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### **SERVING AT WORSHIP**

Presiding Ministers

Pastor Lawrence R. Gates
Pastor Scott T. Oelhafen

Trinity Lutheran Church – Waukesha, WI

Lector Pastor Jonathan E. Arndt

Reformation Lutheran Church – Genesee Depot, WI

Preacher Pastor Donn G. Dobberstein

Director of Discipleship

WELS Commission on Youth and Family Ministry

Principal Organist Mark D. Davidson

Trinity Lutheran Church – Waukesha, WI

Choir Trinity Mixed Choir

Jeremy S. Bakken, director

Instrumentalists

Rod Clouser, Brian Genrich, trumpet

Tracy Clouser, trombone & tuba
Sami Clouser, Rhea Geschke, french horn
Rick Backhaus, baritone

Casey Pufahl, timpani



## TRINITY EV LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Trinity Lutheran School – Waukesha

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## **Worship Service Times**

Saturday - 5:30pm Sunday - 8:15 & 10:45am Monday - 6:30pm

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**Rev. Aaron L. Christie** Administration, Worship, School & Youth

**Rev. Lawrence R. Gates** Visitation & Senior Ministry

**Rev. Scott T. Oelhafen**Outreach & Christian Nurture

**Mr. Justin G. Gut**Trinity Lutheran School Principal

Seminarian Paul W. Bourman Seminarian Russ Scoggins Student Assistants for Spanish Ministry