



Celebration of the Epiphany

This service anticipates the Epiphany, traditionally celebrated on January 6, twelve days after Christmas. Epiphany commemorates the visit of the Wise Men who greet the Lord Jesus.

Sunday, January 2, 2022

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

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DON & JOANNE HEIDLAF IN CELEBRATION OF JOANNE'S BIRTHDAY



Today's Guest Pastor

Rev. Kris Whitby

Assistant to the President

-Mission & Ministry

Northern Illinois District

of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod



Rev. Kris Whitby served the past 16 years as pastor at Saint Paul, Mt. Prospect, and during that time he also was honored to serve as our District's North region's Vice President. He and his wife, Marguerita live in Palatine and are still celebrating that their son and daughter were both married this past year. In February 2021, Pastor Kris was installed as Assistant to the President – Mission and Ministry for the NID where he works with President Buss and our district's congregations to promote our district's threefold ministry focus of Word, Wellness, and Witness.

EPIPHANY REFRAINS

An order of service using refrains and hymn verses related to Epiphany and God's revealing of His Son.

Opening Refrains

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.

Invocation

P: In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen. Alleluia.**

P: Where is he who has been born king of the Jews?

Matthew 2:2b

C: **For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him. Alleluia.**

Introit Refrains (Entrance Verses) Songs of Thankfulness and Praise LSB 394 sts. 1, 5



1 Songs of thank - ful - ness and praise, Je - sus, Lord, to Thee we raise,
5 Grant us grace to see Thee, Lord, Pres - ent in Thy ho - ly Word—



Man - i - fest - ed by the star To the sa - ges from a - far,
Grace to im - i - tate Thee now And be pure, as pure art Thou;



Branch of roy - al Da - vid's stem In Thy birth at Beth - le - hem:
That we might be - come like Thee At Thy great e - piph - a - ny



An - thems be to Thee ad - dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.
And may praise Thee, ev - er blest, God in man made man - i - fest.

Introit (Entrance Verses)

Psalm 45:6–8a, 72:18–19; antiphon (repeated verses): Psalm 45:17

P: I will cause your name to be remembered in all generations;
therefore nations will praise you forever and ever.

C: **Your throne, O God, is forever and ever.**

P: The scepter of your kingdom is a scepter of uprightness;
you have loved righteousness and hated wickedness.

C: **Blessèd be the LORD, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things.
Blessèd be his glorious name forever;
may the whole earth be filled with his glory! Amen and Amen!
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

P: I will cause your name to be remembered in all generations;
therefore nations will praise you forever and ever. C: **Amen.**

Confession (Admission) of Sin

P: As we praise the Father for sending His Son, we are bold and confident to approach the Lord, admitting our sin, and clinging to His forgiveness.... Almighty God, our maker and redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C: **O most merciful God, who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

Absolution (Forgiveness)

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. **C: Amen.**

Thanksgiving Refrains O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright LSB 395 sts. 1, 4



1 O Morn - ing Star, how fair and bright! You shine with God's
4 Al - mighty Fa - ther, in Your Son You loved us when



own truth and light, A - glow with grace and mer - cy!
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 -
Your Son has ran - somed us in love To live in Him



ter, You have won Our hearts to serve You on - ly!
here and a - bove: This is Your great sal - va - tion.

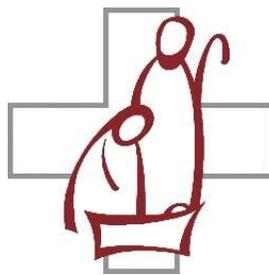
Low - ly, ho - ly! Great and glo - rious, All vic - to - rious,
Al - le - lu - ia! Christ the liv - ing, To us giv - ing

Rich in bless - ing! Rule and might o'er all pos - sess - ing!
Life for - ev - er, Keeps us Yours and fails us nev - er!

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 60:1-6(ESV)

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



Acknowledgments

This liturgy written and arranged by the Rev. Dr. Benjamin C. Squires.
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Epistle Reading**Ephesians 2:22-3:12(ESV)**

²² In [Christ] you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.

¹For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles—
²assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God’s grace that was given to me for you, ³how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. ⁴When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, ⁵which 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. ⁶This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

⁷Of 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. ⁸To 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, ⁹and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things, ¹⁰so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹²in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him.

Gospel Reading**Matthew 2:1–12(ESV)**

¹Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, ²saying, “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.” ³When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. ⁵They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:

⁶“*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.*”

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

Greeting and Collect (Prayer of the Day)

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray. 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.**

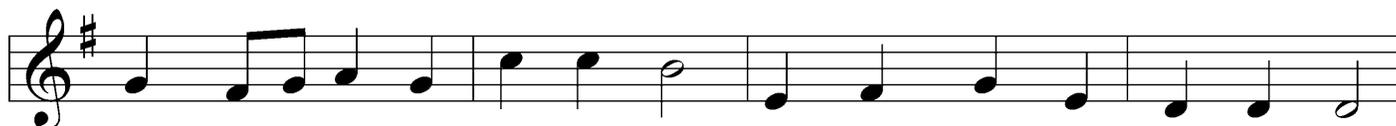
Hymn of the Day

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.

Versicles

Isaiah 9:2a; John 1:15; Isaiah 9:2b; John 1:14b, Isaiah 9:6; John 1:14

P: The people walking in darkness have seen a great light.

C: **The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it.**

P: On those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned.

C: **We have seen His glory, the glory of the one and only Son who came from the Father.**

P: For to us a child is born, to us a Son is given.

C: **In Him was life, and that life was the light of men.**

Sermon

Epiphany Gifts

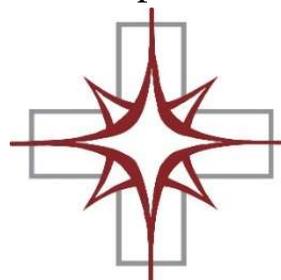
Matthew 2:1-12

Hymn of Response

Rejoice, Rejoice This Happy Morn

LSB 391

Re - joi - ce, re - joi - ce this hap - py morn, A Sav - ior un -
to us is born, The Christ, the Lord of glo - ry!
His low - ly birth in Beth - le - hem The an - gels from
on high pro - claim And sing re - demp - tion's sto - ry!
My soul, ex - tol God's great fa - vor; Bless Him ev - er
For sal - va - tion; Give Him praise and ad - o - ra - tion!



Confession of Faith 2nd Article of the Apostles' Creed and Luther's explanation

P: What do you believe about Jesus Christ?

C: *I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.*

P: What does this mean?

C: *I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord. Who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death, that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.*

Prayers of the Church

Communion Distribution

- Ushers on either side will indicate when it is your time to approach one of the railings on your side of the Gym.
- Family members may be at the same railing.
- Individuals commune at their own railing.
- Pastor will give you the bread, gently dropping it into your outstretched hand.
- The Elder will bring you the tray and you may take an individual cup of wine. The purple cups on the inside are alcohol removed wine.
- After you have received the bread and wine you may return to your seat.

Preparation for the Lord's Supper

All Christians who are baptized and have been instructed are invited to receive Communion with us if you believe as we do—that the bread is the body of Christ, and the wine is the blood of Christ, truly present for us for the forgiveness of our sins.



If this is a new teaching to you, or if this is different than you believe, we ask that you wait to commune until we've had a further chance to talk. We invite those who are not communing to come to the rail, cross your arms, and receive a blessing from the Lord.

Preface Verses

Let All Together Praise Our God

LSB 389 sts. 1, 4



1 Let all to - geth - er praise our God Be - fore His
4 He un - der - takes a great ex - change, Puts on our



glo - rious throne; To - day He o - pens heav'n a - gain To
hu - man frame, And in re - turn gives us His realm, His



give us His own Son, To give us His own Son.
glo - ry, and His name, His glo - ry, and His name.

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The Lord's Prayer

P: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

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.

Words of Institution

Pax Domini (The Peace of the Lord)

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

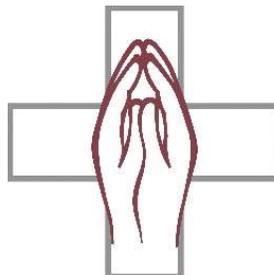
C: **And also with you.**

(We greet one another in peace saying "God's peace" or "The Lord be with you.")

Common Dismissal

P: Now may this true body and true blood of our Lord....

C: **Amen.**



Prayer of Thanks

P: 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.

First Distribution Hymn

Gentle Mary Laid Her Child

LSB 374



1 Gen - tle Mar - y laid her child Low - ly in a man - ger;
2 An - gels sang a - bout His birth, Wise Men sought and found Him;
3 Gen - tle Mar - y laid her child Low - ly in a man - ger;



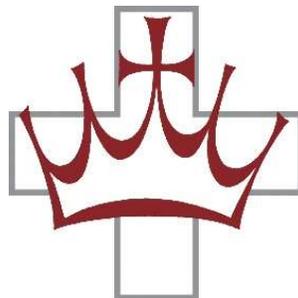
There He lay, the Un - de - filed, To the world a strang - er.
Heav - en's star shone bright - ly forth Glo - ry all a - round Him.
He is still the Un - de - filed But no more a strang - er.



Such a babe in such a place, Can He be the Sav - ior?
Shep - herds saw the won - drous sight, Heard the an - gels sing - ing;
Son of God of hum - ble birth, Beau - ti - ful the sto - ry;



Ask the saved of all the race Who have found His fa - vor.
All the plains were lit that night, All the hills were ring - ing.
Praise His name in all the earth; Hail the King of glo - ry!



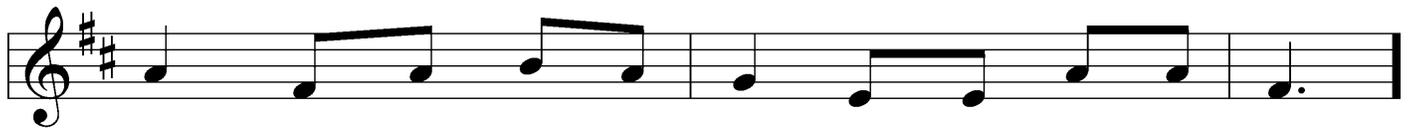
Second Distribution Hymn

God Loves Me Dearly

LSB 392



1 God loves me dear - ly, Grants me sal -
 2 I was in slav - 'ry, Sin, death, and
 3 He sent forth Je - sus, My dear Re -
 4 Je - sus, my Sav - ior, Him - self did
 5 Now I will praise You, O Love E -



va - tion, God loves me dear - ly, Loves e - ven me.
 dark - ness; God's love was work - ing To make me free.
 deem - er, He sent forth Je - sus And set me free.
 of - fer; Je - sus, my Sav - ior, Paid all I owed.
 ter - nal; Now I will praise You All my life long.

Refrain



There - fore I'll say a - gain: God loves me

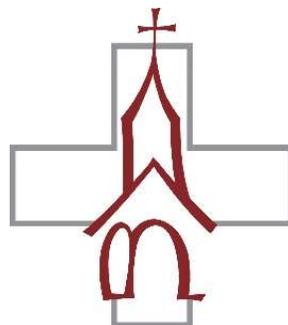


dear - ly, God loves me dear - ly, Loves e - ven me.

Benediction

P: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **Amen.**



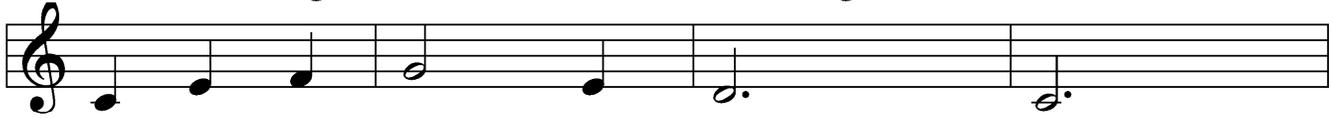
Closing Hymn

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

LSB 411



1 I want to walk as a child of the light.
2 I want to see the bright-ness of God.
3 I'm look - ing for the com - ing of Christ.



I want to fol - low Je - sus.
I want to look at Je - sus.
I want to be with Je - sus.



God set the stars to give light to the world.
Clear Sun of Righ - teous - ness, shine on my path,
When we have run with pa - tience the race,



The star of my life is Je - sus.
And show me the way to the Fa - ther.
We shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain



In Him there is no dark - ness at all.



The night and the day are both a - like.



The Lamb is the light of the cit - y of God.



Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

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Announcements

UPCOMING WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday, January 2

In-Person Worship*(In Gym w/Communion) – 9AM

Sunday, January 9

In-Person Worship*(In Gym) – 9AM

Fellowship 10-10:30AM

Sunday School 10:30-11:30AM

Sunday, January 16

In-Person Worship*(In Gym w/Communion) – 9AM

Fellowship 10-10:30AM

Sunday School 10:30-11:30AM

Sunday, January 23

In-Person Worship*(In Gym) – 9AM

Fellowship 10-10:30AM

Sunday School 10:30-11:30AM

Sunday, January 30

In-Person Worship*(In Gym w/Communion) – 9AM

Fellowship 10-10:30AM

Sunday School 10:30-11:30AM

Contact the office if you have any questions about the schedule. Ushers, Readers, and various other volunteers are always needed for in-person worship and communion. If you are interested in volunteering for one of those roles, please contact the office at office@bethelgurnee.org.

*For in-person worship and/or communion in the gym and sanctuary, seating and/or communion will be physically distanced with masks required. For in-person worship there will be Live liturgy, readings, sermon, singing and prayers. whenever possible, we will livestream through Facebook each week and will post the recording to the Bethel website.

