

THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

Saturday, January 5, 2019

5:00 PM

GIVING THANKS TO GOD THROUGH WORSHIP



Welcome! We hope that your time in worship will encourage and strengthen your relationship with God. We share the greatest hope through the One who loves you most – Jesus Christ! We invite all worshipers today to fill out the Fellowship Pew Pad during the offering portion of worship. You are also invited to make a prayer request on the green card, which is in the pew rack and then place the card in the offering plate or hand them to an usher. We pray God’s blessings upon you and invite you to worship with us every Saturday at 5:00 pm and Sunday morning at 9:00 am.

AS WE GATHER WE PRAY

Heavenly Father, though we do not deserve Your goodness, still You provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may acknowledge Your gifts, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The paraments are white, symbolizing for us the glory of God revealed in the humanity of Jesus.

THIS WEEK’S MEMORY VERSE (January 6 – January 12)

2 Corinthians 1:22: *“God anointed us, set His seal of ownership on us, and put His Spirit in our hearts.” (NIV)*

WELCOME

+ DIVINE SERVICE SETTING ONE +
(Lutheran Service Book, Page 151)

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.** *[Matt.28:19b]*

Pastor: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

People: **But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.** *[1 John 1:8-9]*

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

Pastor: Let us confess our sins to God our Father.

People: **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. 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. Amen.**

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

KYRIE ≈ Lord, Have Mercy *(Sung – LSB page 152)*

Pastor: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.** *[Mark 10:47]*



Pastor: For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

People: Amen.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS ~ Glory to God in the Highest (Sung – LSB page 154)

Pastor: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father:

We worship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God:

You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.

For You alone are the Holy One, You alone are the Lord,

You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,

In the glory of God the Father. Amen.

[Luke 2:14; John 1:2]

SALUTATION and COLLECT OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you. *[2Timothy 4:22]*

People: And also with you.

Pastor: 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.

People: Amen.

Please be seated



✝ SERVICE OF THE WORD ✝

OLD TESTAMENT: ISAIAH 60:1-6

“Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD rises upon you. See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples, but the LORD rises upon you and his glory appears over you. Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

“Lift up your eyes and look about you: All assemble and come to you; your sons come from afar, and your daughters are carried on the hip. Then you will look and be radiant, your heart will throb and swell with joy; the wealth on the seas will be brought to you, to you the riches of the nations will come. Herds of camels will cover your land, young camels of Midian and Ephah. And all from Sheba will come, bearing gold and incense and proclaiming the praise of the LORD.” *(NIV)*

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God! *(Responses are spoken)*

NEW TESTAMENT: EPHESIANS 3:1-12

When I think of all this, I, Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus for the benefit of you Gentiles . . . assuming, by the way, that you know God gave me the special responsibility of extending his grace to you Gentiles. As I briefly wrote earlier, God himself revealed his mysterious plan to me. As you read what I have written, you will understand my insight into this plan regarding Christ. God did not reveal it to previous generations, but now by his Spirit he has revealed it to his holy apostles and prophets.

And this is God’s plan: Both Gentiles and Jews who believe the Good News share equally in the riches inherited by God’s children. Both are part of the same body, and both enjoy the promise of blessings because they belong to Christ Jesus. By God’s grace and mighty power, I have been given the privilege of serving him by spreading this Good News.

Though I am the least deserving of all God’s people, he graciously gave me the privilege of telling the Gentiles about the endless treasures available to them in Christ. I was chosen to explain to everyone this mysterious plan that God, the Creator of all things, had kept secret from the beginning.

God's purpose in all this was to use the church to display his wisdom in its rich variety to all the unseen rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was his eternal plan, which he carried out through Christ Jesus our Lord.

Because of Christ and our faith in him, we can now come boldly and confidently into God's presence. *(NLT)*

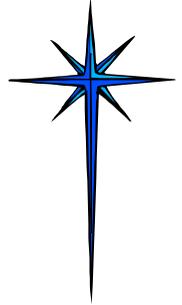
Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Please rise

ALLELUIA *(Sung – LSB page 156)*

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia.**
[John 6:68]



THE HOLY GOSPEL: MATTHEW 2:1-12

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 2nd chapter.

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him."

When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. "In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied, "for this is what the prophet has written:

"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 shepherd my people Israel."

Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him."

After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. 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, frankincense and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route. (NIV)



Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And 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.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Please be seated

HYMN "*Songs of Thankfulness and Praise*" – LSB 394

THE SERMON

2 Corinthians 1:22: "God anointed us, set His seal of ownership on us, and put His Spirit in our hearts." (NIV)

HYMN OF RESPONSE "*Beautiful Savior*" – LSB 537 (*Please rise for verse 4*)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

O God, hear the prayers and petitions of Your people. We do not make requests of You because we are righteous, but because of Your great mercy (Daniel 9:18).



SHARING GOD'S BLESSINGS: THE OFFERING

Honor the LORD with your wealth. – Proverbs 3:9

Because we value your presence in worship and desire to serve you as best as we can, please use this time to complete the Fellowship Pew Pad and pass it to your neighbor. Prayer requests may be made by filling out the green card in the pew rack in front of you and placing it in the offering plate.

PRAYER

Pastor: We pray together:

People: Lord God, our heavenly Father, stir up Your Holy Spirit in our hearts that He may rule and direct us according to Your will. Enlighten us with Your favor and kindness that we may forever give You thanks for Your grace, be strengthened in all times of tribulation and temptation, and increase in all good works; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace. *[Numbers 6:24-26]*

People: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN *"Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee" LSB 803*

POSTLUDE