

January 6, 2019

Epiphany

Organist: Teresa Bernthal

Usher: Paul Seger

Acolyte: Mason Goodwin

"WE HAVE
SEEN THE
STAR
AND HAVE COME TO
WORSHIP HIM."



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¹The LORD reigns, let the earth rejoice; let the many coastlands be glad!
² Clouds and thick darkness are all around him; righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne. ³ Fire goes before him and burns up his adversaries all around. ⁴ His lightnings light up the world; the earth sees and trembles. ⁵ The mountains melt like wax before the LORD, before the Lord of all the earth. ⁶ The heavens proclaim his righteousness, and all the peoples see his glory. ⁷ All worshipers of images are put to shame, who make their boast in worthless idols; worship him, all you gods! ⁸ Zion hears and is glad, and the daughters of Judah rejoice, because of your judgments, O LORD. ⁹ For you, O LORD, are most high over all the earth; you are exalted far above all gods. ¹⁰ O you who love the LORD, hate evil! He preserves the lives of his saints; he delivers them from the hand of the wicked. ¹¹ Light is sown for the righteous, and joy for the upright in heart. ¹² Rejoice in the LORD, O you righteous, and give thanks to his holy name!

✠ Order of Divine Worship ✠

OPENING PRAYER

HYMN: TLH #343:1-4 “How Lovely Shines the Morning Star”

P In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

G Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION:

We come before God recognizing that we are sinful and daily need His forgiveness.

P We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve Him as His dear children. But we have disobeyed Him and deserve only His wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to Him and plead for His mercy.

G **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from *conception*. In countless ways I have sinned against You and do not deserve to be called Your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to Your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

P God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, He has removed your guilt forever. You are His own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to His will!

G Amen!

INTROIT

Ps. 72:1-2, 10-11

A collection of passages that set the tone for the service.

- P** Behold the Lord, the ruler, has come, and the kingdom and the power and the glory are in His hand.
- C** Give the king Your justice, O God, and Your righteousness to the royal Son.
- P** May He judge Your people with righteousness, and Your poor with justice!
- C** May the kings of Tarshish and of the coastlands render Him tribute; may the kings of Sheba and Seba bring gifts!
- P** May all kings fall down before Him, all nations serve Him!
- C** 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.
- P** Behold the Lord, the ruler, has come, and the kingdom and the power and the glory are in His hand.

LORD, HAVE MERCY and GLORY TO GOD

C: Lord, have mer - cy on us. Christ, have mer - cy
 on us. Lord, have mer - cy on us.

C: 1 Glo - ry to God, we give You thanks and praise;
 2 Lord Je - sus Christ, the Fa - ther's on - ly Son,
 3 A - lone, O Christ, You on - ly are the Lord,

Of heav'n - ly joy and peace on earth we sing.
 You bore for us the load of this world's sin.
 At God's right hand in maj - es - ty most high:

We wor - ship You, to You our hearts we raise,
 O Lamb of God, Your glo - rious vic - t'ry won,
 Who, with the Spir - it wor - shiped and a - dored,

Lord God, al - might - y Fa - ther, heav'n - ly King.
 Re - ceive our prayer, grant us Your peace with - in.
 With all the heav'n - ly host we glo - ri - fy.

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

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.

OLD TESTAMENT READING – Isaiah 60:1-6 Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. ² 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. ³ And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. ⁴ 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. ⁵ 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. ⁶ 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.

GOSPEL READING – Matthew 2:1-12 Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, ² 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." ³ When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴ and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. ⁵ They 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.'" ⁷ Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. ⁸ 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." ⁹ 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. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. ¹¹ 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. ¹² And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

P Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and keep it.

C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

CONFESSION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

The Apostles' Creed is a summary of Christian faith as taught by the Apostles. We boldly confess what God has taught us to believe.

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

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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there 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.

SERMON – Ephesians 3:1-12 (NIV) For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles-- ² Surely you have heard about the administration of God's grace that was given to me for you, ³ that is, the mystery made known to me by revelation, as I have already written briefly. ⁴ In reading this, then, you will be able to understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, ⁵ which was not made known to people in other generations as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to God's holy apostles and prophets. ⁶ This mystery is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members together of one body, and sharers together in the promise in Christ Jesus. ⁷ I became a servant of this gospel by the gift of God's grace given me through the working of his power. ⁸ Although I am less than the least of all the Lord's people, this grace was given me: to preach to the Gentiles the boundless riches of Christ, ⁹ and to make plain to everyone the administration of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things. ¹⁰ His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms, ¹¹ according to his eternal purpose that he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord. ¹² In him and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence.

The Mystery of God is Solved in Christ

I. Christ revealed through the Word

II. Christ revealed to the world

III. Christ revealed for you

OFFERTORY

WS p.16

In this prayer we OFFER God our hearts, asking Him for that best of all gifts, the Holy Spirit.

☞ *♩* Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Your presence. Take not Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation. Uphold with Your Spirit free.

- OFFERING OF THANKFUL HEARTS -

Followed immediately by the Offering Hymn printed on the next page:

OFFERING HYMN: TLH #441:1 "We Give Thee But Thine Own"

- C** 🎵 We give Thee but Thine own, Whate'er the gift may be;
All that we have is Thine alone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.

PRAYER and the LORD'S PRAYER



Order of Holy Communion
pg. 17-21 in tan Worship Supplement



Please Note: The Lord's Supper is described in 1 Corinthians 11:23-32 as a most precious medicine for the soul. Like all medicines, of course, it must be used at the right time for the right purpose by the right person, lest it do more harm than good. That is one reason we ask our visitors...please speak to the pastor before you commune with us. Thank you!

After the distribution, we continue with the communion liturgy starting on WS p.20.

THE BENEDICTION:

The blessing given by God for His people (Numbers 6:24-26).

- P** The LORD bless you and keep you; The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you; The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you His peace.
- C** Amen!

HYMN: TLH #343:5-7 "How Lovely Shines the Morning Star"

✠ Announcements ✠

Financial Update Spending has surpassed offerings and tuition in 2018, and the congregation is running a **deficit** for the current year. There have been some large, unexpected expenses this past year, including new A/C and A/C repairs at both the parsonage and school. Additionally, if you are able to help, we are looking for donations to the **Benevolence Fund** to help

Looking Ahead...

- ✠ **Jan. 6:** Communion and Fellowship Snack
- ✠ **Jan. 6:** Board of Ed; Ladies
- ✠ **Jan. 13:** Orlando Service 8 am
- ✠ **Jan. 13:** Church Council
- ✠ **Jan. 20:** Quarterly Voters Mt.
- ✠ **Jan. 25:** School Science Fair

needy families in times of emergency. Please consider these needs as we close out 2018 and begin the new year. Thank you!

CLC Call News The Rev, Edward Starkey, pastor of Resurrection Lutheran, Corpus Christi TX, has accepted the call to Our Redeemer's Lutheran, Red Wing MN,. <> Bethel Lutheran, Morris MN, has called Pastor Richard Kanzenbach, pastor of Morning Star Lutheran, Fairchild WI, Peace with God Lutheran, Onalaska WI, and Trinity Lutheran, Millston, WI.

The KINSHIP Committee would like to offer our sincerest thanks for your generous responses to our recent request for sponsors. We praise the Lord for this generous outpouring of support! All of the *Direct* Sponsorships have now been filled, and we have begun a waiting list for anyone who would like to directly sponsor a seminary student or orphan in the future. *Group* Sponsorships are still available, in which you, an individual, can contribute to larger pools of support for various groups overseas, such as The Children in Need in Togo and the two schools in Kenya. You can also always donate to the KINSHIP General Fund which is used to support those three groups, the medical needs of orphans, and widows of former pastors. If you are interested in contributing to a Group Sponsorship or the General Fund and have any questions, please contact us at kinship@clclutheran.com. Thank you!

Shut-in/Encouragement List **Betty Sweet** is now living at the memory care facility at Spring Haven. **Emily Kuehne** suffers from total blindness and severe knee pain when standing or walking. **Patti Meno** continues to receive treatment for her kidney condition and is awaiting a transplant. **Ray Seger** remains shut-in. **Bill Issitt III** remains mostly housebound while recovering from several health problems. **Richard Cook** is dealing with general unsteadiness. **Johanna Jaehnigen** remains mostly housebound, being no longer able to drive. **Joe Jackson**, the father-in-law of Robin Jackson, is recovering in the hospital from a severe stroke. **Sharon Brown** was hospitalized this week with pneumonia; she is now recovering at home. **Rudy Enriquez** is going through very difficult times, we ask you to keep both Rudy and Sherry in your prayers.

Last Week (12/30) WH – 43

General = \$1,117 | Tuition = \$1,700 | Building Fund = \$10

Total Offering = \$2,827

Usher: Seger | Acolyte (1/13): Matthew | Cleaner (1/12): Ream