

The Epiphany of Our Lord

January 6, 2019



Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church

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WELCOME TO WORSHIP



To the friends who know us, we renew our welcome; to our first time guests we extend it most sincerely; and to those seeking a church home, we offer fellowship with the risen living Redeemer, membership in His Church, and citizenship in His eternal kingdom. Our message is as old as the Word of God to man and as new as the new life it brings: *Jesus Christ, crucified and risen to give eternal life to people everywhere.*

Guest Book: Before you leave today, please sign our guest book. It is located in the Narthex.

Style: For those not familiar with the historic liturgical worship style, the interactive nature of the service may seem quite different. We agree with the ancient church that this style allows us to receive the blessings of God's word and offer thanks in response.

The Common Service: Today's service is a version of the historic liturgy of the Christian church. It became the service commonly used by English-speaking Lutherans in America and appeared as "The Order of the Holy Communion" in The Lutheran Hymnal.

Amplifiers: Personal sound enhancement receivers are available to help the hearing impaired. An usher will be happy to assist you.

Broadcast: Today's Service is being broadcast at www.peacewithgod.com. Click on the blue box labeled "Live Online Services." It can be viewed LIVE or any time from the collection of archived services.

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✘ ✘ ✘ **Before participating in Communion** ✘ ✘ ✘

We welcome all people to our services, those who are fully united with us in Christ's teachings as well as those who do not yet share our confession of the Faith. However, it is a sad consequence of the divisions in Christianity that we cannot extend a general invitation to all Christians to receive Communion with us. Our Lord teaches (1 Cor. 10:17 and elsewhere) that Communion is an action of the celebrating community that declares their oneness in the Faith, life, and worship. Communing with Christians not in fellowship with the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod [WELS] or our sister synod, the Evangelical Lutheran Synod [ELS], would imply a oneness that does not truly exist, but for which we pray. Our pastor will gladly talk with you about establishing communion fellowship here at Peace.

HOLY BAPTISM

TODAY'S THREAD: *The Star makes it clear: Jesus is the Godsent Savior of all people. His people live to worship him.*

BAPTISM HYMN

Baptized in Water | 297



1 Bap - tized in wa - ter, Sealed by the Spir - it,
2 Bap - tized in wa - ter, Sealed by the Spir - it,
3 Bap - tized in wa - ter, Sealed by the Spir - it,



Cleansed by the blood of Christ our King:
Dead in the tomb with Christ our King:
Marked with the sign of Christ our King:



Heirs of sal - va - tion, Trust - ing his prom - ise,
One with his ris - ing, Freed and for - giv - en,
Born of one Fa - ther, We are his chil - dren;



Faith - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.
Thank - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.
Joy - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.

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Tune: BUNESSAN (55 8 D) Gaelic melody, 19th century. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-712488

Remain seated

M: The grace of our Lord † Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: And also with you.

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: Our Savior Jesus Christ commanded baptism when he said: “Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” All of us are born into this world with a deep need for baptism. From our parents we inherit a sinful nature; we are without true fear of God and true faith in God and are condemned to eternal death. But Jesus took away our sin by giving his life on the cross. At our baptism he clothes us with the robe of his righteousness and gives us a new life. Our sinful nature need not control us any longer. We recall what baptism means for our daily lives as we speak these words:

C: **Baptism means that the sinful nature in us should be drowned by daily sorrow and repentance, and that all its evil deeds and desires be put to death. It also means that a new person should daily arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.**

M: As baptized children of God we confess our sins:

C: **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

We invite you to stand and face the baptismal font.

The Baptism of Kiera, Logan and Mikayla Kim

M: In obedience to the command of our Lord and trusting in his promise, you have brought Kiera, Logan and Mikayla to be baptized. Jesus told us: “Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.” It is in baptism that God grants the new life of forgiveness, joy, and peace to little children. By the power of God’s Word, this gracious water of life washes away sin, delivers from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe.

Receive the sign of the cross on the head and heart † to mark you as a redeemed child of Christ.

The minister applies water to the person presented for baptism as he says:

M: *Child’s Name*, I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. The Almighty God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—has forgiven all your sins. By your baptism, you are born again and made a dear child of your Father in heaven. May God strengthen you to live in your baptismal grace all the days of your life. Peace be with you.

A Baptismal Garment is placed on the baptized.

M: Receive this white garment as a visual reminder that Christ has taken away your sin, raised you to new life, and clothed you with his perfect robe of righteousness.

Our newest sisters and brother in Christ are presented to the assembly:

M: Brothers and sisters in Christ:

Our Lord commands that we teach his precious truths to all who are baptized. Christian love therefore urges all of us, especially parents and sponsors, to assist in whatever manner possible so that Kiera, Logan and Mikayla may remain children of God until death. If you are willing to carry out this responsibility, then answer: Yes, as God gives me strength.

C: Yes, as God gives me strength.

A Baptismal Candle is lighted from the Paschal candle

M: *Child’s Name*, you were darkness, but now through Holy Baptism, you are light in the Lord. Live as a child of light. As a memento of this great event and your new identity in Christ, receive this burning fire, drawn from the Paschal Candle - a symbol of the Risen Christ, the Glory of the Lord, the Light of the World.

Addressing the parents

M: Rekindle these candles every January 6th to remind and teach these children what God has done for them through the gift of his Son and through Baptism which unites them with Jesus in his death to sin and resurrection to new life. Teach them to live watching and waiting for Christ’s return, so they may greet Jesus with joy and enter the eternal marriage feast of the Lamb.

M: Let us pray:

Merciful Father in heaven, we thank you for the blessing of baptism by which you offer and grant the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation. Help us to regard our baptism as the robe of righteousness we are to wear all the days of our life. Look with special favor on Kiera, Logan and Mikayla and grant them a rich measure of your Spirit that they may grow in faith and godly living. Make us willing to carry out our responsibilities to those who have been baptized, so that all of us may finally come to the blessed joys of heaven, through Jesus our Lord.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

GLORY BE TO GOD (*Gloria in Excelsis*)



C: Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.



We praise you, we bless you, we wor-ship you, we glorify you,



we give thanks to you, for your 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, you take away the



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



sin of the world; re - ceive our prayer. You sit at the right hand of



God the Father; have mercy on us. For you on-ly are holy;



you on - ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Spirit,



are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: The Lord be with you.



C: And al - so with you.

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: A - men.

BE SEATED

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

1 Kings 10:1-9

¹ When the queen of Sheba heard about the fame of Solomon and his relationship to the LORD, she came to test Solomon with hard questions. ² Arriving at Jerusalem with a very great caravan—with camels carrying spices, large quantities of gold, and precious stones—she came to Solomon and talked with him about all that she had on her mind. ³ Solomon answered all her questions; nothing was too hard for the king to explain to her. ⁴ When the queen of Sheba saw all the wisdom of Solomon and the palace he had built, ⁵ the food on his table, the seating of his officials, the attending servants in their robes, his cupbearers, and the burnt offerings he made at the temple of the LORD, she was overwhelmed.

⁶ She said to the king, “The report I heard in my own country about your achievements and your wisdom is true. ⁷ But I did not believe these things until I came and saw with my own eyes. Indeed, not even half was told me; in wisdom and wealth you have far exceeded the report I heard. ⁸ How happy your people must be! How happy your officials, who continually stand before you and hear your wisdom! ⁹ Praise be to the LORD your God, who has delighted in you and placed you on the throne of Israel. Because of the LORD’s eternal love for Israel, he has made you king to maintain justice and righteousness.”

M: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 72

Refrain



Let the peo - ple praise you, O God.



Let all the peo - ple praise you.

Psalm tone



Endow the King with your justice, O God,*
the royal Son with your righteousness.

He will defend the afflicted among the people*
and save the children of the needy.

He will endure as long as the sun,*
as long as the moon, through all generations.

He will be like rain falling on a mown field,*
like showers watering the earth.

Refrain

All kings will bow down to him,*
and all nations will serve him.

All nations will be blessed through him,*
and they will call him blessed.

Praise be to the LORD God, who alone does marvelous deeds.*
May the whole earth be filled with his glory.

**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.**

Refrain

Refrain Tune: Dale Wood. From *Seasonal Psalms*. © 1978 Augsburg Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-712488.

SECOND LESSON

Acts 13:46-49

⁴⁶ Then Paul and Barnabas answered them boldly: “We had to speak the word of God to you first. Since you reject it and do not consider yourselves worthy of eternal life, we now turn to the Gentiles. ⁴⁷ For this is what the Lord has commanded us:

“I have made you a light for the Gentiles,
that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth.”

⁴⁸ When the Gentiles heard this, they were glad and honored the word of the Lord; and all who were appointed for eternal life believed.

⁴⁹ The word of the Lord spread through the whole region. ⁵⁰ But the Jewish leaders incited the God-fearing women of high standing and the leading men of the city. They stirred up persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and expelled them from their region. ⁵¹ So they shook the dust off their feet as a warning to them and went to Iconium. ⁵² And the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.

M: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

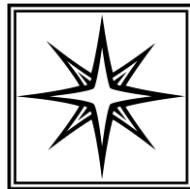
STAND

VERSE OF THE DAY

M: Alleluia. We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him. Alleluia. (Matthew 2:2b)



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



GOSPEL

Matthew 2:1-12

M: The Gospel, Matthew Chapter 2



C: Glo - ry be to you, O Lord!

¹ After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem ² 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.”

³ When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. ⁴ 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. ⁵ “In Bethlehem in Judea,” they replied, “for this is what the prophet has written:

⁶ “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.””

⁷ Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. ⁸ 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.”

⁹ 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. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. ¹¹ 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. ¹² And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

M: This is the Gospel!



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

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 | 79

SERMON – See the separate sheet for the Sermon Road Map.

STAND

After the sermon, the congregation sings:

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 your pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re-store un - to me the joy of your sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it. A - men.

BE SEATED

OFFERING

STAND

OFFERING HYMN

As with Gladness Men of Old | 83:1-3

OFFERING PRAYER

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH FOR EPIPHANY

M: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God and Mary's son, in the fullness of time you came into our world to save us from sin and death:

C: **You ushered in the day of grace so long foretold.**

M: Beloved Son of the Father, revered by the Magi, baptized by John, you came preaching and teaching, healing and comforting, forgiving and encouraging:

C: **You brought the light of life to those walking in darkness, and the joy of salvation to those doomed to death.**

M: Prince of Peace, shine like a beacon for us and the people of our world. Let the good news of salvation be heard in the remotest corners of the earth. Open our own lips to speak your name to those around us who still live without faith or hope in you:

C: **Arouse us and our missionaries to flood the world with the light of your gospel.**

M: Lord of the Church, let your peace rule our hearts that we may use our gifts to serve you and each other in willing gratitude and joy. Watch over our loved ones near and far, that they may remember your love and rejoice in your salvation. Strengthen the faith of the sick and the disheartened. Give hope to those in despair and comfort those who mourn:

C: **Be gracious to all and lead us to reflect your love in everything we say and do.**

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

M: ... Lord, in your mercy,

C: **Hear our prayer.**

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

Silent prayer

M: Finally, bring us and all your believers to the heavenly home where we will stand in the full light of your glory and with all your saints and angels sing the everlasting song of triumph.

All: **Amen.**

THE SACRAMENT

Now Rejoice - a carol setting

Please return this card after the service.

PROPER PREFACE FOR EPIPHANY

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, who lived among us as a human being and revealed his glory as your only Son, full of grace and truth. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

O Jesus, King of Glory | 94

THE PRAYER

M: O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

Hail, O Source of Every Blessing | 87

Silent prayer

Announcements

