

# THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

Sunday 4 January A✠D 2026



## OUR SAVIOR

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—Missouri Synod

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Rev. Jonathan C. McCall, Pastor

✠ Hymns ✠  
872  
382  
395  
397  
398  
399

**On receiving the Lord's Supper:** Our congregation is a member of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS), a family of congregations that pledge themselves to believe, teach, and confess the same faith. We believe that we are given a great responsibility to commune only those persons who are members of our confessional fellowship. We practice closed communion to exhibit unity in faith (Acts 2:42), to guard the uninstructed against a reception of the sacrament that will be harmful to them (1 Corinthians 11:27-29), and to keep the pastor from having to make “divine” decisions by determining who is a believer and who is not (2 Timothy 2:19). Therefore, we ask that only LCMS members, or members of churches in fellowship with us, commune at the altar of this church. We want to express our sincere welcome to our guests and assure them that we practice closed communion for their spiritual welfare. Guests desiring to learn more about our beliefs are asked to speak with our pastor.



## ✠ THE DIVINE SERVICE ✠

10:30am

*Please silence all phones and devices before service begins.*

### THE PRELUDE

*The bell tolls three times to signify the beginning of service in reverence of the Holy Trinity. After the tolls, the Processional Hymn will begin.*

*Please STAND and FACE THE PROCESSION as it passes.*

### THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN

**872** *Come, Thou Bright and Morning Star*

✠ THE PREPARATION ✠

In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
ST. MATTHEW 28:19B; [18:20]

**Amen.**

Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God, our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

[HEBREWS 10:22]

*Please remain STANDING or KNEEL if you desire and are able*

Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
**who made heaven and earth.**

PSALM 124:8

I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the LORD,  
**and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

PSALM 32:5

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination. The pastor will resume...*

**O almighty God, merciful Father, I a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

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.

**Amen.**

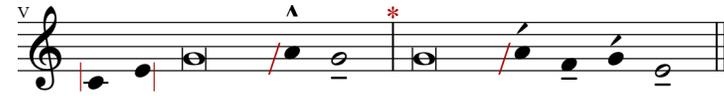
[ST. JOHN 20:19-23]

*Please STAND*

✠ THE SERVICE OF THE WORD ✠

THE INTROIT

LITURGICAL TEXT, PSALM 72:1



| Behold, | the LORD, the Ruler, hath / cômê:  
And the kingdom and the power  
and the glory are / in His hand.—

**Give the king Thy judgments, O / Gôd:  
And Thy righteousness / unto the King's son.  
Glory be to the Father and / to the Son  
And to the / Holy Spirit;**

**As it was in the be- / ginning,  
Is now and will be for- / ever. Amen.**

| Behold, | the LORD, the Ruler, hath / cômê:  
And the kingdom and the power  
and the glory are / in His hand.—

THE KYRIE

ST. MARK 10:47



Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

THE GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

ST. LUKE 2:14; ST. JOHN 1:29



Glory be to God on high: and on earth peace, good - will toward



men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,

we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy 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,

that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.

Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-

on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord.

Thou only, O ✠ Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,

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

**THE SALUTATION**

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spir - it.

**THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

O God, who by the leading of a star didst manifest Thine only-begotten Son to the Gentiles, mercifully grant that we, who know Thee now by faith, may after this life have the fruition of Thy glorious Godhead; through the same Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end.

A - men.

*Please BE SEATED*

**THE PROPHECY**

*Thus says the LORD God:* Arise, shine; for your light has come! And the glory of the LORD is risen upon you. For behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and deep darkness the people; but the LORD will arise over you, and His glory will be seen upon you. The Gentiles shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. 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 nursed at your side. Then you shall see and become radiant, and your heart shall swell with joy; because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you, the wealth of the Gentiles shall come to you. The multitude of camels shall cover your land, the dromedaries of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come; they shall bring gold and incense, and they shall proclaim the praises of the LORD.

This is the Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**THE GRADUAL**

ISAIAH 60:6B, 1



All they from Sheba shall come:  
they shall bring gold and / incense  
And shall show forth the / praises of the LORD.

**Arise, shine, O Je- / rusalem:**

**For the glory of the LORD is / risen upon thee.**

**THE EPISTLE**

EPHESIANS 3:2B-12

*Brethren:* You have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which was given to me for you, how that by revelation He made known to me the mystery (as I have briefly written already, by which, when you read, you may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ), which in other ages was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to His holy apostles and prophets: that the Gentiles should be fellow heirs, of the same body, and partakers of His promise in Christ through the gospel, of which I became a minister according to the gift of the grace of God given to me by the effective working of His power. To me, who am less than the least of all the saints, this grace was given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, and to make all see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the ages has been hidden in God who created all things through Jesus Christ; to the intent that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers in the heavenly places, according to the eternal purpose which He accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through faith in Him.

This is the Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*Please STAND*

**THE ALLELUIA VERSE**

ST. MATTHEW 2:2B



Alle- / luia!

- / Alleluia!

**We have seen His star in the / Eâst:**

**And are come with gifts to worship the Lord. / Alleluia!**

**THE SEQUENCE HYMN**

**382** *We Praise You, Jesus, at Your Birth*

**THE HOLY GOSPEL**

ST. MATTHEW 2:1-12

The Lord be with you.



And with thy spir - it.

The continuation of the ✠ Holy Gospel ✠ according to ✠ Saint Matthew.



Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

✠ After Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, saying, "Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him." When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. So they said

to him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it is written by the prophet: ‘But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are not the least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you shall come a Ruler who will shepherd My people Israel.’ ” Then Herod, when he had secretly called the wise men, determined from them what time the star appeared. And he sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the young Child, and when you have found Him, bring back word to me, that I may come and worship Him also.” When they heard the king, they departed; and behold, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came and stood over where the young Child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceedingly great joy. And when they had come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary His mother, and fell down and worshiped Him. And when they had opened their treasures, they presented gifts to Him: gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Then, being divinely warned in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed for their own country another way.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



*After the Reading of the Gospel, the Pastor makes the following announcement:*

## THE EPIPHANY ANNOUNCEMENT

AÆD 2026

*IN KEEPING WITH AN ANCIENT PRACTICE OF THE CHURCH, THE DATES OF EASTER AND THE OTHER MOVEABLE FEASTS OF THE YEAR ARE ANNOUNCED AFTER THE PROCLAMATION OF THE GOSPEL ON THE FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD.*

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

The glory of the Lord has shone upon us and shall ever manifest itself among us until the day of His return. Through the rhythms

and changes of time let us call to mind and live the mysteries of salvation. The center of the whole liturgical year is the Paschal Triduum of the Lord, crucified, buried, and risen, which will culminate in the solemn Vigil of Easter, during the holy night that will end with the dawn of the fourth day of April. Every Sunday, as in a weekly Easter, Christ's holy Church around the world makes present that great and saving deed by which Christ has forever conquered sin and death. From Easter there comes forth and are reckoned all the moveable days we keep holy: Ash Wednesday, the beginning of the Lenten spring, the eighteenth day of February; the Ascension of the Lord, the fourteenth day of May; Pentecost, the twenty-fourth day of May; and the first Sunday of Advent, the twenty-ninth day of November. Likewise, in the feasts of Mary, of the Apostles, of all the Saints, and in the commemoration of the faithful departed, the pilgrim Church on earth proclaims the resurrection of Jesus Christ our Lord. To Christ who was, who is, and who is to come, the Lord of time and history, be endless praise forever and ever!

**Amen.**



## THE NICENE CREED

**I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven *and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man*; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried.**

And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the  $\text{✠}$  life of the world to come. Amen.

*Please BE SEATED*

THE HYMN OF THE DAY 395 *O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright*

THE SERMON

*Please STAND*

THE OFFERTORY

PSALM 51:10-12

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

THE OFFERTORY VERSE

PSALM 72:10-11

The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall bring / presents:  
 The kings of Sheba and Seba shall / offer gifts.—

**Yea, all kings shall fall down be- / fore Him:**

**All / nations shall serve Him.**

*Please BE SEATED*

THE OFFERING

*Please STAND*

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS AND THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

[I TIMOTHY 2:1-4]

- please read the announcements and prayer list details on bulletin insert

*After each bid:* Let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

*At the conclusion:* O Lord, ... one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

THE SERVICE OF

$\text{✠}$  THE SACRAMENT OF THE ALTAR  $\text{✠}$

THE PREFACE

The Lord be with you.

2 TIMOTHY 4:22

And with thy spir - it.

Lift up your hearts.

[COLOSSIANS 3:1]

We lift them up un - to the Lord.

Let us give thanks unto the LORD our God.

[PSALM 136]



It is meet and right so to do.

It is truly meet, right, and salutary... praising You and saying:

**THE SANCTUS**

ISAIAH 6:3; ST. MATTHEW 21:9



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. ✠ Bless - ed is He,



bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

*Please remain STANDING or KNEEL if you desire and are able*

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

ST. MATTHEW 6:9-13

**THE WORDS OF CHRIST'S TESTAMENT**

ST. MATTHEW 26:26-28;

ST. MARK 14:22-24; ST. LUKE 22:19-20; 1 CORINTHIANS 11:23-25

**THE PAX DOMINI**

ST. JOHN 20:19

The ✠ peace of the Lord be with you always.



A - men.

**THE AGNUS DEI**

ST. JOHN 1:29



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a - way the sin of the



world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that



tak - est a - way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a - way the sin of the



world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

**THE COMMUNION VERSE**

ST. MATTHEW 2:2B



We have seen His star in the / Eâst:

And are come with gifts to / worship the Lord.—

*Please BE SEATED*

**THE COMMUNION HYMNS**

397 *As with Gladness Men of Old*

398 *Hail to the Lord's Anointed*

399 *The Star Proclaims the King Is Here*

*Please STAND*

**THE NUNC DIMITTIS**

ST. LUKE 2:29-32



Lord, now letteth Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -

cord-ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,  
 which Thou hast pre-pared be-fore the face of all people,  
 a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy  
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and  
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,  
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

**THE THANKSGIVING**

PSALM 107:1

Oh, give thanks unto the LORD for He is good.

and His mercy endureth for-ev-er.

Let us pray. Grant, we beseech Thee, O Lord our God, that we who here have celebrated Thy holy mysteries, may in all purity of heart and mind receive the benefits of the same; through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end.

A-men.

**THE SALUTATION**

2 TIMOTHY 4:22

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spir-it.

**THE BENEDICAMUS**

[PSALM 103:1]

Bless we the LORD.

Thanks be to God.

*Please remain STANDING or KNEEL if you desire and are able*

**THE BENEDICTION**

NUMBERS 6:24-26

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 peace.

A-men, a-men, a-men.

*Please STAND*

**THE RETIRING PROCESSION WITH POSTLUDE**

*Please FACE THE PROCESSION as it passes.*

*Once the Procession reaches the narthex, you may depart in ☩ peace.*

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