

# ***St. John's Lutheran Church***

The Epiphany of Our Lord Weekend

January 10, 2021

## ***Online Worship***

**Pre-service Music**

**Welcome/Announcements**

*(Please rise)*

### **Opening Hymn: “Songs of Thankfulness and Praise” LSB 394**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 Songs of thankfulness and praise,<br>Jesus, Lord, to Thee we raise,<br>Manifested by the star<br>To the sages from afar,<br>Branch of royal David's stem<br>In Thy birth at Bethlehem:<br>Anthems be to Thee addressed,<br>God in man made manifest.      | 4 Sun and moon shall darkened be,<br>Stars shall fall, the heav'ns shall flee;<br>Christ will then like lightning shine,<br>All will see His glorious sign;<br>All will then the trumpet hear,<br>All will see the Judge appear;<br>Thou by all wilt be confessed,<br>God in man made manifest. |
| 5 Grant us grace to see Thee, Lord,<br>Present in Thy holy Word—<br>Grace to imitate Thee now<br>And be pure, as pure art Thou;<br>That we might become like Thee<br>At Thy great epiphany<br>And may praise Thee, ever blest,<br>God in man made manifest. |   |

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

### **Invocation**

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen.**

## Confession & Absolution

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

**C** **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

**P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

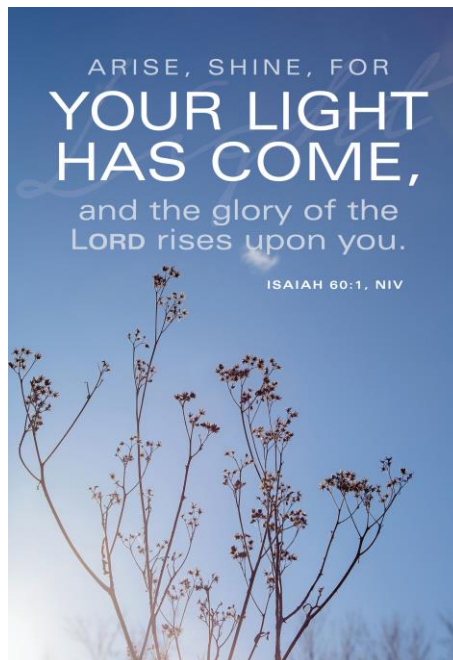
*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

**P** Most merciful God,

**C** **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.**

**P** 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.

**C** **Amen.**



## Song of Praise: “As with Gladness Men of Old” LSB 397

- 1 As with gladness men of old  
Did the guiding star behold;  
As with joy they hailed its light,  
Leading onward, beaming bright;  
So, most gracious Lord, may we  
Evermore be led by Thee.
- 3 As they offered gifts most rare  
At Thy cradle, rude and bare,  
So may we with holy joy,  
Pure and free from sin’s alloy,  
All our costliest treasures bring,  
Christ, to Thee, our heav’nly King.
- 4 Holy Jesus, ev’ry day  
Keep us in the narrow way;  
And when earthly things are past,  
Bring our ransomed souls at last  
Where they need no star to guide,  
Where no clouds Thy glory hide.

Text: Public domain

## Salutation and Collect 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.**

*(May be seated)*



## Old Testament Reading

*Isaiah 60:1-6*

<sup>1</sup>Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. <sup>2</sup>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. <sup>3</sup>And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. <sup>4</sup>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. <sup>5</sup>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. <sup>6</sup>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.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## Epistle

*Ephesians 3:1-12*

<sup>1</sup>For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles— <sup>2</sup>assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God’s grace that was given to me for you, <sup>3</sup>how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. <sup>4</sup>When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, <sup>5</sup>which 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. <sup>6</sup>This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. <sup>7</sup>Of 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. <sup>8</sup>To 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, <sup>9</sup>and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things, <sup>10</sup>so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. <sup>11</sup>This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, <sup>12</sup>in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

*(Please rise)*



# Holy Gospel

Matthew 2:1-12

<sup>1</sup>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, <sup>2</sup>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." <sup>3</sup>When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; <sup>4</sup>and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. <sup>5</sup>They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet: <sup>6</sup>"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." <sup>7</sup>Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup>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." <sup>9</sup>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. <sup>10</sup>When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. <sup>11</sup>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. <sup>12</sup>And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

*(May be seated)*



## Hymn of the Day: “The Star Proclaims the King is Here” LSB 399

- 1 The star proclaims the King is here;  
But, Herod, why this senseless fear?  
For He who offers heav’nly birth  
Seeks not the kingdoms of this earth.
- 2 The eastern sages saw from far  
And followed on His guiding star;  
And, led by light, to light they trod  
And by their gifts confessed their God.

*(Please rise)*

- △ 5 For this Thy glad epiphany  
All glory, Jesus, be to Thee,  
Whom with the Father we adore,  
And Holy Spirit evermore.

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## Sermon: “Room for Only One King” ~ Matthew 2:1-12

*(Please rise)*

### 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.**

## Offering

(Please place your tithes and offerings in one of the collection plates as you enter or exit the sanctuary.)

*We encourage our members to consider giving their tithes and gifts through the online opportunities offered on our website at [www.stjohnsgrandhaven.com/about-us/mobile-donations-and-tithing](http://www.stjohnsgrandhaven.com/about-us/mobile-donations-and-tithing). Members can also contribute their gifts via mail **or you can now drop off your offering in the special lock box hanging near the entrance to our church and school** between the hours of 9 a.m. and 8 p.m. ~ checks preferred. (If cash is given, please try to drop off your offering between the hours of 9 a.m. and 2 p.m.). Please remember that we rely on these gifts for all the ongoing ministries of St. John's – both now and for the future.*

## Prayers of the Church

**P** Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** Hear our prayer.

## The Lord's Prayer

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

**C** **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.**

## The Peace of the Lord

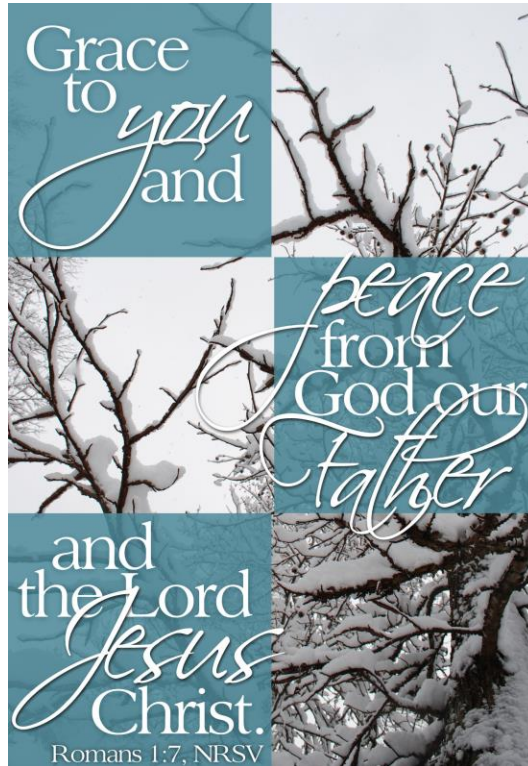
**P** The peace of the Lord be with You always.

**C** **And also with you.**



## Benediction

- P** 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.
- C** **Amen.**



## Closing Hymn: “I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”

- 1 I want to walk as a child of the light.  
I want to follow Jesus.  
God set the stars to give light to the world.  
The star of my life is Jesus. **Refrain**
- Refrain** In Him there is no darkness at all.  
The night and the day are both alike.  
The Lamb is the light of the city of God.  
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.
- 2 I want to see the brightness of God.  
I want to look at Jesus.  
Clear Sun of Righteousness, shine on my path,  
And show me the way to the Father. **Refrain**
- 3 I’m looking for the coming of Christ.  
I want to be with Jesus.  
When we have run with patience the race,  
We shall know the joy of Jesus. **Refrain**

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## Silent Prayer

## Postlude

**Minister**  
**Organist**  
**Vocalist**

**Pastor Kurt Wenzelburger**  
**Priscilla Isabel**  
**Richard Rothe**



EPIPHANY OF THE LORD



*May all kings  
fall down  
before him,  
all nations  
serve him!*

PSALM 72:11, ESV