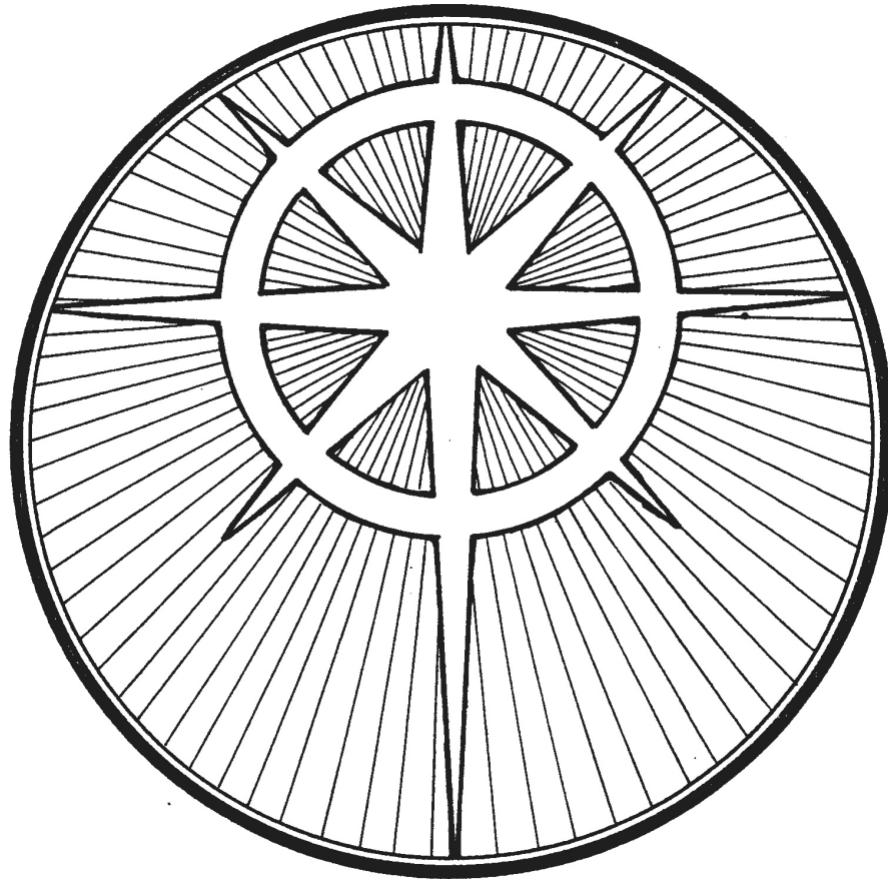


Bethlehem Lutheran Church



The Epiphany of our Lord
January 6, 2021

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The Order of Service

Divine Service Setting One (LSB 151)

*(Please stand if you are able for portions of the liturgy marked with an *)*

Opening Hymn: Songs of Thankfulness and Praise **LSB 394**

Confession and Absolution* **LSB 151**

Introit* (Ps. 72:1-2, 10-11; antiphon: Liturgical Text)

Behold the Lord, the ruler, has come,
and the kingdom and the power and the glory are in his hand.

**Give the king your justice, O God,
and your righteousness to the royal son!**

May he judge your people with righteousness,
and your poor with justice!

**May the kings of Tarshish and of the coastlands render him tribute;
may the kings of Sheba and Seba bring gifts!**

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

**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.**

Behold the Lord, the ruler, has come,
and the kingdom and the power and the glory are in his hand.

Kyrie* **LSB 152**

This is the Feast * **LSB 155**

Collect*: 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. **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6

¹ Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. ²For 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. ³And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. ⁴Lift 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. ⁵Then 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. ⁶A 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.

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

Gradual: Those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall bring good news, the praises of the LORD. Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

Epistle: Ephesians 3:1-12

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

eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord,¹² in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him.

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

Alleluia *

LSB 156

Holy Gospel*: Matthew 2:1-12

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 2nd chapter. **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹ 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, ²saying, “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.

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Nicene Creed*

LSB 158

Hymn of the Day: O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright

LSB 395

Sermon

Prayer of the Church*

We Give Thee But Thine Own* (stz. 1 & 2)

LSB 781

Service of the Sacrament*

LSB 160

Distribution Hymns: 397, 396, 399

Post-Communion Canticle*: Thank the Lord

LSB 164

Benediction*

Closing Hymn: Come, Thou Bright and Morning Star

LSB 872

Announcements

Church Services: We have decided to go back to the one service at 9:30am on Sunday mornings. If you or someone you know is concerned with this, please feel free to call Pastor Jennings or stop by the church throughout the week to set up a time to receive God's gifts.

Flower Chart: The flower chart for 2021 is up in the north office. Please stop by and sign up for any Sundays you would like to have flowers on the altar. Any questions, please contact Sylvia Kleiboeker.

Annual Report: The time is drawing near for the Annual Report to be printed. If all organizations (Men's Club, Ladies Aid, Agape Youth, Preschool, Cemetery Committee, Treasurers, Wednesday Night Religion and Confirmation, Cradle Roll & any others I may have missed) would please get me their reports by **January 13th** so that I may put the report together by January 17th voter's meeting. Thank You

Private Confession and Absolution: Our Lutheran Confessions state that private absolution should be retained and not abolished in the churches (Augsburg Confession, XI). With this in mind, if at any time throughout the season of Christmas you desire private confession and absolution, please give Pastor Jennings a call to set-up a time to meet privately.

Altar Guild, Ushers, Greeters, and Acolytes: We encourage you to consult your schedule, and if able, assist at your assigned service.

Find Bethlehem on Podbean: Listen to our sermons and other studies online. Download the app 'Podbean' to your smartphone. Search for Bethlehem Lutheran Church and begin listening.