

TRINITY
LUTHERAN CHURCH
530 4TH STREET NW
FARIBAULT, MINNESOTA 55021
(507) 331-6579

Office: jenniek@trinityfaribo.org
Pastor: revgueldner@trinityfaribo.org



THE LUTHERAN CHURCH – MISSOURI SYNOD

THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD
January 4 & 5, 2025
5:30PM & 8:00AM

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN “As with Gladness Men of Old” *LSB* 397, sts. 1-5

Please stand

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father,

People: **who called Abram and promised him and his heirs a land flowing with milk and honey;**

Pastor: and of Jesus, His Son,

People: **who was offered once for all as a sacrifice for our sins;**

Pastor: and of the Holy Spirit,

People: **who calls people through Word and Sacrament to believe in Jesus and gives them a place to live beyond all imagination. Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES *Colossians 1:15–20*

Pastor: He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation.

People: **For by Him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities— all things were created through Him and for Him.**

Pastor: And He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together.

People: **And He is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything He might be preeminent.**

Pastor: For in Him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,

People: **and through Him to reconcile to Himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of His cross.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Let us confess our sins to God our Father.

People: Most merciful God, I confess that I am by nature sinful and unclean. I have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed.

Pastor: Do you recognize the truth—that you have not loved God with your whole heart nor loved your neighbor as yourself?

People: I confess that I have failed to keep the two great commandments by what I have done and what we have failed to do. Heavenly Father, I don't deserve Your forgiveness, but ask for it because of the greatest love shown at the cross.

Pastor: Hear the great news: God has used two common earthly elements—water and blood—to forgive your sins and make you His very own. Through the cross of Christ and the blood of Jesus shed there, and because you have been baptized, I forgive you all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Thank You, Lord, for revealing Your mercy and grace to me on this great day of Epiphany.

Pastor: Lord Jesus, thank You for shedding Your blood and giving us the waters of Holy Baptism,

People: by which You sacrificed Your life for ours and made us a part of Your family forever. Amen.

INTROIT *Psalm 45:6–8a; antiphon: v. 17*

Pastor: I will cause Your name to be remembered in all generations; therefore nations will praise You forever and ever.

People: Your throne, O God, is forever and ever. The scepter of Your kingdom is a scepter of uprightness;

Pastor: You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness.

People: Therefore God, Your God, has anointed You with the oil of gladness beyond Your companions; Your robes are all fragrant with myrrh and aloes and cassia.

**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.**

Pastor: I will cause Your name to be remembered in all generations;

People: therefore nations will praise You forever and ever.

KYRIE

C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS (*Glory to God in the Highest*)

C 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
2 To You, O sole - be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.
Where You in pow'r are seat - ed At God's right hand on high—
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: 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.

People: Amen.

Please sit**OLD TESTAMENT READING *Isaiah 60:1–6***

(Isaiah boldly predicts that nations from everywhere would come to the light of their Messiah, which they have and still are doing.)

- ¹Arise, 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.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM *Psalms 72:1–15; antiphon: v. 18*

Pastor: Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel,

People: who alone does wondrous things.

Pastor: Give the king Your justice, O God, and Your righteousness to the royal son!

People: May He judge Your people with righteousness, and Your poor with justice!

Pastor: Let the mountains bear prosperity for the people, and the hills, in righteousness!

People: May He defend the cause of the poor of the people, give deliverance to the children of the needy, and crush the oppressor!

Pastor: May they fear You while the sun endures, and as long as the moon, throughout all generations!

People: May He be like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth!

Pastor: In His days may the righteous flourish, and peace abound, till the moon be no more!

People: May He have dominion from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth!

Pastor: May desert tribes bow down before Him and His enemies lick the dust!

People: 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!

Pastor: For He delivers the needy when he calls, the poor and him who has no helper.

People: He has pity on the weak and the needy, and saves the lives of the needy.

Pastor: From oppression and violence He redeems their life, and precious is their blood in His sight.

People: Long may He live; may gold of Sheba be given to Him! May prayer be made for Him continually, and blessings invoked for Him all the day!

Pastor: Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel,

People: who alone does wondrous things.

EPISTLE *Ephesians 3:1–12*

(He was revealed to and for the Gentiles as well as the Jews.)

¹For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner for 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, (*continued...*)

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, ¹²in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Please stand

VERSE *Matthew 2:2b*

Pastor: Alleluia. Where is He who has been born king of the Jews?

People: For we saw His star when it rose and have come to worship Him. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL *Matthew 2:1–12*

(The wickedness of Herod, the flight to Egypt, and the slaughter of the innocents, fulfilling prophecy.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the second chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

¹Now 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.”

³When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. ⁵They 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.”

⁷Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. ⁸And

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.” ⁹After 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. ¹⁰When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. ¹¹And 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. ¹²And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

Please sit

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY "Hail to the Lord's Anointed" *LSB* 398, sts. 1-5

SERMON "Wisemen Travel for Worship" *The Rev. Peter Gueldner*

Please stand

CREED *Apostles' Creed*

People: 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.

Please sit

TITHES AND OFFERING

Please stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God and for all people according to their needs. Almighty God, You revealed Your Son to Gentiles on the day of Epiphany.

People: Use us, we pray, to bring light and peace where there is none right now.

Pastor: Lord Jesus, You were willing to shed Your blood on the cross for our forgiveness and have given us the hope of salvation.

People: Thank You for shedding Your blood and giving us the waters of Holy Baptism to make us Your own sons and daughters through faith in You.

Pastor: As You cared for the sick and still do, we remember before Your throne those among us who are sick and in need of Your care, [*especially . . .*].

People: **As You did in Your earthly ministry, continue to love, care, touch, and heal them according to Your will.**

Pastor: For Your kingdom, invisible to human eyes yet so very real, we lift up our voices in prayer.

People: **We pray that You would use us by the working of Your Holy Spirit to open hearts and eyes to Your love and see Your kingdom.**

LORD'S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

Pastor: Together let us pray as our Lord Jesus taught us...

People: **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.**

BENEDICAMUS

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

BENEDICTION

Pastor: 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.

People: **Amen.**

Please sit

HYMN “Brightest and Best of the Stars of the Morning” LSB 400, sts. 1-5

*** * * TO GOD BE THE GLORY * * ***

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book Unless otherwise indicated, all scripture quotations are from *The Holy Bible, English Standard Version*, copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Builder Online © 2024 Concordia Publishing House. Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series C, Quarter 1. Copyright © 2024 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission.