

TRINITY
LUTHERAN CHURCH
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THE LUTHERAN CHURCH – MISSOURI SYNOD

THE ORDER OF MATINS

Celebration of the Epiphany of Our Lord

January 4, 2026 8:00 AM

PRESERVICE MUSIC

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN "O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright" LSB 395, sts. 1-4

Please stand

INVOCATION

P We begin our service in the name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **C** Amen!

P O Lord, open my lips,



C and my mouth will de - clare Your praise.

P Make haste, O God, to deliver me;



C make haste to help me, O Lord.



C Glo-ry be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.



Common: Praise to You, O Christ. Al - le - lu - ia.

CONFESSİON AND ABSOLUTİON

P Beloved in the Lord, let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

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.**

P 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 and ordained 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

PSALM 72:1-15 (Spoken responsively)

P **1**Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the royal son!

C **2**May he judge your people with righteousness, and your poor with justice!

P **3**Let the mountains bear prosperity for the people, and the hills, in righteousness!

C **4**May he defend the cause of the poor of the people, give deliverance to the children of the needy, and crush the oppressor!

P **5**May they fear you while the sun endures, and as long as the moon, throughout all generations!

C **6**May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth!

P **7**In his days may the righteous flourish, and peace abound, till the moon be no more!

C **8**May he have dominion from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth!

P **9**May desert tribes bow down before him and his enemies lick the dust!

C **10**May the kings of Tarshish and of the coastlands render him tribute; may the kings of Sheba and Seba bring gifts!

P **11**May all kings fall down before him, all nations serve him!

C **12**For he delivers the needy when he calls, the poor and him who has no helper.

(continued...)

P ¹³He has pity on the weak and the needy, and saves the lives of the needy.

C ¹⁴From oppression and violence he redeems their life, and precious is their blood in his sight.

P ¹⁵Long 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!

**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.**

Please be seated

FIRST READING Isaiah 60:1-6

L The First Reading is from Isaiah, chapter sixty, verses 1-6.

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.

L This is the Word of the Lord

C **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING Ephesians 3:1-12

L The Second Reading is from Ephesians, chapter three, verses 1-12.

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, 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.

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

Please stand

HOLY GOSPEL *Matthew 2:1–12*

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,
(continued...)

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.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

COMMON RESPONSYOR

P Forever, O Lord, Your Word is firmly set in the heavens.

Refrain

C Lord, I love
the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glo-ry dwells.

P Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it.

Refrain

C Lord, I love
the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glo-ry dwells.

P Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

Refrain

C Lord, I love
the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glo-ry dwells.

Please be seated

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE *The Rev. Rudy Maurer*

SERMON HYMN “The Star Proclaims the King Is Here” *LSB 399, sts. 1-5△*

SERMON “WHY DID THEY COME?” *(Text: Matthew 2:1-12)*
The Rev. Rudy Maurer

CANTICLE "As with Gladness Men of Old" LSB 397, sts. 1-4

Please stand

CREED Apostles' Creed

C 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 be seated

TITHES & OFFERING

Please stand

KYRIE

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

LORD'S PRAYER

P Let us pray as our Savior taught us...

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.

SALUTATION

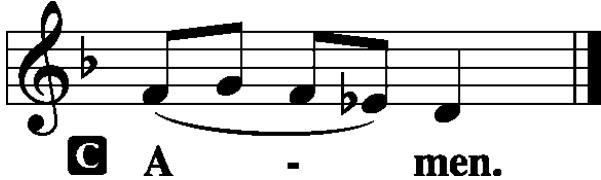
P The Lord be with you.
C And also with you.

ADDITIONAL PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND THANKSGIVING

Each intercession ends with the words **P** “Lord, in Your mercy,”
to which the congregation responds, **C** “hear our prayer.”

PRAYER FOR GRACE

P O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God. Defend us with Your mighty power and grant that we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger, but that all our doings, being ordered by Your governance, may be righteous in Your sight; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



BENEDICAMUS

P Let us bless the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
C Amen.

Please be seated

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

P Go in peace and serve the Lord.
C Thanks be to God!

* * * To GOD BE THE GLORY * * *

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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