



As We Gather The Epiphany of Our Lord Jan. 9, 2022

When the Magi arrived in Jerusalem, everyone was surprised and troubled. Few in Israel remembered God's promise through Isaiah that other nations would be attracted to them. They had forgotten that Gentiles would come bearing gifts to a future just and righteous King. Only after God worked faith in Saul/Paul's heart was the message clearly announced that all people share in the promise of Christ. Today, God's Word calls us not only to see the light of God's love in Christ but also to emulate the Magi. With joy, our faith moves us to follow where God leads and to worship our Lord, in whom alone we have boldness and access with confidence to the grace of God. That is, Epiphany is not only a celebration of the past but also a call to shine God's light in our lives today.

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Please meet with an usher for prayer requests.
Ask us about Associate Memberships for Lutherans who are part-time residents.

A Gentle Reminder to turn off cell phones. Thank You.

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP & HOLY COMMUNION



As Lutheran Christians, we believe that our Lord's Body and Blood are truly present (not symbolic) in the Bread and Wine and received by all who attend. Since our Lord reminds us that thoughtless or faithless reception of the Sacrament can incur His judgment, all are encouraged to examine themselves that they may receive it worthily.
(1 Corinthians 11:27-32)

Please use the following questions and LSB p. 329 as a personal guide before partaking of this Holy Sacrament:

- *Do I renounce sin, Satan and my own flesh, and seek true forgiveness and reconciliation with God and my neighbor?**
- *Do I believe that Jesus Christ is my Savior from sin, death, and the power of the devil?**
- *Do I believe that Christ's own words, this is my body and this is my blood shed for you for the forgiveness of sins (Mt. 26:28), mean exactly what they say for us today?**
- *Do I earnestly desire to live a Godly life by the power of the Holy Spirit and in thanksgiving to Christ?**

Because attendance at Communion is also a testimony to this faith in the Triune God confessed and taught here, and to unity in belief as brothers and sisters in Christ (1 Corinthians 10:16-17), we ask that any visitors not yet instructed, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation, and who desire to receive the Sacrament introduce themselves to the Pastor or Elder beforehand if possible.

Please Note

An invitation for children not confirmed in the Lutheran church can come and receive a blessing at the altar.

We offer a traditional communion wafer,
Off-White Color Wafers are Gluten Free.

While communing, please point to the bread meeting your preference.
Clear Color Wine is Alcohol Free

PRELUDE Adagio - Beethoven

WELCOME

HYMN #554 “O Jesus, King Most Wonderful”

INVOCATION

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

OPENING SENTENCES Isaiah 60:1, 5–6; Matthew 2:2, 10–11

- P** Arise, shine, for your light has come.
- C** We saw His star when it rose and have come to worship Him.
- P** You shall see and be radiant.
- C** They rejoiced exceedingly with great joy.
- P** They shall bring good news, the praises of the LORD.
- C** And they fell down and worshiped Him.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION Psalm 124:8; 130:3, Ephesians 3:11–12

- P** Our help is in the name of the LORD,
- C** who made heaven and earth.
- P** If You, O LORD, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
- C** But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.
- P** Although God has graciously showered the light of His love on us, we have not responded in lives of total devotion. But because He has graciously promised to forgive, let us go to Him in the name of “Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in Him.”
- C** Gracious heavenly Father, we confess that we have let the distractions of this world turn our eyes from seeing the true Light. We have not loved You with our whole hearts. Forgive us and renew in us hearts to see, follow, and worship You alone.

- P** In the mercy of almighty God, our heavenly Father sent His Son to take to His cross all our sins, and His Holy Spirit has graciously shined the light of faith in Christ into our hearts. I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

WORD

KYRIE

- P** In peace, let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For peace shining down on us from above and for the salvation of all people, let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For peace so that the Church of God would more brightly shine the light of the Gospel in the nations of the world, let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For all who join us here to thank God for the unsearchable riches of Christ, let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
- C** **Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE “The People That In Darkness Sat” LSB 412

- 1 **The people that in darkness sat A glorious light have seen;
The light has shined on them who long In shades of death have been,
In shades of death have been.**
- 2 **To hail Thee, Sun of Righteousness, The gath’ring nations come;
They joy as when the reapers bear Their harvest treasures home,
Their harvest treasures home.**
- △ 6 **Lord Jesus, reign in us, we pray, And make us Thine alone,
Who with the Father ever art And Holy Spirit, one,
And Holy Spirit, one.**

SALUTATION

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P** Let us pray. O God, You led the Magi to see in the star the news of Christ’s birth. We give thanks that You have enabled us to see Him as our Savior.

- C** Grant us strength of faith to follow where He leads and to worship Him with all that we are and have;
- P** through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 60:1–6

“Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. 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. And nations 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 carried on the hip. 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. 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.

GRADUAL Psalm 117:1–2a; 96:8

- P** Praise the LORD, all nations!
- C** Extol Him, all peoples!
- P** For great is His steadfast love toward us,
- C** and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever.
- P** Ascribe to the LORD the glory due His name;
- C** bring an offering, and come into His courts!

EPISTLE READING Ephesians 3:1–12

“For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles— assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God’s grace that was given to me for you, how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, 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. 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. 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. 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, and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things, so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, 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.

VERSE Matthew 2:2b

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

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

HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 2:1–12

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

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, 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." When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet: "'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.'" Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. 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." 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. When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. 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. 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.

G Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY # 395 “O Morning Star, How Fair And Bright” Sts. 1,2,4,6

SERMON “Rise and Shine!” Isaiah 60:1-6

INSTALLATION OF MLC OFFICERS

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Let us pray for ourselves, the Church around the world, and all people in their various circumstances.

For ourselves, that we thank God as a congregation and in our individual lives for revealing to us that we are all “partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel,” let us pray to the Lord.

G Lord, have mercy.

P [*Petitions...*] let us pray to the Lord.

G Lord, have mercy.

P For those who have gone before us in faith—the Magi, the writers of the Scriptures, patriarchs, prophets, saints, martyrs, and those who brought the Good News to us, let us give thanks to the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

P These and any other things You would have us ask of You, heavenly Father, grant to us for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, in whose name we pray.

G Amen.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY “As With Gladness Men Of Old” *LSB 397 sts. 1–3*

- 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.

- 2 As with joyful steps they sped, Savior, to Thy lowly bed,
There to bend the knee before Thee, whom heav’n and earth adore;
So may we with willing feet Ever seek Thy mercy seat.

- 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.

SACRAMENT

PREFACE

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And also with you.
- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose birth was announced by a star seen by the Magi, whose coming was foretold in Scripture and followed by those Wise Men, and who was worshiped by them with gifts and great joy. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS (Tune – “Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness”)
Holy, holy God of power, God of mercy, God of grace.
Heav’n and earth are filled with glory, praising You in ev’ry place.
Hear the loud Hosannas leaping to Your throne of highest might.
Blessed is the King who comes to bring us justice, peace and light.

WORDS OF OUR LORD “Remember Me” G. Gustafson & M. Nystrom

P (sung) “On the night ... This is My blood poured out for you and as you
drink it remember Me.”

C (sung) “So we thank You for the wine and for the bread;
For we see the life You gave And the blood you shed.
And we remember Your wondrous love
You gave your body You shed Your blood
And we remember Your wondrous love
You gave your body You shed your blood.”

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LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

AGNUS DEI (Tune – “Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness”)

Lamb of God, who pardons sinners, show us mercy, show us grace.
Lamb of God, whose promise lingers, grant Your peace in ev’ry place.
Lamb of God, the world is broken. It is filled with scattered souls.
Fill us with the words You’ve spoken, reconcile and make us whole.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

398 Hail To The Lord’s Anointed #370 What Child Is This?

367 Angels from the Realms of Glory vrs. 1-3

#400 Brightest and Best of the Stars of the Morning

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

- P** My soul, give thanks to the Lord; all my being, bless His holy name.
- C** **My soul, give thanks to the Lord, and never forget all His blessings.**
- P** It is He who forgives all your guilt, who heals every one of your ills, who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with love and compassion, who fills your life with good things, renewing your youth like an eagle's. Give thanks to the Lord, all His works, in every place where He rules.
- C** **My soul, give thanks to the Lord! Give praise to the Father Almighty; to His Son, Jesus Christ, the Lord; to the Spirit who dwells in our hearts, both now and forever. Amen.**

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 “Shine On Us” Michael & Deborah Smith

Pastor:(sung) “Lord, let Your light, light of Your face, shine on us....
Let Your grace, grace from Your hand, fall on us.”

Cong:(sung) **“Lord, let Your love, love without end come over us.
Lord, let Your love, love without end come over us.
That we may be saved, that we may have life to find our way
In the darkest night. Let Your love come over us.”**

Pastor only: Let Your light shine on us.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

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Reader Today: Kathy Hammar

PRAYER LIST: O’Neal family at the death of Pastor Pat’s Father-in-Law, Randy Gilbertson 1/3/22; Family of Pete Gerken, d. 1/3/22; Naomi, cancer (niece of Kathy Hammar); Deedee Halterman, lung cancer, sister-in-law of Maggie Halterman; Tom Stettler, Southern Utah Veterans Home; the homebound.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Mon. Jan 10 10:00 a.m. MLC of MLC - Women's group
Wed. Jan 12 10:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study
Wed. Jan 12 11:00 a.m. Childcare Chapel
Thur. Jan 13 10:00 a.m. Jesus Time in Fellowship Hall
Thur. Jan 13 4:00 p.m. Choir Practice
Sat. Jan 15 11:00 a.m. God Connects Class
Sat. Jan 15 9:00 a.m. Outdoor Nativity Scene into storage

BIRTHDAYS

Jan 13 Bonnie Holtz Jan 18 Bonnie Semmler Jan 20 Annie Black

ANNIVERSARIES

Jan 19 Alan & Shelley Rasmussen Jan 19 Mike & Cindy Yantis

Memorial/Commemorative Brick order forms are now available on the table in the narthex below the poster illustrating the proposed improvements to the Memorial Prayer Garden. Fill out the form (Guidelines on the reverse side) and return with payment to the church office. Orders will be accumulated until ready to order/install (date tbd).

Prayer Chain Requests The **MLC Prayer Chain** is available for prayer requests. Requests may be sent to: secretary@mesquitelutheran.org.

10 a.m. service available online at our Facebook page (live and recorded - @MesquiteLCC). You do not need a Facebook account to view. Go to facebook.com/MesquiteLCC/live

Acknowledgments

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