The Epiphany of our Lord Sunday, January 6, 2019



Christ Lutheran Church

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The Mission of Christ Lutheran Church is to help all people know Jesus as their Savior and grow in relationship with Him.

The Epiphany of Our Lord Sunday, January 6, 2019

DIVINE SERVICE: Setting Four

INVOCATION

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

CONFESSION and ABOLUTION

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: Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.
- C: Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. 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.

INTROIT

Ps. 45:6–8a; antiphon: Ps. 45:17

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

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

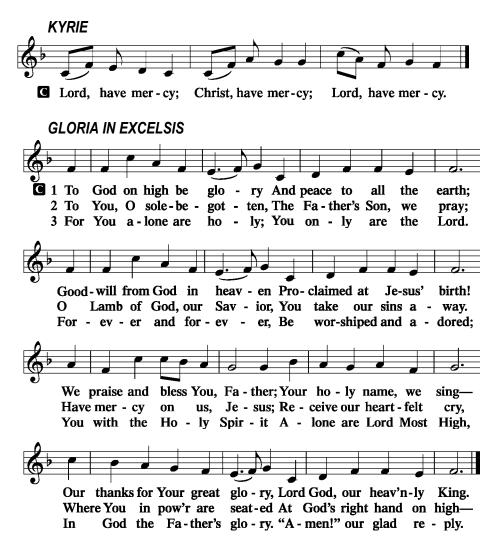
P: You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness.

C: Therefore God, Your God, has anointed You with the oil of gladness beyond Your companions;

P: Your robes are all fragrant with myrrh and aloes and cassia.

C: 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.

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



SALUTATION AND COLLECT

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.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

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

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE READING

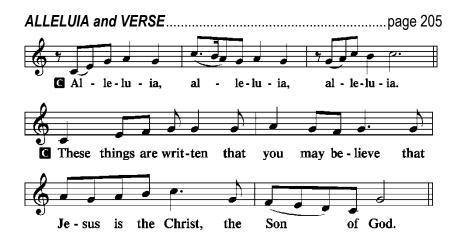
¹ For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles – ² assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for you, ³ how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. ⁴ When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, ⁵ 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. ⁶ 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. ⁷ 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. ⁸ To me,

Ephesians 3:1-12

Isaiah 60:1-6

though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, ⁹ and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God, who created all things, ¹⁰ so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹ This 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.

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



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

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 2:1-12

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, ² 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." 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.

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

NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

HYMN "As with Gladness Men of Old" LSB 397

SERMON

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P: Lord in Your mercy. **C: hear our prayer**

GATHERING OF THE OFFERINGS

If you are a confirmed member of a Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod congregation, we invite you to commune with us. If you are not a confirmed member of an LCMS congregation and would like to come forward with your family and friends during the distribution, please place your hands over your heart and you will receive a blessing.

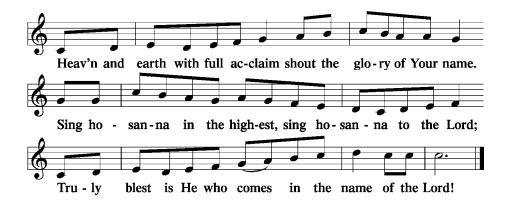
PREFACE

- 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.

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:





PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P: Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

As the glory of Your presence once filled Your ancient temple, so in the incarnation of Your Son, Jesus Christ, You manifested the fullness of Your glory in human flesh.

We give You thanks that in His most Holy Supper You reveal Your glory to us. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood so that we may one day behold Your glory face to face.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

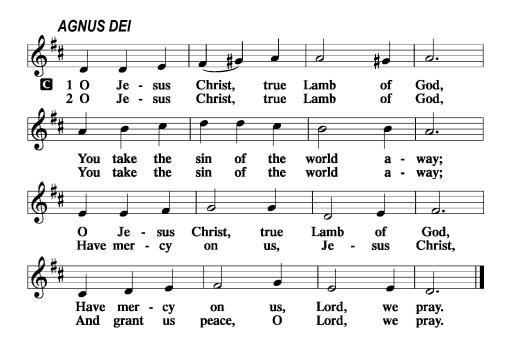
THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

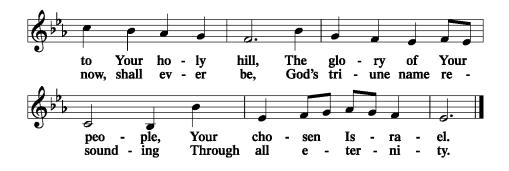
PAX DOMINI

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always. **C: Amen.**



DISTRIBUTION HYMN "O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright" LSB 395

NUNC DIMITTIS 0 Your C 1 0 let vant Lord, now ser De 2 All glo to the Fa ther, All rу ð heav'n - ly part in For Ι have the peace, seen All glo - ry the Son, the to glo - ry to 0 glo Spir Ōf ry it, Your re deem - ing grace: For Three - in ev er One; light lead the Gen tiles Un А to For ās in the be gin ning, Is



POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P: Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BENEDICAMUS AND BENEDICTION

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

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.

HYMN "Songs of Thankfulness and Praise"LSB 394 vs. 1,2,5

Acknowledgments

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THIS WEEK AT CLC --- (1/6/19 -- 1/13/19)

Sunday: Worship/HC, 9:00am; Education Hour, 10:30am
 Wednesday: Bible class, 8:30am; 2nd year Confirmation, 5:00pm; 1st year Confirmation, 6:00pm

Thursday: Bethesda Work Day, 1:00pm; Worship/HC, 6:30pm **Sunday:** Worship/HC, 9:00am; Education Hour, 10:30am

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S LOVE (Week ending December 30, 2018)

General & Building Funds: \$24,993.01; Blessings: \$56.89; Memorial Fund: \$4000.00 Attendance: Christmas Eve: 179; Christmas Day: 70; Sunday: 118

CLC ANNOUNCEMENTS

GUESTS AND VISITORS: We are glad you are here! We invite you to join us for fellowship following the service. Bathrooms are located upstairs on each end of the fellowship/Bible study area.

UNDECORATING: We will be taking the Christmas decorations down and placing them into storage this coming Saturday, January 12, beginning at 9:00. Hope to see you there!

ALL BOARDS PLANNING MEETING will be held from 6:00-8:00pm on Tuesday, January 15. (No Saturday meeting.) All members of the various boards and church council please plan on attending.

THANK YOU for all your thoughts, prayers, and gifts during the holiday season. Have a blessed new year! Pastor Wetmore

FELLOWSHIP TIME: A bulletin board with a schedule for donating, serving and cleaning up during fellowship time is now located near the island in the fellowship hall. Coffee will be made each week by the fellowship time ladies, who will also provide treats and serve if dates are not filled by volunteers. If you would like to volunteer for any of these duties, please see Katie Stolze or sign up on the CLC website. The online schedule will be updated monthly to reflect new volunteer sign-ups and printed schedules will be available at the bulletin board.

"LIFE QUOTES" from Lutherans For Life

"For Christians, then, 'too many people' is impossible. Each additional person affords another opportunity to love and give in the way that brings God Himself the highest joys. And in the neediness of every neighbor more, we encounter and embrace Christ Jesus (Matthew 25:40)." *Rev. Michael W. Salemink, executive director of Lutherans For Life – (www.lutheransforlife.org)*

WEATHER CANCELLATIONS FOR CHURCH SERVICES /

ACTIVITIES: Please check Channel 9 TV's website, the CLC website or Facebook page, or call the church at 715-848-2040 and press option "6".

YOUTH FUNDRAISER: A group of youths from CLC will attend the LCMS National Youth Gathering in Minneapolis in July. The Youth Group board in the Fellowship Area has 100 envelopes, numbered 1 through 100. Members of the congregation who would like to support this effort may choose one or more envelopes, fill the envelope with a donation equal to the number on the front and place the envelopes in the offering plate by February 28. You may make the donation alone or by partnering with others. Any money collected beyond what is needed for registration and lodging costs for the Gathering will be placed in the Youth Group's fund. If you have any questions, please see Brian Otten.