

# The Feast of the Epiphany of Our Lord

Sunday, January 6, 2019  
6:35pm

## WELCOME

*We welcome you to Mt. Hermon Lutheran Church!*

*If you are worshipping with us for the first time, WELCOME,*

*If you are worshipping again, WELCOME BACK.*

*Worship is much more joyful when we add our voices to offer praise and thanksgiving. If you need anything, just ask one of the ushers or greeters. A nursery is provided for younger children should you want to use it at any time. If you would like to discuss discipleship at Mt. Hermon, Pastor Gina would love to speak with you!*

*Welcome to the 38<sup>th</sup> Community Festival of the Epiphany hosted by Mt Hermon Lutheran Church. January 6<sup>th</sup> ends the Twelve Days of Christmas with the story of the Magi bringing the Baby Jesus their gifts and with its focus on the star that lights the way to Christ. We, too, are still called to offer our gifts, our worship, and to let our lights shine that others may see Christ through us.*

**Again welcome...**

**PRE-SERVICE**

*God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen*

Davis

## **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Please see the Community Announcements in the back section of the bulletin.*

*Please note that all the congregation responses are printed in **Bold and Italics**.*

**PRELUDE**

*We Three Kings*

J. Linker

*We are silent as we prepare our hearts for worship.*

**EPIPHANY DIALOGUE**

*We stand and face the baptismal font. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

We give thanks on this holy day, adorned with epiphanies:  
for the star that led the magi to the manger,  
***that the nations may see the light of Christ;***  
for the water turned to wine at Cana's wedding,  
***that the people taste the goodness of the Lord;***  
for the baptism of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Jordan,  
***that the Christ would save us all.***  
This is the day that the Lord has made,  
***we will rejoice and be glad in it. Alleluia.***

*As the cross passes your pew, please turn your bodies and worship attention to the front of the sanctuary.*

**HYMN**

*Angels We Have Heard on High*

ELW 289  
(Red Book)



1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,  
2 Shep-herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?  
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;



and the moun-tains in re - ply, ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.  
What the glad - some tid - ings be which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?  
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born king.

*Refrain*



Glo - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o; glo -



- ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

**GREETING**

God who sent the Light into our world,  
God who shone in the Bethlehem manger,  
God who spreads the Spirit's rays, be with you all.

***And also with you.***

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

*We pray together.*

***Everlasting God, the radiance of all faithful people, you brought the nations to the brightness of your rising. Fill the world with your glory, and show yourself to all the world through him who is the true light and the bright morning star, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.***

*We sit.*

## THE WORD

### **READING: Isaiah 60:1-6**

*A reading from Isaiah.*

<sup>1</sup>See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. <sup>2</sup>But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; <sup>3</sup>he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. <sup>4</sup>Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

The Word of the Lord.

***Thanks be to God.***

## **READING: Ephesians 3:1-12**

*A reading from Ephesians.*

<sup>1</sup>This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles—<sup>2</sup>for surely you have already heard of the commission of God’s grace that was given me for you, <sup>3</sup>and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, <sup>4</sup>a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. <sup>5</sup>In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: <sup>6</sup>that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

<sup>7</sup>Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God’s grace that was given me by the working of his power.

<sup>8</sup>Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, <sup>9</sup>and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; <sup>10</sup>so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. <sup>11</sup>This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, <sup>12</sup>in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

The Word of the Lord.

***Thanks be to God.***

*We stand.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the



words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## GOSPEL: Matthew 2:1-12

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter

***Glory to you, O Lord.***

<sup>1</sup>In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup>asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.” <sup>3</sup>When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; <sup>4</sup>and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. <sup>5</sup>They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

<sup>6</sup>“And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;  
for from you shall come a ruler  
who is to shepherd my people Israel.’”

<sup>7</sup>Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup>Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go

and pay him homage.” <sup>9</sup>When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup>When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. <sup>11</sup>On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. <sup>12</sup>And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

The gospel of the Lord.

***Praise to you, O Christ.***

*We sit.*

## **PRAYER OF PREPARATION**

*Please pray with me the prayer of preparation.*

***Holy God, you have a word for me today. Make my heart soft and plant your word in me in order that it may bear fruit in your kingdom. Amen.***

## **MESSAGE**

*“they knelt down and paid him homage”*

*We stand.*

**HYMN**

*As With Gladness, Men of Old*

ELW 302



1 As with glad - ness men of old did the guid - ing star be - hold;  
2 As with joy - ful steps they sped, Sav - ior, to thy low - ly bed,  
3 As they of - fered gifts most rare at thy cra - dle, rude and bare,  
4 Ho - ly Je - sus, ev - 'ry day keep us in the nar - row way;  
5 In the heav'n - ly coun - try bright need they no cre - a - ted light;



as with joy they hailed its light, lead - ing on - ward, beam - ing bright;  
there to bend the knee be - fore thee, whom heav'n and earth a - dore;  
so may we with ho - ly joy, pure and free from sin's al - loy,  
and when earth - ly things are past, bring our ran - somed souls at last  
thou its light, its joy, its crown, thou its sun which goes not down;



so, most gra - cious Lord, may we ev - er - more be led by thee.  
so may we with will - ing feet ev - er seek thy mer - cy seat.  
all our cost - liest trea - sures bring, Christ, to thee, our heav'n - ly king.  
where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glo - ry hide.  
there for - ev - er may we sing al - le - lu - ias to our king.

**NICENE CREED**

*Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith with the words of the Nicene Creed.*

***We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.  
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,***



*the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.*

*For us and for our salvation*

*he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.*

*For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.*

*On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the scriptures;*

*he ascended into heaven*

*and is seated at the right hand of the Father.*

*He will come again in glory to judge the living and  
the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.*

*We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,\**

*who with the Father and the Son is  
worshiped and glorified,*

*who has spoken through the prophets.*

*We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.*

*We acknowledge one baptism  
for the forgiveness of sins.*

*We look for the resurrection of the dead,*

*and the life of the world to come. Amen.*

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Guided by the star, together with the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of creation.

*After each petition: Lead us, O God. **Lead us by your light.***

*The Prayers conclude:*

God of light, into your hands we place all for whom we pray, trusting in your radiant mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## **SHARING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.*

*We sit.*

## **THE MEAL**

### **OFFERING**

*We give our monetary offering to support Christ's mission in this place and around the world in gratitude of God's amazing grace. You may make a contribution any time by visiting [www.mthlc.org](http://www.mthlc.org) and click on "On-line Giving." Thank you for your gifts and your stewardship.*

*Please also take this time in worship to complete the pew registers.*

### **OFFERING**

*Epiphany Carol*

Arr. O'Brien

### **OFFERTORY**      *Songs of Thankfulness and Praise (Verse 1 Only)*

ELW 310



1 Songs of thank-ful - ness and praise, Je - sus, Lord, to thee we raise;



man - i - fest - ed by the star to the sa - ges from a - far,



branch of roy - al Da - vid's stem in thy birth at Beth - le - hem:



an - thems be to thee ad - dressed, God in flesh made man - i - fest.

### **OFFERING PRAYER**

*We give thanks for these gifts and we pray together.*

***God of abundance,***

***we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation,  
and with them our very lives.***

***Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in  
need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord.***

***Amen.***

### **THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

The Lord be with you.

***And also with you.***

Lift up your hearts

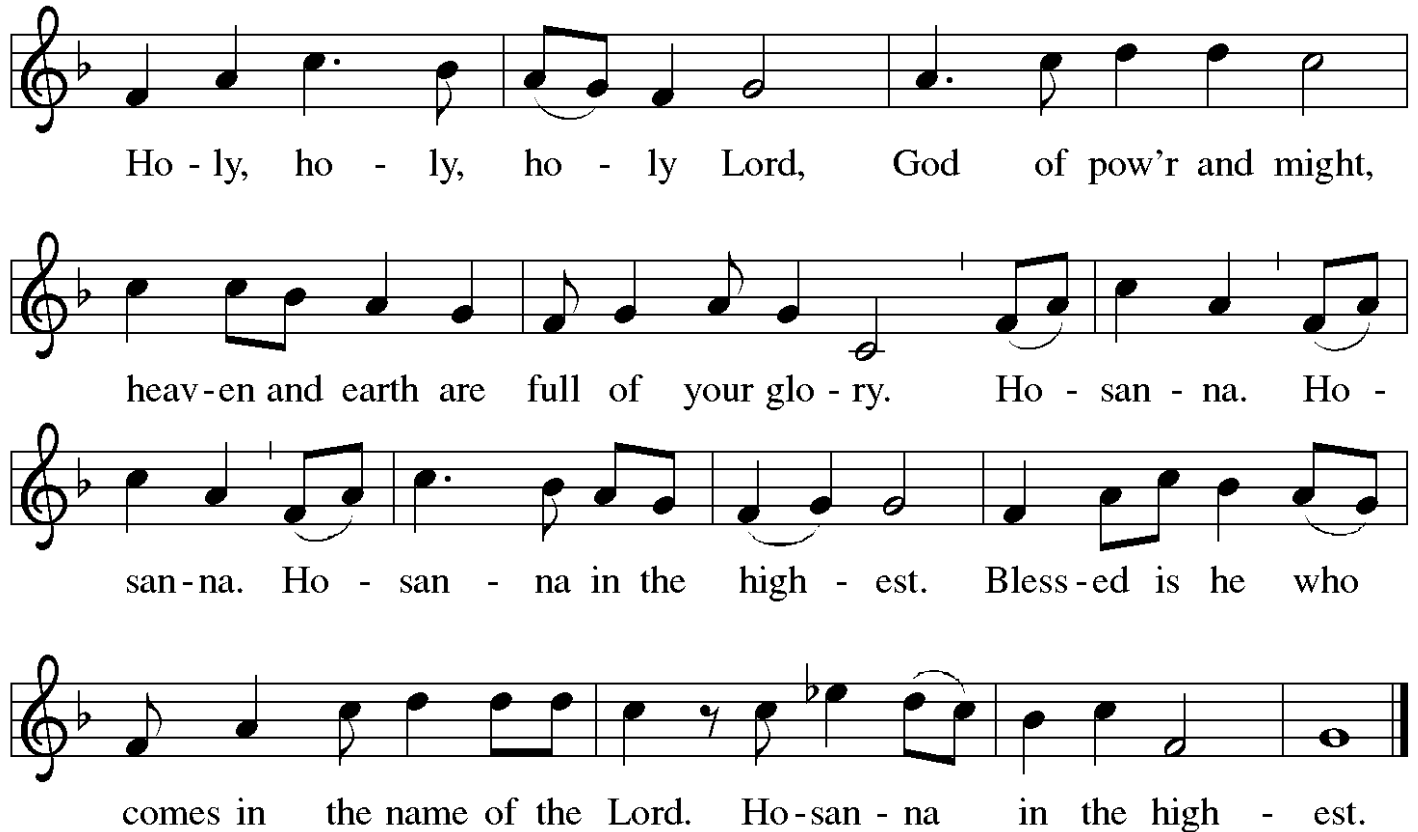
***We lift them to the Lord***

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

***It is right to give our thanks and praise.***

## PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God. You reveal your glory as the glory of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit: equal in majesty, undivided in splendor, one Lord, one God, ever to be adored in your eternal glory. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -  
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

In the night in which he was betrayed...

...With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's Passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith: ***Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.***

O God of resurrection and new life. Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence. ***Come, Holy Spirit.***

Reveal yourself in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love. ***Come, Holy Spirit.***

All praise and glory are yours, Holy Father, Eternal Word, Spirit of Peace, one God, now and forever. ***Amen.***

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

*Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:*

***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.***

### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

The light of Christ came into our world and shines in the darkness. Come now to feast at Christ's table.

*We sit.*

## DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

All are welcome to this Meal. Come down the center aisle to receive the bread. (gluten free wafers are also available.) Then move to the chalice (cup) of wine, dip the bread in the wine. Return to your pew by the side aisle. Those not communing, may cross their arms across their chest and come forward for a blessing. Those who desire communion but who are not able to come forward will be communed first in their pew.

## MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

### *What Child is This*

ELW 296



- 1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar - y's lap is sleep - ing?
- 2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed - ing?
- 3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas - ant, king, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet while shep - herds watch are keep - ing?  
Good Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.  
The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.



This, this is Christ the king, whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;  
Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;  
Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!  
hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y!  
joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!

# O Come All Ye Faithful

ELW 283



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O  
2 The high - est, most ho - ly, light of light e - ter - nal,  
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,  
4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing;



come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;  
born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes;  
sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!  
Je - sus, to thee be . . . glo - ry giv'n!

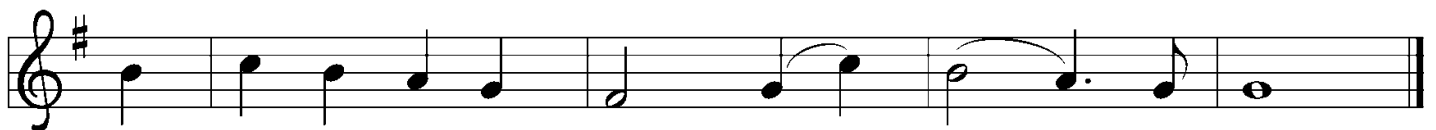


come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels:  
Son of the Fa - ther now in flesh ap - pear - ing!  
Glo - ry to God . . . in . . . the . . . high - est:  
Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing:

## Refrain



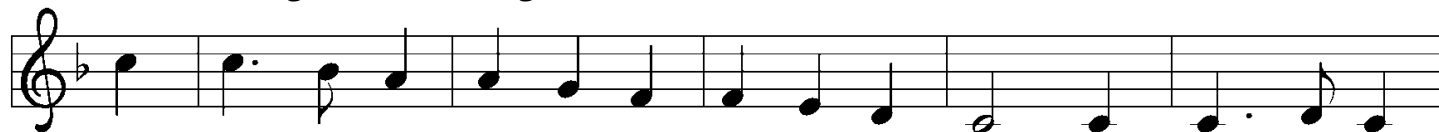
Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus, ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus,  
O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,



ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.  
O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

## Away in a Manger

ELW 277



1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for his bed, the lit - tle Lord  
2 The cat - tle are low - ing; the ba - by a - wakes, but lit - tle Lord  
3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask you to stay close by me for -



Je - sus laid down his sweet head; the stars in the bright sky looked  
Je - sus, no cry - ing he makes. I love you, Lord Je - sus; look  
ev - er and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear chil - dren in



down where he lay, the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.  
down from the sky and stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is nigh.  
your ten - der care and fit us for heav - en, to live with you there.

*We stand.*

### **BLESSING**

May the Body and Blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in His grace. **Amen.**

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

*We pray together.*

***O Lord, you look upon us in love and refresh our soul through the gifts of bread and wine. Send us out, reflecting the light of your grace, to tell the story of Jesus Christ, our bright morning start. Amen.***



# THE SENDING

## BLESSING

Beloved children of God, what came into being in Christ was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. The light of Christ † shine on you with grace and mercy and fill you with joy and peace.

**Amen.**

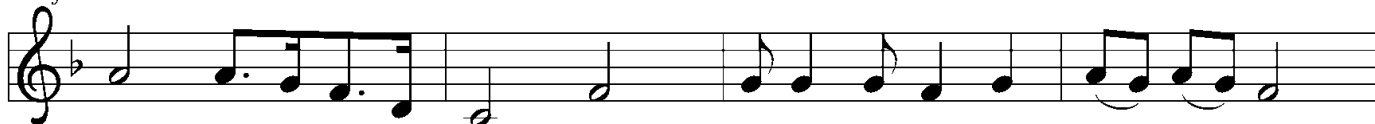
*As the cross passes your pew, please turn and face the entrance of the sanctuary.*

## HYMN

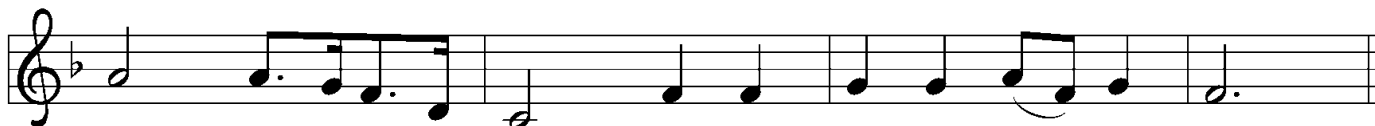
### *Go Tell It On the Mountain*

ELW 290

*Refrain*



Go tell it on the moun - tain, o-ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;



go tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!



- 1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,
- 2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when, lo, a - bove the earth
- 3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger the hum-ble Christ was born;

*Refrain*



be - hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.  
rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.  
and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless-ed Christ-mas morn.

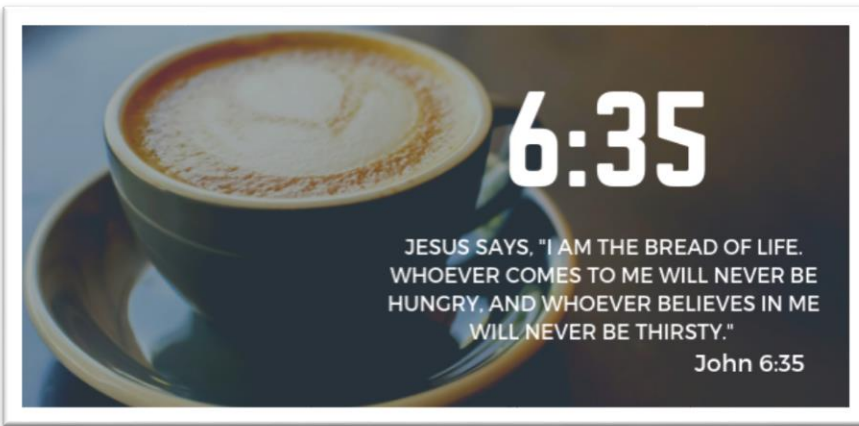
## DISMISSAL

Go in peace, guided by the light of Christ.  
*Thanks be to God.*

## POSTLUDE

*Angels from the Realms of Glory*

Burkhardt



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## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Sunday, January 13<sup>th</sup> Baptism of our LORD

9:00 am Worship Service  
10:15 am Sunday School  
6:00 pm Council Meeting  
6:35 pm Epiphany Service

### Tuesday, January 14<sup>th</sup>

1:00 pm Arthritis Chair Class  
2:00 pm MAT/ Pilates Class  
6:00 pm Lutheran Men  
6:35 pm Pray

### Wednesday, January 16<sup>th</sup>

6:00 pm Chancel Bells  
6:30 pm Chancel Choir  
6:35 pm Pray

### Thursday, January 17<sup>th</sup>

1:00 pm Arthritis Chair Class  
2:00 pm MAT/ Pilates Class  
6:35 pm Pray

### January 22

Deadline to submit  
information for the February  
Newsletter

### January 23

6:00 Mt Hermon will host  
Week of Prayer for Christian  
Unity  
Meal will follow in the  
Fellowship Hall

### January 28

Lutheran Men in Mission  
District Meeting,  
Emmanuel Lutheran

### February 1 – 3

Mt Hermon Leadership  
Retreat, Camp Kinard



Mt. Hermon Lutheran Church

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Pastor Gina 803.951.3784

*Rev. Gina D. Metze*                      *PastorGinaMetze@gmail.com*                      *803.951.3784*  
*Ruthie Brannen Cantor*                      *ruthiebrannen@gmail.com*  
*Brittany Mailleue Parish Administrator*                      *office@mthlc.org*

**CONGREGATIONAL OFFICERS**

President, *Terry Swygert*                      Vice President, *Ronnie Fulmer*  
Secretary, *Alyson Price*                      Treasurer, *Emily Morris*  
Financial Secretary, *Annette Price*                      Sextons, *Ricky Bouknight, Allison & Terry Swygert*

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