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## THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD Divine Setting Three ~ LSB 184 January 6, 2020

### As We Gather ~ *The Lord God Is Manifested in the Incarnate Son*

The Feast of the Epiphany centers in the visit of the Magi from the East. In that respect, it is a “Thirteenth Day” of Christmas; and yet, it also marks the beginning of a new liturgical season. While Christmas has focused on the Incarnation of our Lord—that is, on God becoming flesh—the season of Epiphany emphasizes the manifestation or self-revelation of God in that same flesh of Christ. For the Lord Himself has entered our darkness and rises upon us with the brightness of His true light (Is. 60:1–2). He does so chiefly by His Word of the Gospel, which He causes to be preached within His Church on earth—not only to the Jews but also to Gentiles (Eph. 3:8–10). As the Magi were guided by the promises of Holy Scripture to find and worship the Christ Child with His mother in the house (Matt. 2:5–11), so does He call disciples from all nations by the preaching of His Word, to find and worship Him within His Church (Is. 60:3–6). With gold they confess His royalty; with incense, His deity; and with myrrh, His priestly sacrifice (Matt. 2:11).

### Announcements

*(Please stand, if able)*

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

### Confession/Absolution

LSB 184

Entrance Hymn “*Hail, O Source of Every Blessing*”

LSB 409

### Kyrie

LSB 186

### Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 187

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** 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.**

*(Please be seated)*

## 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.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## Gradual

*Is. 60:6b, 1*

Those from Sheba shall come.

They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall bring good news, the praises of the LORD.

**Arise, shine, for your light has come,  
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.**

## Epistle

*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.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

*(Please stand, if able)*

## Alleluia

LSB 190

## Holy Gospel

*Matthew 2:1–12*

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

**C Glory be to Thee, 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.

**C** **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

### **Nicene Creed**

*(Please be seated)*

**Hymn** “O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright” LSB 395

**Sermon** “Present Past and Perfect Pasting Present”

*(Please stand, if able)*

**Offertory** LSB 192

*(Please be seated)*

### **Offering**

*(Please stand, if able)*

### **Prayer of the Church**

**Service of the Sacrament** LSB 194

**Distribution Hymn** “The People That in Darkness Sat” LSB 412

*(Please stand, if able)*

**Nunc Dimittis** LSB 199

**Thanksgiving** LSB 200

**Post-Communion Collect** LSB 201

**Salutation and Benedicamus** LSB 201

**Benediction** LSB 202

**Hymn** “O Christ, Our True and Only Light” LSB 839