

**OUR WORSHIP TODAY – The Epiphany of our Lord**

**GATHERING AND MEDITATION TIME**

*Pre-Service Music, Welcome, and Announcements*

**CONFSSIONAL PRAYER**

Pastor: We celebrate the season of Epiphany with joy, hope, love, and peace in our hearts. We realize the difficulties that we face, and the poor job we have done with our response Your Word. For that, dear Lord, we make our confession to you this day.

**Most merciful God, we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by the things we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen**

**ABSOLUTION**

Pastor:

As a result of the love of God, the work of Jesus, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, I, as a called and ordained servant of The Word, and by the authority of our Lord Jesus Christ, forgive you all your sins in the name of the, Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. We celebrate our Christmas joy of our coming salvation in His Holy Name. **Amen.**

**ENTRANCE HYMN:** # 141 As With Gladness Men of Old, vs 1,3,5

**THE PRAYER OF THE DAY** (Unison):

**Lord, we follow the Star of the East just as the Magi did so long ago. Help us to love our Lord Jesus as we bring our gifts, time, and talents to Him. Alleluia. May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our hearts, so that we may know the hope to which God has called us. Alleluia.**

**OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:** Isaiah 601-6 (ESV)

**The Future Glory of Israel**

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.

**PSALM - Psalm 72:1-15 (ESV)** (*Recited whole verse by whole verse, congregation in BOLD*)

Give the King Your Justice - Of Solomon. Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the royal son!

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

May desert tribes bow down before him, and his enemies lick the dust!

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

May all kings fall down before him, all nations serve him!

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

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

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

Long 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 ever shall be, world without end. Amen**

### **THE EPISTLE LESSON: Ephesians 3:1-12 (ESV)**

The Mystery of the Gospel Revealed

For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner of 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.

### **THE HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 2:1-12 (ESV)**

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 2nd Chapter.

**Glory to you Oh Lord.**

#### **The Visit of the Wise Men**

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.

This is the Gospel of our Lord.

**Praise to you Oh Christ.**

**SERMON** *"The Star of the East"* **Pastor Steve Dygert**

**SERMON HYMN:** #140 We Three Kings of Orient Are

**OUR CONFESSION OF FAITH:** The Nicene Creed ©

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

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the 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 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 on the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again, with glory, to judge the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

"And I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Lord and Giver of Life; who proceeds from the Father [and the Son]; who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped 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."

**THE OFFERING:** #146 O Sing a Song of Bethlehem – Pastor Steve

*After the consecration of the Offering, we will sing the Doxology.*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow, Praise him, all creatures here below, Praise him above, Ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING:**

**PRAYERS OF PRAISE,** Let us Pray: *(Prayer Response)* Lord in your Mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

**THE LORD’S PRAYER; WORDS OF INSTITUTION; PREPARATION OF THE TABLE; THE DISTRIBUTION; THE COMMUNION DISMISSAL BLESSING**

**SENDING HYMN:** #589 Now Thank You All Our God  
**Aaronic Blessing**

**THE BENEDICTION & THE DISMISSAL**

P. Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

C. **Thanks be to God**

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**WELCOME TO OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN!** Thank you for joining us as we worship our Risen Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! We are happy you are here! As a kindness to one another, **please place your cell phones on mute** for the time we are together in worship. If you are a visitor, let us know you are here!

**RE-CREATION PERFORMANCE:** Remember our New Years gift to our community of our sponsorship of the Gospel group Re-Creation, who will be performing at our church on Saturday, January 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm. There is no charge for the event, but because of fire regulations, we are limited to only 89 seats at the performance. Listen to the announcements today for ways you can help with our gift to our community.

**WE WELCOME ALL OF OUR VISITORS!:** We are so happy you chose to visit us today. If you are looking for a church home, feel free to call Pastor Steve and let us introduce ourselves to you. God Bless you and welcome to His church!

**IN OUR PRAYERS:** Please use a prayer request card if you have a specific prayer request this morning. It is our joy and our privilege to share in these petitions to Almighty God. If you have them ready before the service, hand them to Pastor when you have them completed, otherwise give them to the ushers at the time the offering is collected.

**We Serve Today:**

*Reader: Bubbles Buress*

*Communion: Jeanette & Geri McGary, Jeanne Keyser*

*Offering: Jeff Cisco, Rev. Tony*

*Greeter: Nancy Nordell*

**We Serve Next Sunday:**

*Reader: TBA*

*Communion: Jeanette & Geri McGary, Jeanne Keyser*

*Offering: Jeff Cisco, Rev. Tony*

*Greeter: Nancy Nordell*

Lead Pastor: Rev. Dr. Steve Dygert  
Asst. Pastor: Rev Tony Alonzo  
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Bible Study 1: Sunday 11 A.M. Sunday  
Pastor's email: [pastor@oslc-lcmc.com](mailto:pastor@oslc-lcmc.com)  
Pastor's Cell Phone: (260) 417-3304  
Worship Time: Sunday 10 A.M  
Bible Study 2: Wednesdays 10 A.M. At OSLC

