

ST. LUCAS EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN

The Epiphany of Our Lord

January 6th & 7st, 2024

We ask that you please fill out a yellow attendance card and place it in the offering basket. Attendance cards are in the pews. Thank you very much!

The Season

The world is starving for good news. And that is exactly what we get at Christmas. The angel told the shepherds, "I bring you good news of great joy" (Luke 2:10). The angel reported a fact—the birth of One who would make everything right again. This child would remove all our fears and fill our hearts with joy.

The Sunday

Today we celebrate the Epiphany of our Lord. Epiphany comes from a Greek word meaning "reveal." The Lord miraculously guides foreigners across countless miles, so the Savior could be revealed to them as well. We rejoice in the good news that this Jewish baby is the Savior for all people—the Savior of the world.

Prayer before Worship

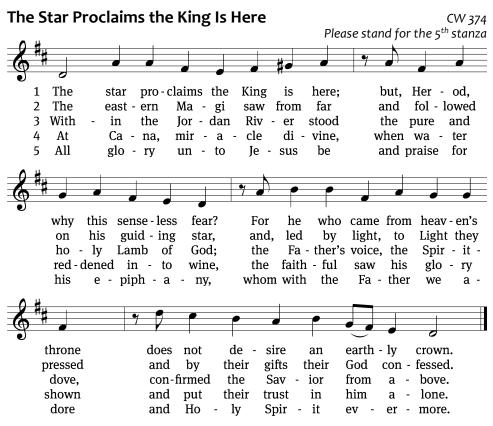
"I rejoiced with those who said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the Lord." Give me joy, dear Jesus, as I prepare to worship you today. Make me understand what my life would be like without you so that I long to hear about your grace and compassion. Help me participate in a way that honors you and builds up all who worship with me, and let their worship strengthen and encourage my faith.

Serving in Worship

Presiding Minister: Pastor Timothy Henning Organist: Laura Schulz

Ushers: Chris Peters (6 pm Saturday)

Matthew Stoltz (8 am Sunday) Steve Wolter (10:30 am Sunday)



Text: tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.; Coelius Sedulius, 5th cent., abr. Tune: Geistliche Lieder auffs new gebessert, Wittenberg, 1535, ed. Joseph Klug Text and tune: Public domain

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**



Dialogue

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light.

God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness.

When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it.

See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples.

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned. For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon us.

When the wicked advance against me to devour me, it is my enemies and my foes who will stumble and fall. Though an army besiege me, my heart will not fear; though war break out against me, even then I will be confident.

The Lord is my light and my salvation—whom shall I fear?

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind.

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life."

We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.

Lord, Have Mercy

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.



Tune: Musae Sioniae, vol. 7, Wolfenbüttel

Text: © 2021 Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 703484

Tune: Public domain

The Word

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Lord God, by the leading of a star, you once made known to the nations your one and only Son. Guide us, also, who know him now by faith to come at last to the perfect joy of your heavenly glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

First Reading

Numbers 24:15-17a

Out of the nation of Israel would come one who would shine like a star for all peoples to see.

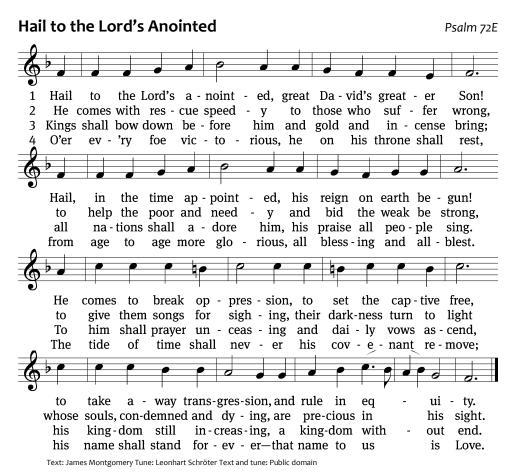
¹⁵Then he spoke his message:

"The prophecy of Balaam son of Beor, the prophecy of one whose eye sees clearly, ¹⁶the prophecy of one who hears the words of God, who has knowledge from the Most High, who sees a vision from the Almighty, who falls prostrate, and whose eyes are opened:

17"I see him, but not now;
I behold him, but not near.
A star will come out of Jacob;
a scepter will rise out of Israel.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



Second Reading

Romans 11:13-15,28-32

Paul writes about his passion for sharing the good news with all people.

¹³I am talking to you Gentiles. Inasmuch as I am the apostle to the Gentiles, I take pride in my ministry ¹⁴in the hope that I may somehow arouse my own people to envy and save some of them. ¹⁵For if their rejection brought reconciliation to the world, what will their acceptance be but life from the dead?

²⁸As far as the gospel is concerned, they are enemies for your sake; but as far as election is concerned, they are loved on account of the patriarchs, ²⁹for God's gifts and his call are irrevocable. ³⁰Just as you who were at one time disobedient to God have now received mercy as a result of their disobedience, ³¹so they too have now become disobedient in order that they too may now receive mercy as a result of God's mercy to you. ³²For God has bound everyone over to disobedience so that he may have mercy on them all.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 2:2

Alleluia!

Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews?

We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.

Alleluia!

Gospel Matthew 2:1–12

Magi from the east are miraculously led to their Savior, and they worship him.

¹After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem ²and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him."

³When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. ⁴When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵"In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied, "for this is what the prophet has written:

6" 'But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel."

⁷Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. ⁸He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him."

⁹After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. ¹¹On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

Children's Sermon

Children may come forward to the front pew



Stand

The Second Article (Redemption)

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

What does this mean?

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord.

He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver but with his holy, precious blood and with his innocent suffering and death.

All this he did that I should be his own, and live under him in his kingdom, and serve him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as he has risen from death and lives and rules eternally.

This is most certainly true.

Be seated



Prayer of the Church

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God and Mary's Son, in the fullness of time you came into our world to save us from sin and death.

You ushered in the day of grace so long foretold.

Beloved Son of the Father, revered by the Magi, baptized by John, you came preaching and teaching, healing and comforting, forgiving and encouraging:

You brought the light of life to those walking in darkness, and the joy of salvation to those doomed to death.

Prince of peace, shine like a beacon for us and the people of our world. Let the good news of salvation be heard in the remotest corners of the earth. Open our own lips to speak your name to those around us who still live without faith or hope:

Arouse us and our missionaries to flood the world with the light of your gospel.

Lord of the Church, let your peace rule our hearts that we may use our gifts to serve you and each other in willing gratitude and joy. Watch over our loved ones near and far, that they may remember your love and rejoice in your salvation. Strengthen the faith of the sick and the disheartened. [We pray especially for...here name the person and the cause of the petition.] Give hope to those in despair and comfort those who mourn.

Be gracious to all and lead us to reflect your love in everything we say and do.

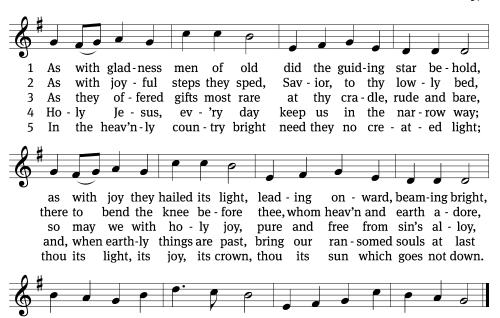
Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

Finally, bring us and all your believers to the heavenly home where we will stand in the full light of your glory and with all your saints and angels sing the everlasting song of triumph. **Amen.**

Offering God's people offer their first and best to the Lord in response to the Lord's blessings to them. The offering is gathered in a basket in the church entrance before or after the service. If you prefer to give electronically, you may scan this graphic to access www.stlucaswels.org/donate.





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

Text: William C. Dix, 1837–1898, alt. Tune: Conrad Kocher, 1786–1872, alt. Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

Prayer

Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart that, being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.

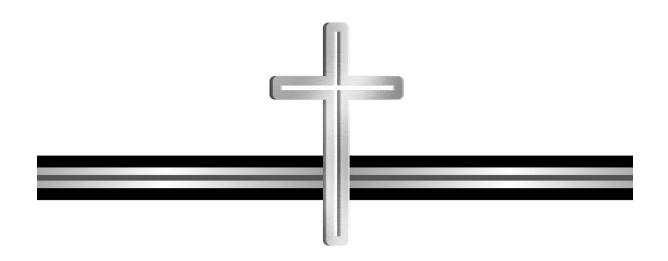


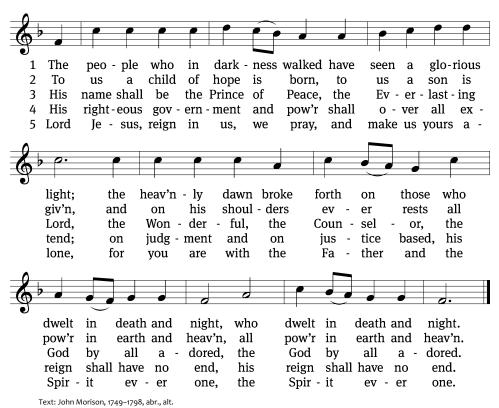
Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace. **Amen.**





Tune: Nicolaus Herman, c. 1480–1561 Text and tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

Setting Eight (German) from Christian Worship

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.TM Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide.

Software distributed in partnership with Northwestern Publishing House.

Created by Christian Worship: Service Builder © 2024 Concordia Publishing House.

Announcements

Attendance Cards: We ask that you please fill out a yellow attendance card and place it in the offering basket. Attendance cards are in the pews. Thank you very much!

A BIG Thank you: We wanted to thank everyone who donated gifts for our giving tree this year! The kindness and generosity shown warms our hearts and was greatly appreciated by the families who received the gifts. Thank you!!!

Lutheran Memorial Park – **Annual Lot Holders Meeting:** The annual lot holders meeting will be held Monday, January 22, 2024, at 6:30pm in the St. Lucas School Meeting Room. Anyone interested in serving on the Cemetery Board, please contact Chairman Paul Lemke at 262-626-4829 or Secretary Joyce Kral at 262-626-2725.

PTO Spring Fundraising Gala – "**Pearl of the Sea**": I know, it's hard to think about spring being right around the corner when the air is getting colder by the day and lingering Christmas decorations still twinkle around town. In reality, St, Lucas Lutheran Grade School's PTO fundraising gala is only two short months away! Make sure you mark your calendars for this fantastic event being held on **Thursday March 7**th, **2024**. The gala aims to raise funds for the school all while providing an enchanting evening for all in attendance. The event will take place at Foundry 45 with food provided by Crave Catering, live music by Whole Yachta Love, and friendly fellowship. In addition to the food, there will be a silent auction as well as a raffle.

The PTO would like to reach out for assistance in making this an enjoyable and successful evening. They are in need of volunteers to assist with various tasks, donations of any size, silent auction items, and gift baskets for the raffle. The PTO will provide a donation receipt for any donations made that will include the PTO's tax-exempt number for your records.

If you are interested in volunteering your time, providing a donation, or have any questions, please contact Liz Dreher at (262) 923-0241 or Jenell Enright at (608) 669-3190 or jenellenright@gmail.com.

KML Job Opening: KML is looking to fill the position of *Study Hall/Commons Supervisor*. Duties include monitoring students, maintaining an atmosphere conducive to study, issuing student passes as needed, collecting and entering lunch deposits, and depositing money with the fiscal office. Additionally, the person in this position will compile and disseminate school-wide morning announcements.

This is a part-time seasonal position of approximately 7:30 AM – 3:00 PM, Monday – Friday, yearly from August through May (during the school year). Proposed start date for this job opening: January 2024. Hourly pay is based on experience. This position does not include benefits.

Please submit questions and resumes **on or before January 15, 2024**, to Mrs. Melanie Schoeneck (262.677.4051 x4018; melanie.schoeneck@kmlhs.org).

Frozen Jr.: Mrs. Luba Rohrback and Redeemer Lutheran Church are providing theatre opportunities for any KML Federation students (grades 4th-9th) that are interested in being a part

of Frozen Jr! Rehearsals are held at Redeemer Lutheran Church and KMLHS. Public performances will be held in KML's Performing Arts Center on Thursday, June 20th @7pm, Friday, June 21st @7pm, Saturday, June 22nd @1pm/7pm, and Sunday, June 23 @1pm.

- Auditions are March 3rd 12:00-3:00pm, March 5th 5:30-8:00pm, callbacks March 10th, 4:00-6:00pm;
- Sign up link: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10CoA4DA8AA29AoF58-46737857-auditions
- The theatre group is also looking for kids who would like to be a part of the stage crew.

Please see the flyer for more information and contact Mrs. Rohrback at lyubocka@gmail.com with any questions.

Paul Becht - 1/12

Conrad Cuffel – 1/12 Siddalee Wendt – 1/12

Celebrating God's Blessings This Week:

BIRTHDAYS

Aalee Buslaff – 1/7 Richard Kuehl – 7/8 Robert Wilson – 7/8 Danielle Dreher – 1/9 Brody Kral – 1/10

ANNIVERSARIES Cooper Schmidt – 1/10 Tom & Maureen S

Tom & Maureen Stoffel – 1/7 Scott & Patti Derge – 1/13

CALENDAR

Readings for January 7th - January 14th

JAN 07 Sunday

Ezekiel 1:1-14, 22-28 Hahakkuk 1:1-3:19 Romans 1:1-17

Worship - 8 am Bible Study - 9:15 am Sunday School - 9:15 am Worship - 10:30 am

JAN 08 Monday

Ezekiel 2:1-3:11 Romans 1:18-22

JAN 09 Tuesday

Ezekiel 4:1-11:25 Romans 2:1-16

Ezekiel 3:12-27

Bible Study - 6:30 pm Ace Team Meeting -7 pm

JAN 10 Wednesday

Ezekiel 18:1-4, 19-32 Ezekiel 19:1-24:27 Romans 2:17-29

Catechism Instruction 6th-8th Grade - 3:30 pm

JAN 11 Thursday

Ezekiel 33:1-20 Romans 3:1-18

Fuel for Moms - 7:45 am Bible Study - 10 am

JAN 12 Friday

Ezekiel 34:1-24 Romans 3:19-31

JAN 13

Saturday

Ezekiel 36:13-28 Romans 4:1-25

Worship w/Communion 6 pm

JAN 14

Sunday

Ezekiel 36:33-37:14 Romans 5:1-21

Worship w/Communion 8 am

Bible Study - 9:15 am Sunday School - 9:15 am Worship w/Communion 10:30 am

Ushers for 1/20 & 1/21

Sat. 1/20 6 pm - Beyer Sun. 1/21 8 am - Schacht

Sun. 1/21 10:30 am - Strack

Ushers for 1/27 & 1/28

Sat. 1/20 6 pm - Butzke

Sun. 1/21 8 am - Kempf

Sun. 1/21 10:30 am - Koch

St. Lucas Lutheran Church strives to be a congregation that is always inviting, always edifying, and always equipping. www.stlucaswels.org

Contact Information

Pastor Timothy Henning

(262) 707-6984 - thenning@stlucaswels.org

Principal Mark Hesse

(920) 915-1130 - mhesse@stlucaswels.org

School/Church Office

(262) 626-2680 - church@stlucaswels.org