



CHRISTMAS

Epiphany of Our Lord

St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church | Jordan, Minnesota

January 4, 2026

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Welcome and thank you for joining us for worship today! In our service, we gather before our almighty and saving God to offer him our worship and praise. We also assemble to hear God’s holy and powerful word and celebrate his life-giving sacraments. Through these means, God strengthens our faith and walks us ever closer to our eternal home with him.

TODAY’S THEME

The Twelve Days of Christmas are the days between Christmas Day and January 6. What is special about January 6? It is the day when the Christian Church celebrates the Festival of the Epiphany. Epiphany comes from a Greek word meaning “reveal.” When the Savior was born, he was first revealed as love’s pure light to Israelites: Mary, Joseph, the shepherds. Today we see the Lord miraculously guiding foreigners across countless miles so the Savior’s holy face could be revealed to them as well. The Festival of Epiphany is sometimes known as Christmas for the Gentiles. We Gentiles (non-Jews) rejoice in the good news that this Jewish baby is a gift for all people, Christ the Savior of the world.

CLOSE COMMUNION

Following the guidance of Scripture, we invite those who are members of this congregation or one of our sister WELS congregations to join us as we celebrate the Lord’s Supper this morning. Those who are members of other church bodies are asked to speak with the pastor before attending the Lord’s Supper. With this practice, it is not our intent to judge hearts, but to remain faithful to the truth of God’s Word. Thank you for respecting our practice regarding the Lord’s Supper.

Pastor.....Jeremy Glowicki
Organist.....Lois Zander

Stand

In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Confession

CW 173

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Almighty and merciful Father,

we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.

We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts.

We have offended you and sinned against your holy law.

We have done those things that we should not have done,

and we have not done those things that we should have done.

Have mercy on us, Lord!

Spare us, forgive us, and restore us,

according to your promises in Christ Jesus.

Silence for meditation and reflection

Declaration of Grace

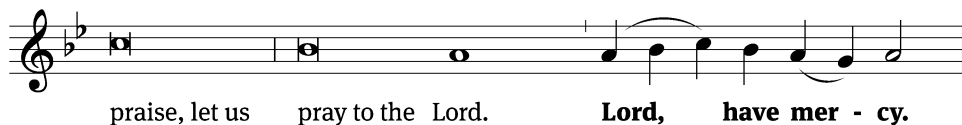
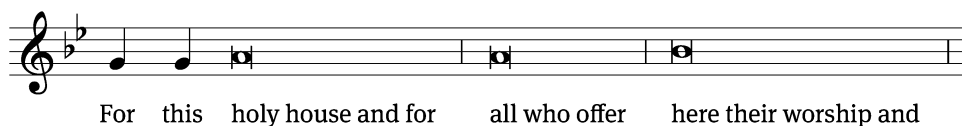
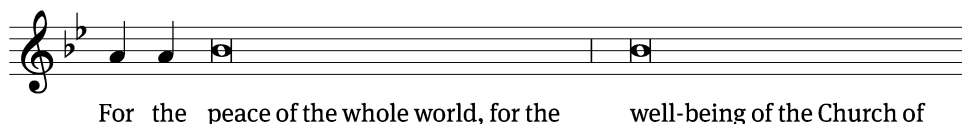
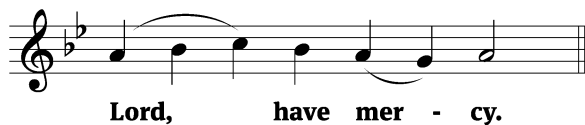
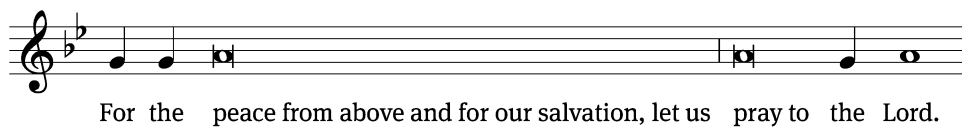
CW 173

God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever.

Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy

CW 174





Help, save, com - fort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men.

Tune: Marty Haugen

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346 Angels We Have Heard on High

CW 346



- 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 ti - dings 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



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

Text: French; tr. The Crown of Jesus, Part 2, 1862, alt.

Tune: French

Text and 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

Isaiah 60:1–6

The prophet foretold that one born king of the Jews would draw kings from distant nations to the light of his glory.

Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD is dawning upon you. Look, darkness covers the earth, and deep darkness covers the peoples, but the LORD will dawn upon you, and his glory will be seen over you. Nations will walk to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. Look up. Look all around and see! All of them have been gathered. They are coming to you. Your sons will come from far away, and people will carry your daughters on their side. Then you will look and be radiant. Your heart will race with excitement and burst with joy. For great riches from the sea will be delivered to you. The wealth of the nations will come to you. Caravans of camels will cover your land, young camels from Midian and Ephah. All those from Sheba will come. They will carry gold and incense, and they will announce the good news of the praise of the LORD.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

Ephesians 3:2–12

Paul explains that people from all nations are united as equals in the Savior's kingdom of grace.

Surely you have heard of the administration of God's grace given to me for you, namely, that the mystery was made known to me by revelation (as I have already written briefly). When you read this, you will be able to understand my insight into the mystery of Christ. This mystery was not made known to people in past generations as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to his holy apostles and prophets. This mystery is that in Christ Jesus the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and people who also share in the promise through the gospel. I became a servant of this gospel, in keeping with the gift of God's grace that was given to me by the working of his power. To me—even though I am the very least of all the saints—was given this grace: to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ and to enlighten everyone about the administration of this mystery. In past ages this mystery remained hidden in God, who created all things. He did this so that, through the church, the multifaceted wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was done according to the eternal purpose that he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord. In him we can freely approach God with confidence through faith in him.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 2:2

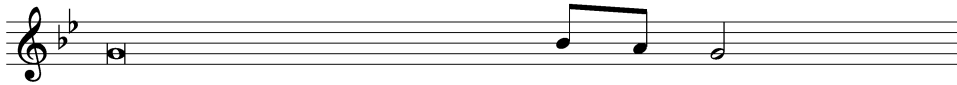


Refrain



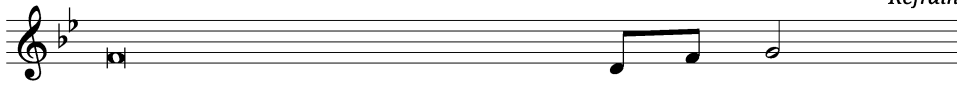
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Tone



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

Refrain



We saw his star when it rose and have come to wor - ship him.

Tune: © 2010 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 727266

Gospel

Matthew 2:1–12

Magi from the east were the first in a long line of Gentiles who would join Israel in worshipping Jesus as King.

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, when Herod was king, Wise Men from the east came to Jerusalem. They asked, “Where is he who has been born King of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.” When King Herod heard this, he was alarmed, and all Jerusalem with him. He gathered together all the people's chief priests and experts in the law. He asked them where the Christ was to be born. They said to him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, because this was written through the prophet: You, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are certainly not least among the rulers of Judah: because out of you will come a ruler, who will shepherd my people, Israel.” Then Herod secretly summoned the Wise Men and found out from them exactly when the star had appeared. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the child. When you find him, report to me, so that I may also go and worship him.” After listening to the king, they went on their way. Then the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them, until it stood still over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced with overwhelming joy. After they went into

the house and saw the child with Mary, his mother, they bowed down and worshipped him. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts: gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Since they had been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they went back to their own country by another route.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

370 How Lovely Shines the Morning Star

CW 370

Sermon

Stand

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 in unity with the Father and the Son
is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy Christian 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.**

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. 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

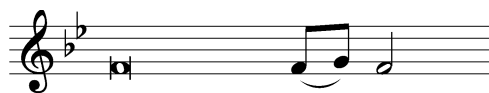
During the offering, please fill out the Friendship Register in the pew and pass it down to those sitting next to you.

The Sacrament

Stand

Preface

CW 183



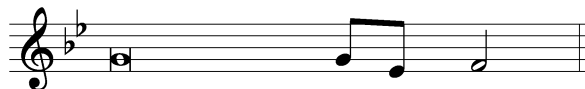
The Lord be with you.



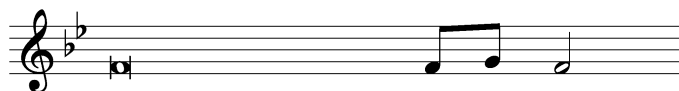
And al - so with you.



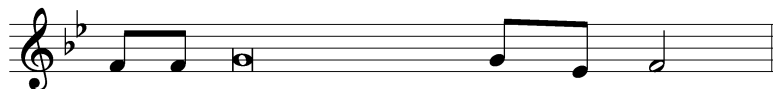
Lift up your hearts.



We lift them up to the Lord.



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Tune: Marty Haugen

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It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lived among us as a human being and revealed his glory as your only Son, full of grace and truth. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy

CW 184

The musical score is written on seven staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The lyrics are: 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er, God of might. Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. 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, ho - san - na in the high - est!' The score ends with a double bar line.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er,
God of might. Heav - en and earth are full of your
glo - ry. 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, ho -
san - na in the high - est!

Tune: Marty Haugen

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Prayer of Thanksgiving

Lord God, you are worthy to receive thanks and praise from all people. You created the world and all who live in it, and in your mercy you saved us. We give thanks to you for the grace of your Son, Jesus Christ.

Though in very nature God, he took the nature of a servant and became obedient to death, even death on a cross. He offered himself as a sacrifice for sin and redeemed us from its curse and penalty. He rescued us from the terrors of death and restored eternal life with you. He conquered our enemies and gained for us the kingdom of grace and glory.

Bless us as we receive your Son's body and blood, and lead us to remember his suffering, death, and resurrection. Forgive our sins and fill us with the hope of new life in heaven. Hear our praise and receive our thanks as we worship you—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

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

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
Amen.

Jesus, Lamb of God

CW 186

Je - sus, Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.
Je - sus, Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.
Je - sus, Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us your peace.

The musical score is written for a single voice part in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of seven staves. The first staff is an instrumental introduction. The second and fourth staves contain the lyrics 'Je - sus, Lamb of God, you take a - way the'. The third, fifth, and sixth staves contain the lyrics 'sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.'. The seventh staff contains the lyrics 'sin of the world; grant us your peace.'. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a final cadence on the last staff.

Tune: Marty Haugen

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Be seated

Distribution

362 Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising

CW 362

Stand

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his mercy endures forever.

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet you have given us in this Sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit, help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, 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.

337 Silent Night, Holy Night

CW 337 sts. 1–3

Acknowledgments

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Christmas Arrangements Displayed in Celebration of Our Lord's Birth

Glowicki Family – Mary Ciriacks and Terry Glowicki
Carlstrom Family – Harold Carlstrom and Brian Rude

Elsenpeter Family

Butch and Rosie Jabs - Family

Connie Jabs – Loved Ones

Dianne Jabs – Lawrence and Christine Jabs

Kitty Seiersen – Loved Ones

Breeggemann Family – Loved Ones

Cindy Hennen – Loved Ones



News & Notes

Radio Broadcast

The radio broadcast is sponsored by Ramona Pauly in memory of Gerald Pauly. Thank you!

Meals on Wheels Drivers

Thank you to the Meals on Wheels drivers for December. Your service to our community is greatly appreciated!

Committee Meeting Night

The Church Council wishes to restart the meetings for our committees. The next meeting is this Tuesday, January 6 at 6:30. Committees do work in the areas of Adult Discipleship, Youth Discipleship, Evangelism, and Properties. If you are interested in helping with any of these areas, please speak with Shawn Firle or Pastor Glowicki. (Note: discipleship means growing people in the Christian faith through learning and mutual encouragement.)

Theology on Tap

Theology on Tap returns this Thursday, January 8th at 6:30 at Mana Brewing in Shakopee. Join us for food, beverages, fellowship, and especially time in God's Word. We have been studying smaller books of the Bible that are not often read by the average Christian.

Christmas Decorations Takedown

Today, following worship, lend a hand in getting the Christmas decorations put away for another year. Any help is greatly appreciated!

Church Cancelled Notification

Unfortunately last week, it was the perfect storm (pun intended) and we had to cancel worship. With Pastor Schone coming through the blizzard from New Ulm, the Council felt it wasn't safe. We use our E-News and text notifications in such an event. If you didn't get a message, either through email or text, please let the office know so that we can make sure you are notified in an emergency in the future.

JANUARY 2026

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|---|--|---|---|-----------|-----------|
| | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 4 Worship 9 am Communion Bible Study/ Sunday School 10:15 am | 5 Worship 7 pm 7:45 Choir | 6 Committee Meeting Night 6:30 pm | 7 Foundations 6 pm Woven 6 pm | 8 Theology on Tap 6:30 Mana Brewing | 9 | 10 |
| 11 Worship 9 am Fellowship Bible Study/ Sunday School 10:15 am | 12 Worship 7 pm 7:45 Choir | 13 Council Meeting 6:30 Reflections Bible Study for Women 7 pm | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18 Worship 9 am Communion Bible Study/ Sunday School 10:15 am | 19 Worship 7 pm 7:45 Choir | 20 Oak Terrace 9:45 | 21 Foundations 6 pm | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25 Worship 9 am Bible Study/ Sunday School 10:15 am WELS Connection | 26 | 27 | 28 Foundations 6 pm | 29 | 30 | 31 |

SERVING THE LORD

| | | Acolytes | Ushers | Media Booth | Organist |
|------|------|---------------|--------|------------------|-------------|
| 1/4 | 9 am | Leah Bertrang | 4 | Ryan Bertrang | Lois Zander |
| 1/11 | 9 am | Greta Newton | 1 | (Need Volunteer) | Noah Helke |
| 1/18 | 9 am | Leah Bertrang | 2 | Ryan Bertrang | Lois Zander |

| January Altar Guild | January Cleaners |
|--|-----------------------------|
| Angela Ambroz/Nancy Stocker/Brenda Stocker | - |
| January Counters | Winter Service Group Leader |
| Debbie Glowicki/Heather Nelson | Need Volunteer |
| February Altar Guild | |
| Dianne Jabs/Lynn Sorenson | |

| Attendance | |
|---------------|------------|
| Christmas Eve | 94 |
| Christmas Day | 71 |
| Total | 165 |

| Gifts To Our Lord | | |
|-------------------|---------------|---------------|
| | Received | Needed |
| Current | \$4216 | \$3834 |
| Online Giving | \$1353 | |
| Total | \$5569 | \$3834 |



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