



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
COME TO RECEIVE – GO TO SHARE
January 5, 2025

The Epiphany of Our Lord

Preservice Music

Stand

Opening Hymn: 412 The People That in Darkness Sat *LSB 412 sts. 1-4*

✠ Confession and Absolution ✠

Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

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

Kneel/Sit

Prayer of Confession

- P** Sisters and brothers in God's family, let us confess our sins before the Lord, and seek His mercy and pardon, for the sake of Christ Jesus our Savior. Let us pray sincerely, reverently, honestly...
- C** **O God, our guide, who once used a star to lead people to Christ, we confess our poor sense of direction. We let ourselves become confused, easily distracted, and lose our way. We fail to follow the signs You provide. Forgive our waywardness, O God, and pardon our many sins. Lead us to the Christ, our eternal King, so that we may follow His way to You. Amen.**

(silence for reflection and personal self-examination)

Assurance of Forgiveness

LSB 203

- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

Stand

The people may greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matt. 5:22–24; Eph. 4:1–3).

✠ Service of the Word ✠

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 204



C 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
2 To You, O sole - be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shipped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.
Where You in pow'r are seat - ed At God's right hand on high—
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

Prayer of the Day

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also with you.**

- P** Let us pray. Everlasting God, the radiance of all faithful people, You brought the nations to the brightness of Your rising.
- C** **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 King. Amen.**

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 60:1–6

¹Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.
²For 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.
³And nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your rising.
⁴Lift 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.
⁵Then 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.
⁶A 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.**

Epistle

Ephesians 3:1-12

¹For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles—
²assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God’s grace that was given to me for you, ³how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. ⁴When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, ⁵which 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. ⁶This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

⁷Of 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. ⁸To 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, ⁹and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things, ¹⁰so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹²in 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.

Stand

Alleluia Verse

LSB 205



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



C These things are writ - ten that you may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



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

Holy Gospel

Matthew 2:1–12

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

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, ²saying, “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.” ³When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. ⁵They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:

6““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.””

⁷Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. ⁸And 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.” ⁹After 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. ¹⁰When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. ¹¹And 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. ¹²And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

A This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Apostles' Creed

C **I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

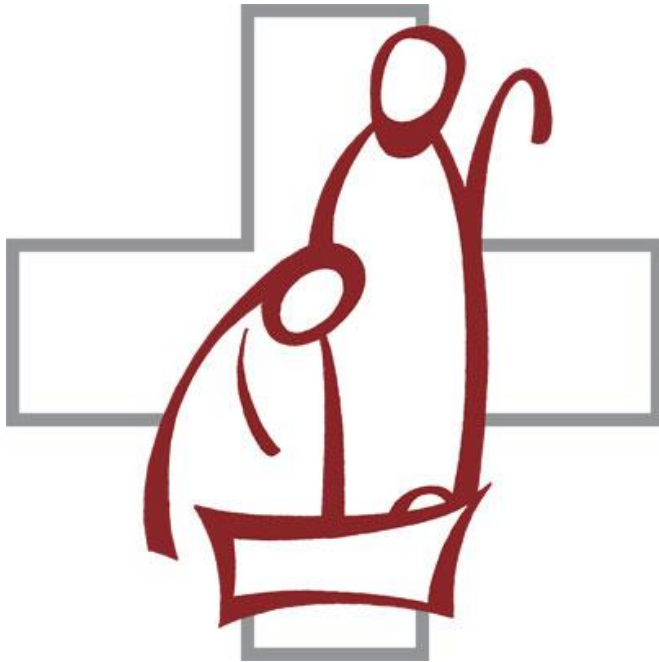
**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,**

**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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life † everlasting. Amen.**

Sit

Children's Message



Hymn of the Day: The First Noel



1. The first No - el, the an - gel did say, Was to cer - tain poor shep - herds in
 2. They look - ed up and saw a star Shin - ing in the east, be -
 3. And by the light of that same star Three Wise Men came from
 4. This star drew nigh to the north - west, O'er Beth - le - hem it
 5. Then en - tered in those Wise Men three, Full rev - 'rent - ly up -
 6. Then let us all with one ac - cord Sing prais - es to our



fields as they lay; In fields where they lay keep - ing their sheep, On a
 yond them far, And to the earth it gave great light, And
 coun - try far; To seek for a King was their in - tent, And to
 took its rest, And there it did both stop and stay, Right
 on their knee, And of - fered there in His pres - ence Their
 heav'n - ly Lord, That hath made heav'n and earth of naught, And



cold win - ter's night that was so deep.
 so it con - tin - ued both day and night.
 fol - low the star wher - ev - er it went. No - el, No - el, No -
 o - ver the place where Je - sus lay.
 gold, and myrrh, and frank - in - cense.
 with His blood man - kind hath bought.



el, No - el, Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

Sermon

Offering and Offertory

Stand

Prayer of the Church

- A** Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

A brief silence.

- A** Holy God, eternal Light, the darkness of sin covers the earth and its peoples. Let the light of the Gospel lead us to Him who was born to be our King. Give us humble and grateful hearts that bow down and worship Him and willingly offer the most precious gifts we have to give. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

- A** From distant lands and far off places, You gather a people to bear Your name and live in the light of Your Word. Bless the Church, that she may be united in doctrine, live in harmony and peace, and labor to bring the light of Christ to those still dwelling in darkness and death. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

- A** God of power and majesty, we pray for the leaders and governing officials of our land. Fill them with wisdom, compassion and care. Help them not to follow in the pattern of King Herod, but to uphold life and watch over the welfare of the governed. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

- A** Give to all people the comfort of Your presence, healing according to Your will, relief in suffering, and an end to the terrors of mind and heart. We pray especially for Sustain the weary with Your Word, the wounded with hope, and the dying with peace. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A May Your light shine on us and enable us to embrace Your holy will without fear. Hear and answer us, we pray, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

✠ Service of the Sacrament ✠

Preface

160

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P It is indeed right that we should offer thanks and praise to You, Lord God, eternal Father, through Christ our Lord. Sharing our life, He lived among us to reveal Your glory and love, that our darkness should give way to His own brilliant light. And so, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise Your name and join their unending hymn:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san - na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Prayer of Thanksgiving

- P** Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

Lord's Prayer

- C** 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.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My † body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My † blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.


C Amen.

Agnus Dei

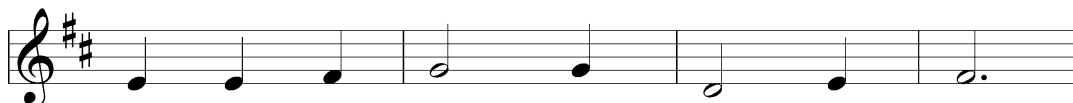
LSB 210



C 1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,



You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;



O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,



Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Sit

Distribution of Holy Communion

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION AT GRACE LUTHERAN

We believe, teach and confess that those who commune receive the true Body and Blood of our Lord---in, with and under the bread and wine---for forgiveness of sins and strengthening in faith and life. All baptized, believing Christian guests are invited to examine themselves, as exhorted by St. Paul. Those who are in agreement with this statement are invited to join us at the Altar. If you have a question regarding this, please ask to speak with the Pastor or one of the Elders.

Both individual and common cups are available. Also, if you would prefer to receive non-alcoholic white grape juice, there are individual cups in the center of the tray. If you would prefer a gluten free host, please indicate to the Pastor.

Please hand your completed family attendance card to the usher on your way to receive communion.

Distribution: 395 O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright

LSB 395

Distribution: 399 The Star Proclaims the King Is Here

LSB 399 sts. 1-4

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 211



1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All
part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the
glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;
A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Stand

The Dismissal

- P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart † in peace.
- G** Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

- A** Holy God, with our eyes we have seen Your salvation, and in this meal have feasted on Your grace.
- C** **May Your Word take flesh in us, that we may be Your holy people, revealing Your glory made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Benediction

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
- C** **Amen.**

Hymn to Depart: 400 Brightest and Best of the Stars of the Morning

LSB 400

Christmas Dismissal

- A** Christ, the Savior, is born!
- C** **Joy to the world!**

- A** Go in peace, and serve the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

Acknowledgments

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2024 Concordia Publishing House.