

Epiphany of Our Lord



Arise, shine
for your light has come

ISAIAH 60:1

ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

January 6, 2019

Holy Communion

ST. PETER'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Welcoming all to know and love Jesus.

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January 6, 2019
Epiphany of Our Lord
Renee Evans, organist

The word Epiphany means "manifestation" or "appearance." It names the day that the church tells Matthew's story of the magi from foreign lands who follow the light of the star and thus "see" Jesus as Christ. Their gifts are symbols: gold, because they honor Jesus as the king; frankincense, because they worship Jesus as divine; and myrrh, because they are readying for his death.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

EPIPHANY DIALOGUE

GATHERING SONG *We Three Kings of Orient Are*

SB 119

GREETING

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

ELW p. 121

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, on this day you revealed your Son to the nations by the leading of a star. Lead us now by faith to know your presence in our lives, and bring us at last to the full vision of your glory, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

BLESSING OF A CHURCH AT EPIPHANY

FIRST READING: Isaiah 60:1-6

Jerusalem is assured that nations will make a pilgrimage to her, because the light of God's presence is in her midst. The bountiful food of the sea and the profits of international trade will come streaming to Jerusalem and thereby declare God's praise.

¹Arise, shine; for your light has come,
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.
²For darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples;
but the LORD will arise upon you,
and his glory will appear over you.
³Nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.
⁴Lift up your eyes and look around;
they all gather together, they come to you;
your sons shall come from far away,
and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms.
⁵Then you shall see and be radiant;
your heart shall thrill and rejoice,
because the abundance of the sea shall be brought 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 proclaim the praise of the LORD.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CONGREGATIONAL SONG *Arise, Your Light Has Come!*

ELW 314

SECOND READING: Ephesians 3:1-12

What had been hidden from previous generations is now made known through the gospel ministry of Paul and others. In Christ both Jews and Gentiles participate in the richness of God's promised salvation.

¹This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles—²for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, ³and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, ⁴a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. ⁵In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: ⁶that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

⁷Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. ⁸Although I am the very least of all the saints, this

grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, ⁹and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; ¹⁰so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹²in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW p.124

GOSPEL: Matthew 2:1-12

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

God's promise shines bright in the night as magi follow a star to honor a new king. Strangers from a faraway land, they welcome the long-awaited messiah of Israel.

¹In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ²asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." ³When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

⁶'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler
who is to shepherd my people Israel.'

⁷Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." ⁹When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY *As with Gladness Men of Old*

ELW 302

CREED

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Dwelling in the presence of God with us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all in any need.

Drawn into the light of God, we pray for the proclamation of the grace of Jesus Christ. Give us courage and boldness to go forth into the world to tell the good news of what God has done. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Drawn into the glory of creation, we pray for the earth. Sustain every living thing with abundant resources, clean water, and sustainable harvests. Help us to be good stewards of all that you have provided. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Drawn into the brightness of God's presence, we pray for the nations of the world. Reveal your compassion and peace for the sake of all who live in the shadow of oppression, violence, and fear. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Drawn into the wisdom of God, we pray for those who govern this state, especially our governor, Gretchen Whitmer, and all state senators and representatives. Help them use their authority to serve faithfully and to promote the common good. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Drawn into the light of healing mercy, we pray for all who wait for healing and relief of suffering, especially those on our prayer list, and those we name before you in our hearts. Give us hope in the promise of new life where pain and suffering will be no more. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Drawn into the boundless riches of your love, help us to share the gifts you have given us as we live out the mission to which you have called us – welcoming all to know and love Jesus. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Drawn into the promise of everlasting light, we pray for those who mourn and give thanks for all the saints who now rest in the brightness of God's presence, especially Don Schroeder. Make us confident in our worship as we reflect the light of God with eternal praise. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

PEACE

OFFERING *The First Noel*

Megan Green, flute

CONGREGATIONAL SONG: *As with Gladness Men of Old*, v.3

ELW 302

OFFERING PRAYER

DIALOGUE

ELW p.129

PREFACE

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

ELW p. 130

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

LORD'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

COMMUNION SONG

ELW p. 135

COMMUNION

SONG AFTER COMMUNION

ELW p. 135

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

SENDING OF COMMUNION

BLESSING

SENDING SONG *The First Noel*

ELW 300

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We welcome those who are visiting with us. Please take time to sign the registration book or the guest register in the lobby and introduce yourself to Pastor Ken. We hope that you will find our worship edifying and our congregation warm and receptive. We are glad that you are here.

DVD copies of the 9:30 a.m. worship service can be produced for those who are shut-in or others who would like a copy. Let us know in advance if there is a service that you would like recorded.

Christian sympathy is extended to the family of Don Schroeder who passed away on December 30. A funeral luncheon was held here on Thursday. May God comfort those who mourn.

On January 9, our Wednesday morning Bible study group will finish the book Pray for Me. On January 16, we will start a seven-week study of Giving to God: The Bible's Good News about Living a Generous Life, by Mark Allan Powell. This book is a good place to start our yearlong reflection on stewardship. Please sign up on the bulletin board near Pastor Ken's office if you are interested. There is also a signup sheet if you would like to study this book but cannot make the Wednesday morning study. Cost of the book is \$9.

The next Ladies' Lunch will be on January 9 at noon at Black & Bleu BBQ, 1179 South Carney Drive (located next door to the Hallmark store in the Neiman's Plaza) St Clair, Michigan. We will meet at the restaurant. Sign up in the lobby if you plan to attend.

At Risk Training will be offered on January 13 after the 9:30 am service. Anyone who works with our youth and has not been trained should attend.

There will be a Fellowship/Outreach meeting after worship on January 13.

On Saturday, January 19 from 10am-12 pm, join us to learn some safety basics. First Aid, CPR, AED, blood loss and emergency preparedness will be taught by Michigan State Police and a former Detroit paramedic. This is a free training session! To register, call the office or Katy Emerich, 810-824-0495. We would encourage church volunteers to attend, especially those who help during services (usher, etc.).

On Sunday, January 20th anyone in grades 6-12 is invited to Tim Horton's after worship. Please bring money to buy your own drink and lunch if you would like.

Much to Pastor Ken's dismay (and yes, Pastor Ken is going) the high school students and adults in the congregation have been invited to attend a worship service at U of M campus ministry. We are going on Sunday, January 20. We are also taking a meal of lasagna to join in fellowship after worship. If you are interested in going, making a tray of lasagna, donating a salad, or garlic bread, please see Pastor Joyce for details.

On Wednesday, January 23 from 6:30-7:45 anyone in grades 6-12 is invited to take a break from studying and spend some relaxing time in fellowship. There will be a dessert of some sort and time to breathe in the midst of the busyness at school.

Sunday, January 27 following worship we will have a family game day. We are asking that each family bring a crock pot of soup to share and at least one of their favorite card or board game. It is national chocolate cake day so Pastor Joyce will make chocolate cake to share. Please sign up on the bulletin board located in the hallway.

Middle school youth are invited to Junior High Charge, March 22-24, 2019, at Great Wolf Lodge in Traverse City. Registration is open. Students 6-8 grade are invited to attend. If you are interested in going please see Pastor Joyce for more information

SERVING TODAY: Greeter: Carol Vogel; Ushers: Scott Bell & Jon Jones; Acolyte: Kallen Paul; Scripture Reader: Tim Evans; Communion Assistant: Ann Eisen; Projectionist: Janet Allington.

MONEY COUNTERS: Katy & Alan Emerich

ATTENDANCE: Sunday 55

IN NEED OF PRAYER Dennis Rocker, Mary Forys, Janice Convis, Guy MacIntosh, Sue Kasemeyer, Paul & Ruth Reyelts, Delores Cook, Vi Dunn, Will Tanner, Clyde Moore, Louis Eisen, Loretta Lukasak, Elizabeth MacDonald, Sharon Ann Wheeler, Adeline Harsch, Pat Greenwood, Patricia Jones, Marc Dease, Stacey Yax, Ruth Morris, Bernie Nummer, Carole Stiefvater, Ed Myers, Jeremy Bryan, James Mitchell, Marlene Hand, Kenneth Eisen, Connie Felstow, Linda Leist. (Please call or email the office at speterelca@sbcglobal.net to update information.)

THIS WEEK AT ST. PETER'S

<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>	<u>Sunday</u>
Council Meeting 7 pm	Prayer 9:30 am Bible Study 10 am Ladies' Lunch 12 pm Confirmation 6:30 pm	Choir 7 pm	Pastors' day off	Worship, Communion 5 pm	Sunday School, Worship, 9:30 am At Risk Training 10:30 am Fellowship/ Outreach meeting 10:30 am