

Epiphany of Our Lord

January 6, 2021



St. John's Lutheran Church of Parkville

www.stjohnsparkville.org

(410) 665-1234

After hour emergency: (443) 844-9314

Office@stjohnsparkville.org

January 6, 2021

EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

WELCOME

PRELUDE *Brightest and Best of the Sons of the Morning* *Lyndell Leatherman*
(© 2018 Lorenz Publishing Co.)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the ✙ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what 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.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✙ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

ELW 275

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 Angels, from the realms of glory,
wing your flight o'er all the earth;
once you sang creation's story,
now proclaim Messiah's birth:
Come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn king. | 2 Shepherds, in the fields abiding,
watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing,
yonder shines the infant light.
Come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn king. |
| 3 Sages, leave your contemplations,
brighter visions beam afar;
seek the great desire of nations,
you have seen his natal star.
Come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn king. | 4 All creation, join in praising
God, the Father, Spirit, Son,
evermore your voices raising
to the eternal Three in One.
Come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn king. |

(Text: James Montgomery, 1771-1854, sts. 1-3; *Salisbury Hymn Book*, 1857, st. 4; Music: Henry T. Smart, 1813-1879)

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

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.

WORD

FIRST READING

Isaiah 60:1-6

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. Lift 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. Then 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. 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 proclaim the praise of the LORD.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalms 72:1-7, 10-14

Give the king your justice, O God,
and your righteousness to the king's son;
**that he may rule your people righteously
and the poor with justice;**
that the mountains may bring prosperity to the people,
and the hills, in righteousness.

**Let him defend the needy among the people,
rescue the poor, and crush the oppressor.**

May he live as long as the sun and moon endure,
from one generation to another.

**Let him come down like rain upon the mown field,
like showers that water the earth.**

In his time may the righteous flourish;
and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.

**May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles pay tribute,
and the kings of Sheba and Seba offer gifts.**

May all kings bow down before him,
and all the nations do him service.

**For the king delivers the poor who cry out in distress,
the oppressed, and those who have no helper.**

He has compassion on the lowly and poor,
and preserves the lives of the needy.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

GOSPEL

Matthew 2:1-12

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "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." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: '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.' " Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then 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." When 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. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On 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. And 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

- 1 The first Noel the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as
they lay;
in fields where they lay, keeping their sheep,
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.
- Refrain**
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel!
Born is the King of Israel.
- 2 They looked up and saw a star
shining in the east beyond them far;
and to the earth it gave great light,
and so it continued both day and night.
- Refrain**
- 3 And by the light of that same star
three wise men came from country far;
to seek for a king was their intent,
and to follow the star wherever it went. **Refrain**
- 4 This star drew near to the northwest,
o'er Bethlehem it took its rest;
and there it did both stop and stay
right over the place where Jesus lay. **Refrain**
- 5 Then entered in those wise men three,
full rev'rently upon their knee,
and offered there in his presence
their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense. **Refrain**

(Text: English traditional; Music: English traditional; arr. John Stainer, 1840-1901)

A: Living together in trust and hope, let us confess our faith in the words of the 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 with the Father and the Son is
worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic 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.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

After each petition

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

PEACE The peace of the Lord be with you always.
 And also with you.

A PRAYER IN THANKSGIVING FOR OFFERING

God of all goodness, generations have turned to you, gathered around your table, and shared your abundant blessings. Number us among them that, as we gather these gifts from your abundance, and give thanks for your rich blessings, we may feast upon your very self and care for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Servant. **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.

SENDING

BLESSING

Almighty God, who sent the Holy Spirit to Mary, proclaimed joy through the angels, sent the shepherds with good news, and led the magi by a star, bless you this day ✠ through the Word made flesh.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Arise, Your Light Has Come!

ELW 314

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 Arise, your light has come!
The Spirit's call obey;
show forth the glory of your God
which shines on you today. | 2 Arise, your light has come!
Fling wide the prison door;
proclaim the captive's liberty,
good tidings to the poor. |
| 3 Arise, your light has come!
All you in sorrow born,
bind up the brokenhearted ones
and comfort those who mourn. | 4 Arise, your light has come!
The mountains burst in song!
Rise up like eagles on the wing,
God's pow'r will make us strong. |

(Text: Ruth Duck; Music: William H. Walker, 1825-1893. Text © 1992 GIA Publications, Inc.)

Announcements

A few friendly reminders:

- We will continue to live stream our worship services at 10 am on our YouTube Channel at <https://bit.ly/3nzgAWy> but services will be available any time after the live streaming.
- We are suspending in-person worship through the MLK Jr. holiday.



The beautiful flowers gracing our worship service today are given by Betty Ehm to wish the members of St. John's a healthy and Happy New Year.

We are taking altar flower dedications for 2021. The dates available are: January 17th, 24th and 31st, February 7th, 14th, 21st and 28th, March 7th, 14th and 21st, April 4th, 11th and 18th, May 2nd, 9th, 16th and 23rd, June 6th, 13th, 20th and 27th.



Zoom Bible Study with Pastor John

- Wednesday, January 27th at 10 am – The Year of St. Mark: An Overview

Contact the church office at office@stjohnsparkville.org to sign up and we will send you the Zoom link.

Our clothing shed is open. All donations must be bagged. Acceptable donations are: All clothing, shoes, belts, purses, blankets, sheets, pillowcases, drapes, and stuffed toys. Thanks for your cooperation!



DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the gift of Jesus.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

(© 2016 Lorenz Publishing Co.)

We Three Kings

arr. David Clark Isele

From *SundaysAndSeasons.com*. Copyright 2020 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.
Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual 30295.
Permission for hymn use and organ music granted under ONE LICENSE #735150-A



Prayer List

Please remember the following individuals in your prayers.

For health & healing: Richard Bauer, Bill Carroll, Lee Krieger, Suzanne Lindsay, Janine Stevens, Joan Kraft, Patty Schwab, Tom & Marion McDonough, Ardi Scarborough, Gerry Steg, Betty Hedgepeth, Kathi Peck, Bett Murphy, Vickie Jasinski, and Cynthia Kraemer

For family & friends: Dale Miller, Pam Harmon, Delphine Peck, Jessi Powers, Margaret Iovino, Bill Johnson, Karen Alban, Karen Ehrenberg, Randy Powell, Linda Fliegel, Cheryl Aydelotte, Mary Jo Rother, Doug Adams, Bill Eubert, Doris Klug, Olivia Route, John Miller, Norma Weber, Marie Pilachowski, Charles & Pat Frank, Mike Fischer, Joann Kloby, Nancy Snyder, John & Patty Bowman, Kathy Amos, Farron Steel, Darlene Koch, Roxann Kelly, Terri Busby, Ms. Linton, Pam Harmen, Linda Asplin, Anna Meyers, and Barb Collins

For the military and their families: Jacob Verble, Lance Corporal Justin Ferro, Sgt. Stephen Peck, Staff Sgt. Brandan Hartmann, Michael Anthony Tucker, Chaplain A. J. Striffler and all those in harm's way

For those grieving family & friends of: Shirley Watkins, Alma Arnold, Paul Huber, Wayne Zopp, Mary Hohne and Thomas Madden

For St. John's Caring Friends: Trudy Anderson, Agatha Biensach-Daniels, Gladys Downs, Margaret Eubert, Betty Glassband, Betty Hedgespeth, Leroy Hohne, Philip Kramer, Audrey Lentz, John Lotterer, Patrick O'Connell, Ann Powell, Arthur Pulket, Mary Ann Reek, Patricia Sollanek, Cass Tracey, Emma Volz, Doris Warfield, and Clara Westphal