

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

A congregation of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

**711 Court Street Pekin, IL 61554-1735
(309)-347-2136/2137**

Web site: stjohnpekin.com Email: stjohnsec@grics.net

Rev. Daniel J. Bishop, Pastor

Dr. Scott Russell - Good Shepherd Lutheran School 347-2020

THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

(OBSERVED)

January 7, 2018

HOLY COMMUNION

TO OUR GUESTS AND MEMBERS: We receive the Lord's Supper, believing the Word of Jesus, that He gives into our mouths His true body and blood, miraculously united to the bread and wine, to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins, and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His Word, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love one another, even as He forgives and loves us.

God's Word teaches us that those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood in an unworthy manner do so to their great harm, and that this Holy Communion is a confession of the faith that is confessed in this church. Therefore any who are not yet instructed, who are in doubt, or are members of a congregation not in the fellowship of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, and yet desire to commune, are asked to kindly speak with the pastor ahead of time. (*Matt. 5:23f.; 10:32f.; 18:15-35; 26:26-28; 1 Cor. 10:16-21; 11:17-34*)

The Order of the Holy Communion

+ Prelude

+ Hymn - #128 - "Brightest and Best of the Sons of the Morning"

+ Invocation – pg. 5

+ Confession of Sins and Pronouncement of Grace – pg. 5-6

+ INTROIT *Psalm 72:1-2, 8-19 [NKJV]*

Give the king Your judgments, O God,

And Your righteousness to the king's Son.

He will judge Your people with righteousness.

And Your poor with justice.

He shall have dominion also from sea to sea,

And from the River to the ends of the earth.

Those who dwell in the wilderness will bow before Him.

And His enemies will lick the dust.

The kings of Tarshish and of the isles

Will bring presents;

The kings of Sheba and Seba

Will offer gifts.

Yes, all kings shall fall down before Him;

All nations shall serve Him.

For He will deliver the needy when he cries.

The poor also, and him who has no helper.

He will spare the poor and needy,

And will save the souls of the needy.

He will redeem their life from oppression and violence;

And precious shall be their blood in His sight.

And He shall live;

And the gold of Sheba will be given to Him;

Prayer also will be made for Him continually.

And daily He shall be praised.

There will be an abundance of grain in the earth,

On the top of the mountains;

Its fruit shall wave like Lebanon;

And those of the city shall flourish like grass of the earth.

His name shall endure forever;

His name shall continue as long as the sun.

And men shall be blessed in Him;

All nations shall call Him blessed;

Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel,

Who only does wondrous things!

And blessed be His glorious name forever!

And let the whole earth be filled with His glory.

Amen and Amen.

+ Gloria Patri – pg. 6ff

+ The Kyrie – pg. 7

+ The Gloria in Excelsis – pg. 7-9

+ The Salutation -- pg. 9

+ The Collect for The Day

O God, by the leading of a star You made known Your only-begotten Son to the Gentiles. Lead us, who know You by faith, to enjoy in heaven the fullness of Your divine presence; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

+ Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6

- *See enclosed insert for the Readings*

+ Epistle: Ephesians 3:1-12

+ Holy Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

+ The Nicene Creed – pg. 22

+ Sermon – “The Wise Men’s Gifts Extol the True Gift”

Matthew 2:11

- I. Their gifts point to Jesus as King and God and Sacrifice.
- II. As such, Jesus is the true Gift!

+ The Offertory – pg. 12 (*stand*)

- *Offerings are collected (be seated)*

+ The Prayer of The Church

+ The Preface ~ The Agnus Dei – pp. 24-28

+ Distribution Hymns

#127 - “As with Gladness Men of Old”

#59 - “Hail to the Lord’s Anointed”

#130 - “O Jesus, King of Glory”

+ The Nunc Dimittis – pg. 29

+ The Thanksgiving –pg. 30

+ Post-Communion Collect – pg. 31

+ The Salutation & The Benedicamus pg. 31

+ The Benediction – pg. 31

+ Closing Hymn - #127 (7 p.m. only) “As with Gladness Men of Old”

+ SOLI DEO GLORIA +

DAILY READINGS

January 7: Ezek. 1:1–14, 22–28; Rom. 1:1–17; **8:** Ezek. 2:1–3:11; Rom. 1:18–32; **9:** Ezek. 3:12–27; Rom. 2:1–16; **10:** Ezek. 18:1–4, 19–32; Rom. 2:17–29; **11:** Ezek. 33:1–20; Rom. 3:1–18; **12:** Ezek. 34:1–24; Rom. 3:19–31; **13:** Ezek. 6:13–28; Rom. 4:1–25.

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