St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

A congregation of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

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THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

(OBSERVED) January 2, 2022

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 of Invocation #96"Oh, Rejoice, Ye Christians, Loudly"
- + Holy Baptism (10:30 service)
- + The Invocation pg. 15 (stand)
- + The Corporate Confession of Sins and Absolution pg. 15-16

+ INTROIT

Ps. 45:6-8a; antiphon: Ps. 45:17

I will cause your name to be remembered in all generations; therefore nations will praise you forever and ever.

Your throne, O God, is forever and ever. The scepter of your kingdom is a scepter of up-rightness;

you have loved righteousness and hated wickedness.

Therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions;

your robes are all fragrant with myrrh and aloes and cassia.

I will cause your name to be remembered in all generations; therefore nations will praise you forever and ever.

- + The Gloria Patri pg. 16ff
- + The Kyrie pg. 17
- + The Gloria in Excelsis
- + The Salutation pg. 19

+ 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.**

+ The Old Testament Reading - Isaiah 60:1-6

- Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.
- For 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.
- And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising.
- Lift 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.

⁵ Then 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.

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 bring good news, the praises of the LORD.

+ The 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.

- + The Triple Hallelujah, pg. 20
- + The Gospel Versus, pg. 20-211

+ The Holy Gospel – Matthew 2:1-12 (stand)

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.

- + The Nicene Creed pg. 22
- + Sermon Hymn #59

"Hail to the Lord's Annointed"

- + Sermon "Worship Him Born King of the Jews"
 Matthew 2:1-2
 - I. Unlike Herod, Jesus was born King of the Jews.
- II. Jesus' Kingship is a great blessing for us.
- III. Let us submit to His reign, and join the wise men in worshiping Him.
- + The Offertory, pg. 22-23 (stand)
- + Offerings

Vocal Solo: "O Chief of Cities, Bethlehem"

- + The Prayer of The Church
- + The Preface ~ The Agnus Dei pp. 24-28
- + Distribution Hymns
 - **#128** "Brightest and Best of the Sons of the Morning"
 - **#127** "As with Gladness Men of Old"

We Three Kings of Orient Are"

- 1. We three kings of Orient are, Bearing gifts we traverse afar, Field and fountain, moor and mountain, Following yonder star. *Refrain:* O star of wonder, star of night, Star with royal beauty bright, Westward leading, still proceeding, Guide us to thy perfect light.
- Born a King on Bethlehem's plain, Gold I bring to crown Him again, King forever, ceasing never Over us all to reign.
 Refrain
- 3. Frankincense to offer have I, Incense owns a Deity nigh; Prayer and praising, all men raising, Worship Him, God on high. *Refrain*
- 4. Myrrh is mine, its bitter perfume Breathes a life of gathering gloom: Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying, Sealed in the stone cold tomb. *Refrain*
- 5. Glorious now behold Him arise, King, and God, and Sacrifice; Alleluia, alleluia! Earth to heav'ns replies.

 Refrain
- + 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 (7:00 p.m.)

 "As with Gladness Men of Old"

+ SOLI DEO GLORIA +

DAILY READINGS: January 2: ls. 62:1–12; Luke 2:1–20; 3: ls. 63:1–14; Luke 2:21–40; 4: ls. 63:15–65:7; Luke 2:41–52; 5: ls. 65:8–25; Luke 3:1–20; 6: ls. 66:1–20; Luke 3:21–38; 7: Ezek. 1:1–14, 22–28; Rom. 1:1–17; 8: Ezek. 2:1–3:11; Rom. 1:18–32.

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