

Historic Zion Lutheran Church

DIVINE SERVICE FOR THE FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

9:00 am Sunday, January 9, 2022

RECEIVING OF THE LORD'S SUPPER AT ZION

As intended by Christ and as practiced by the one, holy, catholic and apostolic church throughout her history, "Closed Communion" is observed in this congregation, in which the Lord's Supper is distributed only to those:

- (a) who have been **baptized** in the Name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit;
- (b) who have been **instructed** in the truth of Holy Scripture as taught in the Lutheran Confessions, who have been **confirmed** in this Lutheran faith, and who now confess the same doctrines that are taught in this congregation, holding membership in a congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod;
- (c) who **believe that in this sacrament the real body and blood of Christ are truly distributed to them and orally received by them**, bestowing on them the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation;
- (d) who **sincerely repent** of all their sins, and desire to receive God's forgiveness in this holy meal.

Guests at our services, before receiving the sacrament, are requested to affirm these facts with one of our pastors. Thank you for honoring our practice. If you are looking for a church home, would like to be a member of Zion, or would like to learn more about the Christian Faith, please speak to one of our pastors about our membership classes.

✠ = appropriate to make the baptismal sign of the cross
When "rise" or "kneel" is indicated, it is appropriate to sit if needed

Greeting And Announcements: *The Lord be with you!* **And also with you!**

[Rise] **Invocation**

In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen!

The Office of Confession of Sins and Absolution

Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God, our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

[Kneel]

*Our help is in the name of the Lord Who made heaven and earth.
I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord. And You forgave the
iniquity of my sin.*

O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen!

The Congregation rises, turns towards the entrance of the nave, and faces the Cross of Christ, the reminder of Christ's promise to come and dwell among His people as they are gathered in His name.

Entrance Hymn As with Gladness Men of Old Burgundy Hymn 397

Kyrie



Chri - ste — e - lei - son. Christ have mer - cy.

Ky - ri - e — e - lei - son. Lord, — have mer - cy.

Gloria in Excelsis

Glo - ry to God in the high - est. And on earth peace,

a - mong men with whom He is pleased. We praise Thee, we bless Thee,

we wor-ship Thee, we glo - ri - fy Thee, we give thanks to Thee for

Thy great glo - ry. O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God, the Fa - ther Al -

migh - ty. O Lord, the on - ly be - got - ten Son, Je - sus Christ,

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Fa - ther, who ta - kest a - way the

sin of the world, have mer - cy on us. Thou who ta - kest a - way the sin of the world,

re - ceive our prayer. Thou who sit - test at the right hand of God

the Father, have mer - cy on us. For Thou on - ly art ho - ly. Thou on - ly

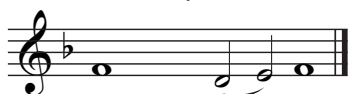
art the Lord, Thou on - ly O Christ with the Ho - ly Spi - rit,

art most high in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther.

A - - - - men.

Salutation

The Lord be with you.



And with thy spir— it.

Collect for the Epiphany of our Lord: *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.*



A ——— men!

[*Be Seated*]

+ The Office of the Word of God +

Old Testament Reading..... Isaiah 60:1-6

[*After the reading*] *This is the word of the Lord.* **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle of the Day Ephesians 3:1-12

[*After the reading*] *This is the word of the Lord.* **Thanks be to God.**

[*Rise and face the Processional Cross for the Gospel Procession.*]

Sequence Hymn O Savior of Our Fallen Race Burgundy Hymn 403

[*All sing stanzas 1, 2 & 3; SKIP stanzas 4 & 5; All sing stanzas 6 & 7; Rise for stanza 7.*]

Holy Gospel St. Matthew 2:1-12

[*The Gospel is announced.*]



Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord!

[*The Gospel is proclaimed.*]



Praise be to Thee, O Christ!

Confession of Faith (The Nicene Creed)

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, Begotten, not made, Being of one substance with the Father, By whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven

[*Bow*] **And was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary, And was made man;**

And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried; And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures; And ascended into heaven, And sits at the right hand of the Father; And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead; Whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life, Who proceeds from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, Who spoke by the Prophets. And I believe in one Holy Christian and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, And I look for the resurrection of the dead, And the life of the world to come. Amen!

[*Be Seated*] **Hymn of the Day O Morning Star Burgundy Hymn 395**

[*All sing stanzas 1 & 2; Men alone sing stanza 3; Women alone sing stanza 4; All sing stanzas 5 & 6.*]

Sermon

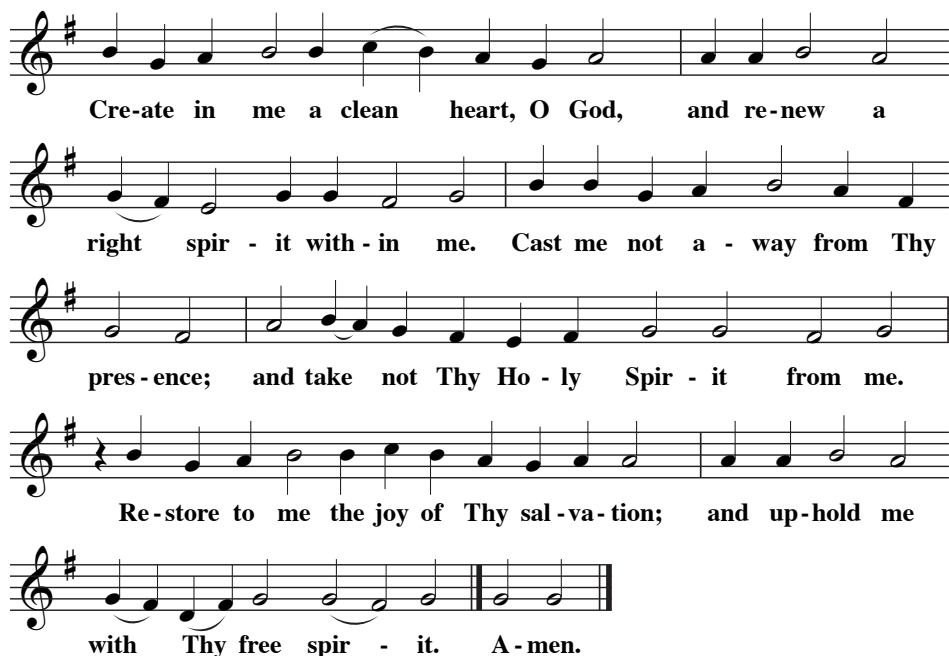
[Rise] **Prayer of the Church**

Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs: [After each petition]:..., Lord, in Your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

[After the final prayer]:..., one God, now and forever **Amen.**

[Be Seated] **Offerings, Voluntary**

[Rise] **Offertory Hymn** **Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God**



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a
right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from Thy
pres - ence; and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it from me.
Re-store to me the joy of Thy sal - va - tion; and up - hold me
with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

+ **The Office of the Sacrament of the Altar** +

Preface

The Lord be with you.

Lift up your hearts.



And with thy spir - it. We lift them up un-to the Lord.

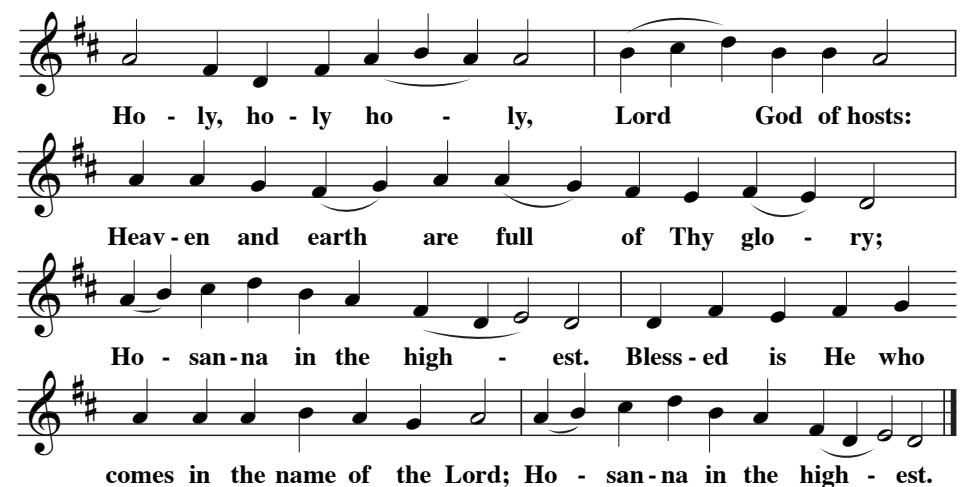
Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.



It is meet and right so to do.

Proper Preface for Epiphany, Sanctus

It is truly meet, right and salutary ever more praising You and saying:



Ho - ly, ho - ly ho - ly, Lord God of hosts:
Heav - en and earth are full of Thy glo - ry;
Ho - san-na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who
comes in the name of the Lord; Ho - san-na in the high - est.

[Kneel] **Lord's Prayer**

[Pastor chants:] *Our Father who art in heaven; but deliver us from evil.*



For Thine is the king - dom and the pow'r and the glo - ry



for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

Words of Institution, Pax Domini

The peace of the Lord be with you always!



A - men.

Agnus Dei



1-3. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world,



have mer-cy up - on us. Grant us Thy Peace. A - - - men!

[Be Seated]

Distribution Hymns **Arise and Shine** **Burgundy Hymn 396**
The Star Proclaims **Burgundy Hymn 399**
 [Rise for Stanza 5.]

Eucharistic Benediction

The Body and Blood of your Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting! ✠ Depart in Peace! Amen!

Post-Communion Canticle **The Nunc Dimittis**



1. Lord now— lettest Thou Thy
 servant, de- part— in — peace, ac- cord-ing to Thy Word.

2. For mine__ eyes have seen
 Thy Salvation,
 which Thou hast pre- pared__ be— fore the face of all__ people.



3. a Light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the Glo- ry of Thy peo-ple Is - - - ra-el.



4. Glo— ry__ be to the
 Father, and to__ the __ Son, and to the Ho- ly Ghost.



5. As it__ was in the
 beginning, is
 now, and e-ver shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post Communion Rite

Oh, give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good.

Musical notation for the Post Communion Rite. The melody is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of a half note G4, followed by a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, and a half note G4. The lyrics "And His mercy endureth for – ev — er." are written below the notes, with a long dash under "ev" and a long dash under "er".

Prayer of Thanksgiving ... now and forever.

Musical notation for the Prayer of Thanksgiving. The melody is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of a half note G4, followed by a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, and a half note G4. The lyrics "A — men." are written below the notes, with a long dash under "A".

The Lord be with you.

Musical notation for the Lord be with you. The melody is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of a half note G4, followed by a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, and a half note G4. The lyrics "And with thy spir — rit." are written below the notes, with a long dash under "spir".

Bless we the Lord.

Musical notation for Bless we the Lord. The melody is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of a half note G4, followed by a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, and a half note G4. The lyrics "Thanks be to God." are written below the notes.

Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.

Musical notation for the Benediction. The melody is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of a half note G4, followed by a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, and a half note G4. The lyrics "A-men, A-men, A - men." are written below the notes.

During the Recessional, the Congregation turns and faces the Processional Cross, the symbol of Christ's promise to remain with and lead His people as they now go and live in the world in His name.

Recessional Hymn Mark How the Lamb Burgundy Hymn 600

Postlude

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Readings for the Feast of the Epiphany of our Lord

The Old Testament Reading is 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.
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 is Ephesians 3:1-12

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

Of 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. To 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, and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who

created all things, so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him.

The Gospel is Matthew 2:1-12

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

“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.””

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

Hymns for the Feast of the Epiphany of our Lord

LSB397 As with Gladness Men of Old

William C. Dix

1. As with gladness men of old Did the guiding star behold;
As with joy they hailed its light, Leading onward, beaming bright;
So, most gracious Lord, may we Evermore be led by Thee.
2. As with joyful steps they sped, Savior, to Thy lowly bed,
There to bend the knee before Thee, whom heav'n and earth adore;
So may we with willing feet Ever seek Thy mercy seat.
3. As they offered gifts most rare At Thy cradle, rude and bare,
So may we with holy joy, Pure and free from sin's alloy,
All our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to Thee, our heav'nly King.
4. Holy Jesus, ev'ry day Keep us in the narrow way;
And when earthly things are past, Bring our ransomed souls at last
Where they need no star to guide, Where no clouds Thy glory hide.
5. In the heav'nly country bright Need they no created light;
Thou its light, its joy, its crown, Thou its sun which goes not down;
There forever may we sing Alleluias to our King.

LSB403 O Savior of Our Fallen Race

Latin c. 5th-10th cent.

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1. O Savior of our fallen race,
O Brightness of the Father's face,
O Son who shared the Father's might
Before the world knew day or night, Alleluia!
2. O Jesus, very Light of Light,
Our constant star in sin's deep night:
Now hear the prayers Your people pray
Throughout the world this holy day. Alleluia!
3. Remember, Lord of life and grace,
How once, to save our fallen race,
You put our human vesture on
And came to us as Mary's son. Alleluia!
6. And we are jubilant today,
For You have washed our guilt away.
O hear the glad new song we sing
On this the birthday of our King! Alleluia!

△ 7. O Christ, Redeemer virgin-born,
Let songs of praise Your name adorn,
Whom with the Father we adore
And Holy Spirit evermore. Alleluia!

LSB395 O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright

Philipp Nicolai

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1. O Morning Star, how fair and bright!
You shine with God's own truth and light,
Aglow with grace and mercy!
Of Jacob's race, King David's Son,
Our Lord and Master, You have won
Our hearts to serve You only!
Lowly, holy!
Great and glorious, all victorious. Rich in blessing!
Rule and might o'er all possessing!
2. Come, heav'nly Bridegroom, Light divine,
And deep within our hearts now shine;
There light a flame undying!
In Your one body let us be
As living branches of a tree,
Your life our lives supplying.
Now, though daily
Earth's deep sadness May perplex us And distress us,
Yet with heav'nly joy You bless us.
- M 3. Lord, when You look on us in love.
At once there falls from God above
A ray of purest pleasure.
Your Word and Spirit, flesh and blood
Refresh our souls with heav'nly food.
You are our dearest treasure!
Let Your mercy
Warm and cheer us! O draw near us! For You teach us
God's own love through You has reached us.
- W 4. Almighty Father, in Your Son
You loved us, when not yet begun
Was this old earth's foundation!
Your Son has ransomed us in love
To live in Him here and above:

This is Your great salvation.

Alleluia!

Christ the living, to us giving Life forever,

Keeps us Yours and fails us never!

5. O let the harps break forth in sound!
Our joy be all with music crowned,
Our voices gladly blending!
For Christ goes with us all the way—
Today, tomorrow, ev'ry day!
His love is never ending!
Sing out! Ring out!
Jubilation! Exultation! Tell the story!
Great is He, the King of Glory!
6. What joy to know, when life is past,
The Lord we love is first and last,
The end and the beginning!
He will one day, oh, glorious grace,
Transport us to that happy place
Beyond all tears and sinning!
Amen! Amen!
Come, Lord Jesus! Crown of gladness! We are yearning
For the day of Your returning!

LSB396 Arise and Shine in Splendor

Martin Opitz

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1. Arise and shine in splendor, Let night to day surrender.
Your light is drawing near. Above, the day is beaming,
In matchless beauty gleaming; The glory of the Lord is here.
2. See earth in darkness lying, The heathen nations dying
In hopeless gloom and night. To you the Lord of heaven—
Your life, your hope— has given Great glory, honor, and delight.
3. The world's remotest races, Upon whose weary faces
The sun looks from the sky, Shall run with zeal untiring,
With joy Your Light desiring That breaks upon them from on high.
4. Lift up your eyes in wonder— See, nations gather yonder,
From sin to be set free. The world has heard Your story;
Her sons come to Your glory; Her daughters haste Your Light to see.

5. Your heart will leap for gladness When from the realms of sadness
They come from near and far. Your eyes will wake from slumber
As people without number Rejoice to see the Morning Star.

LSB399 The Star Proclaims the King Is Here

Coelius Sedulius

1. The star proclaims the King is here;
But, Herod, why this senseless fear?
For He who offers heav'nly birth
Seeks not the kingdoms of this earth.
 2. The eastern sages saw from far
And followed on His guiding star;
And, led by light, to light they trod
And by their gifts confessed their God.
 3. Within the Jordan's sacred flood
The heav'nly Lamb in meekness stood
That He, of whom no sin was known,
Might cleanse His people from their own.
 4. And oh, what miracle divine,
When water reddened into wine!
He spoke the word, and forth it flowed
In streams that nature ne'er bestowed.
- △ 5. For this Thy glad epiphany
All glory, Jesus, be to Thee,
Whom with the Father we adore,
And Holy Spirit evermore.

LSB600 Mark How the Lamb of God's Self-Offering

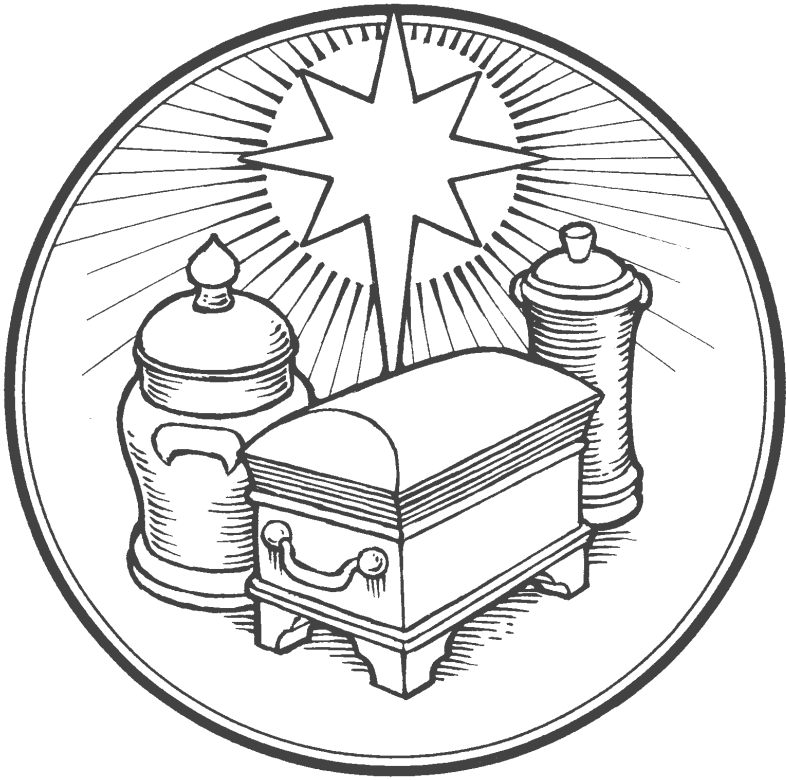
Carl P. Daw, Jr.

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1. Mark how the Lamb of God's self-off'ring
Our human sinfulness takes on
In the birth-waters of the Jordan
As Jesus is baptized by John.
Hear how the voice from heaven thunders,
"Lo, this is My beloved Son."
See how in dove-like form the Spirit
Descends on God's Anointed One.

2. From this assurance of God's favor
Jesus goes to the wilderness,
There to endure a time of testing
That readied Him to teach and bless.
So we, by water and the Spirit
Baptized into Christ's ministry,
Are often led to paths of service
Through mazes of adversity.
3. Grant us, O God, the strength and courage
To live the faith our lips declare;
Bless us in our baptismal calling;
Christ's royal priesthood help us share.
Turn us from ev'ry false allegiance,
That we may trust in Christ alone:
Raise up in us a chosen people
Transformed by love to be Your own.

The Epiphany of Our Lord



Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

2313 Hanna Street, Fort Wayne, IN 46803 260-744-1389

pastor@zionfw.org, church@zionfw.org | website: www.zionfw.org

The mission of Zion Lutheran Church is to be the body of Christ gathered at Hanna and Creighton in Fort Wayne, Indiana to:

- Receive Christ's gifts in baptism, preaching, teaching, and the Eucharist;
- Reach out to those who do not know the love of God in Christ;
- Reveal Christ's love for the world through acts of kindness and mercy toward all.

The Pastoral Ministry At Zion

Senior Pastor
Field Worker:

Rev. Douglas D. Punke, MDiv (341-5397)
Erik Saunders, Patrick Jackson

The Teaching Staff At Lutheran South Unity

Teachers:

Sheila Nehrenz, Principal (744-0459)
Gene Koch, Yvonne Schwantz, Barry Chrzan,
Danielle Ramsey, Merideth Tourney, 3rd vacant,
John Fink, Hannah Maresh, Cathie Wakeland, Natalie Reynolds

The Support Staff

Organist and Director of Parish Music:
Church Office Manager:

Michael Hollman, MM
Melvia Culpher

PRAYERS FOR TODAY

- + For the church and those experiencing persecution around the world
- + For those who serve our Lord at home and abroad, especially our fieldworkers Erik Saunders and Patrick Jackson
- + For our nation; for our leaders, our military, including Trevor Manning and James Hall, and our health care workers
- + For our schools, especially Lutheran South Unity School (accreditation and call committees), Concordia Lutheran High School, and Concordia Theological Seminary
- + For those who travel
- + For the aged and the homebound, including Jackie Schieferstein, Juanita Moore, Everett Beck, Helen Russell, Cheryl Silvers, and Doris Yerger
- + For those who are near death **Helen Russel is now in hospice.**
- + For the ill, distressed, and those suffering affliction, including Hailey & Aaleyah Horn, LCMS First VP Peter Lange, Willie Manning, Tyler Muehl, Jeff & Nancy Springer, Lucille Brandt, Susan Kaiser, Kathy Vlot, Willodean Bates, Julie Ganaway, Walt Ostermeyer, Paul Dolde, Sherry Freeman, Gloria Gonzalez, Dick Hollman, Louisa Porter, Louise Petrillo, Marianne Billings, Maurice King, Ron Rastl, Marlow Hogan, and Jenny Hobby **Bill Weinrich is in hospital in England with COVID.**
- + For God's blessing on all godly marriages
- + For the gift of life and for length of days
- + For the gift of rebirth by water and the Spirit
- + For those who mourn the death of loved ones
- + In remembrance of the faithful departed, including Caroline & Albert Manth
- + For our communicants and for a fruitful use of the most Blessed Sacrament of our Lord's Body and Blood

IN THE SERVICE TODAY

Today is the Divine Service for the Epiphany of Our Lord. The Cross Bowl and Altar Vases are given in loving memory of Caroline & Albert Manth by Jennifer Manth. Please complete an attendance/communion card, including the names of all children, and indicate if you are communing. Non-members, please read the back of the card.

CALENDAR

January 9, 2021 thru January 15, 2021

| | | | |
|---------------|----------------|---------------------------------|------------------------|
| SUN. | 9:00 AM | Divine Service | Church |
| | 10:30 AM | Adult Bible Study | Bauer Hall |
| | 10:30 AM | Sunday School (little ones) | Assoc. Pastor's Office |
| | 10:30 AM | Junior Catechesis | Conference Room |
| MON. | | | |
| TUES. | 9:30 AM | FW South Circuit | |
| WED. | 9:30 AM | Men of Zion | Conference Room |
| | 5:30PM | Wednesday Divine Service | Church |
| THURS. | 7:00 PM | Circuit Forum | Church |
| FRI. | | | |
| SAT. | 11:00 AM | Private Confession | Church |

January 16, 2021

| | | | |
|-------------|----------------|---|------------------------|
| SUN. | 9:00 AM | Divine Service (CLHS Band & Choir) | Church |
| | 10:30 AM | Adult Bible Class | Bauer Hall |
| | 10:30 AM | Sunday School (little ones) | Assoc. Pastor's Office |
| | 10:30 AM | Junior Catechesis | Conference Room |

**CLHS Band and Choir will
be at Zion next Sunday.**

ZION ANNOUNCEMENTS

EDUCATION HOUR: Adult Bible Class, Sunday School, and Junior Catechesis begin again this week. Jim Voelz will be unavailable the next two Sundays. Thanks to Art Litke for stepping in to teach the Adult Bible Class. Sunday School meets in the Assoc. Pastor's Office; Junior Catechesis meets in the Conference Room.

SAVE THE DATE Zion's winter Congregational Assembly is scheduled for Sunday, January 30, in Bauer Hall after the Divine Service. Mostly reports. Deadlines for District Convention will soon be upon us: Overtures — Feb. 24; Lay Delegate Report — March 5; Nominations — April 22. Convention is June 23 & 24.

FLOWER CHART FOR 2022 is up and ready; so please feel free to stop and sign up for flowers. You may also talk to Rosie Albersmeyer or Carolyn Wallschlaeger.

ENVELOPES have been hidden away, but you may still pick up your envelopes. Please see Julie Ganaway for your envelopes.

GIVING STATEMENTS are ready for pick up today after Divine Service and will be until January 26th. Check with Julie Ganaway for these.

COVID-19 UPDATE AT ZION: *Please read this update if you want information on COVID. I'm not making oral comments regarding COVID unless some protocol needs changing.* I wish the State would meet their Wednesday noon deadline to update their COVID map and other data on the website. Allen County will be in red this week. The county positivity rate has skyrocketed to 18.4% (last week it was 13.7%), and I expect it in the 19% range later today. Weekly cases per 100,000 residents has jumped up to almost 900, and WPTA says AC Dept of Health is reporting 1,244 new cases today alone. I have to guess that this surge is the Omicron variant. District 3 hospital census remains high but hasn't surged. ICU bed availability is steady at 14.8%. That could be a concern. The seven-day average of daily deaths due to COVID is at down to 1. I can't imagine that this surge is due to Delta; it must be Omicron. The percentages of breakthrough infections, hospitalizations, and deaths have jumped up, too, infections more than deaths. They're now 3.173%, 0.062%, and 0.031%, respectively. The 46803 zip code remains among the least vaccinated in the county. I still encourage vaccinations if you can. Visit www.coronavirus.in.gov/vaccine/ for your eligibility and to schedule your vaccine or booster.

MEMORY VERSE CHALLENGE On Epiphany the light of a Star led the wise men to Jesus, the Light of the World. We continue to be led toward the Light: Psalm 27:1— "The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; whom shall I be afraid." Last week's verse was Matthew 5:16.

CLHS: is hosting its "Last Chance" Open House on January 30 for any family interested in sending their student to Concordia. All grades welcome! Register at <https://www.clhscadets.com/apps/pages/open-house>.

LSSI has hit a milestone of 120 years of service. The Holy Season of Christmas is ended, but here is one more reminder to help those less fortunate by giving to Lutheran Social Services, an agency dedicated to helping just such people. You may contribute by visiting their website www.lssin.org/give and making a contribution to LSSI.

NORTHEAST INDIANA MARCH FOR LIFE Join Right to Life of Northeast Indiana on Saturday, January 29th, 2022, along with thousands of pro-life advocates from our region to show that you support life from conception to natural death. The March for Life is an annual pro-life rally held near the anniversary of the 1973 Supreme Court decision legalizing abortion. U.S. Congressman Jim Banks, IN-3 will keynote this event. The Rally will take place at University of St. Francis Performing Arts Center, 431 W Berry St, Fort Wayne, IN, at 12 pm, doors open at 11:30 am. The March will start after the Rally. Learn more at www.ichooselife.org/march or call 260-471-1849.

LISTEN TO LUTHERAN PROGRAMMING You can listen to Issues, Etc. live or on-demand at www.issuesetc.org or on the LPR mobile app or to KFUEO at KFUEO.org.

For the family of God's Priestly People at Zion

God calls His own people a "Royal Priesthood." God makes us kings and queens, princes and princesses who are bound together by the Holy Spirit in Baptism for the Christian benefit of each other. Priests **PRAY** -- They talk to God about their neighbor! Priests **TEACH** -- They talk to their neighbor about God! Priests **OFFER SACRIFICES** -- They offer to God the sacrifice of broken and contrite hearts; they offer their bodies and work as holy services to God for their neighbors. Join in this priestly work of prayer with your fellow members.

Morning Prayer

Matthew 2:1-12

Romans 2:17-29

Romans 3:1-18

Romans 3:19-31

Romans 4:1-25

Romans 5:1-21

Romans 6:1-23

DAILY LECTIONARY

The Epiphany of our Lord

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

Evening Prayer

Isaiah 60:1-6

Ezekiel 18:1-4, 19-32

Ezekiel 33:1-20

Ezekiel 34:1-24

Ezekiel 36:13-28

Ezekiel 36:33-37:14

Ezekiel 37:15-28

THE DAILY PETITIONS OF THE CHURCH

[Daily] **O Lord, have mercy upon us. O Christ, have mercy upon us. O Lord, have mercy upon us.** Let us pray:

[S] For the joy of the Resurrection among us; for true and godly worship throughout the world; for diligent preaching and hearing of God's Word of Law and Gospel; for our pastors; for the teachers and students of our Sunday School; for our Bible Class leaders and their students; for our catechumens; Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer. Amen!**

[M] For workers; for the unemployed; for farmers; for seasonable weather; for businesses small and large; for our leaders, federal, state and local; for the economic welfare of the nations on earth; for peace in our world; Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer. Amen!**

[T] For the tempted; for the addicted and despairing; for the tortured and oppressed; for the lonely; for the sick, the hospitalized, and the needy; Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer. Amen!**

[W] For fathers, mothers, and families; for those adults who must rear their children alone; the teachers and students of Lutheran South Unity School and Concordia Lutheran High School; Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer. Amen!**

[T] For the Church and her pastors; for the training of ministers of the Word; for missionaries of the Church; for the leaders of the Church, including Matthew, our synod president, and Daniel, our district president; for those who have not heard the Gospel; for the fruitful use of the blessed Sacrament of the Lord's Body and Blood; Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer. Amen!**

[F] For the preaching of the Cross; for those persecuted for the sake of Gospel; the confession of the orthodox Lutheran faith in our community; Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer. Amen!**

[Sat] For faithfulness unto life's earthly end; for the revival of those who have withered in the faith or fallen away; for the dying; Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer. Amen!**

[Daily]

The Our Father

TO PREPARE FOR NEXT SUNDAY

The Second Sunday after the Epiphany

Isaiah 62:1-5

1 Corinthians 12:1-11

John 2:1-11



What Doctor Luther Says:

About Faith, "the Conviction of Things Not Seen"

After the magi had passed through their trial and were newly born because of their great joy, they were strong and no longer offended by Christ; they had passed the test. For when they arrive at a poor hut and find there a poor young woman with a poor little child, they meet once again with appearances so utterly out of keeping with a king, that even their domestic servant is more honorable and more noble; they do not allow this to make them waver, but with a great, strong, and full faith they dismiss from their eyes and senses whatever human nature in its vanity might question and undermine, and follow the word of the prophet and the witness of the star in all purity of heart, take him to be a king, fall down on their knees, worship him, and give him gifts.

Ah, what a mighty faith that was, how many things it despised which would have moved human nature. How many here present who thought: Why, these are the greatest of fools who worship such a poor infant; surely they are under a spell if they make the infant a king! But here we have the kernel of the gospel which teaches us the manner and quality of faith, namely, that it is *argumentum non apparentium*, "the conviction of things not seen" [Heb. 11:1]. Faith simply clings to the mere word of God and follows things which it cannot see, except that they are indicated by that same word. Faith sees many other things besides, which challenge it as if the message of the word were empty and in vain. From whatever human nature recoils and describes as being led up the fool's path, that very thing faith describes as the right way and pushes on. Faith lets human nature be wise and clever and is willing to remain the fool and knave. In this manner faith comes to Christ and finds him.

Luther's Works, 50:197.

January 2022

To the staff and members of Mt. Calvary, Peace, Bethlehem and Zion congregations:

Greetings in the name of Christ! Due to retirements, there is a need to call some teachers and a Principal for the 2022/23 school year at Lutheran South Unity School. The School Board has formed search committees to seek candidates, and these groups have already been meeting to plan the search process.

As with a pastoral call, candidate names can also be submitted by congregational members. Please use the attached form if you know of a teacher or Principal candidate and return it to your church office for forwarding to LSUS. Specifically, we are searching for 4 teachers (grades K, 3, 6 & 7) and a Principal. Names should be submitted by the end of January, 2022.

Please also keep the school and work of the search committees and Board in your prayers, that the Holy Spirit may guide us to call faithful new staff to continue the mission of LSUS. The calls will be made by the School Board, and we will keep the congregations informed of the progress in the weeks ahead. Thanks for your help in the search process!

Your LSUS Call Committee

Staff Nomination Form

Members who wish to suggest a candidate are asked to please complete this form and leave it in the church office for the search committee. Use a separate form for each candidate.

Having carefully and prayerfully considered the ministry needs of our congregation and school, I wish to nominate the following worker as a candidate to be considered for a Call to (or contracted by) our school:

Candidate for: ☐ Teacher or ☐ Principal (check one)

Candidate Name _____

Current School _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone (if known) _____

I believe he/she will meet our needs for the following reasons:

Please state whether you know him/her personally; where; and for how long a time:

If you do not know him/her personally, state the source of your information and the basis upon which you are making your nomination:

Your Signature _____ Date ____ / ____ / ____

Printed name _____ Congregation _____