



Welcome to SAINT PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod
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"In Nomine Iesu"

Epiphany

January 7, 2024

Welcome to the Lord's House this morning for Divine Service. Rejoice, for the Lord comes to you here in this place to give you His gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation through His precious means of grace – His Holy Word and Sacraments. We pray the Lord's richest blessings upon you as you receive these Divine gifts.

If you are visiting with us this morning, we want you to know that we are overjoyed that you are here. Please make your visit known to us by introducing yourself to us after the Service and by filling out a registration card found in the pew rack. Please just jot down the names of those in attendance.

Guests and members are also asked to fill out a registration card found in the pew rack and hand it to an usher as you leave.

In the celebration of Holy Communion we joyfully receive the true body and blood of our Savior Jesus Christ in, with, and under the bread and wine. This is also a sign of our common confession of faith. We welcome to the Lord's supper all those who are presently confirmed members of a congregation of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod. Speak to Pastor or an usher if you would like to commune at St. Paul's for the first time.

Prelude “Praise to the Lord” Paul Manz

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship ~ Ringing of the Bell

The Order of Worship

Lutheran Service Book – page 151

Divine Service Setting One with Communion

Entrance Hymn

"Brightest and Best of the Stars of the Morning" LSB #400

Invocation *(please stand)*

P In the name of the Father and of the (+) Son
and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

Confession

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves,
and the truth is not in us.

C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and
just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all
unrighteousness.**

*Silence for reflection on God's Word
and for self-examination.*

P Let us confess our sins to God our Father.

All **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature
sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and
eternal punishment. 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.**

Absolution

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you
and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and
ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore
forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of
the (+) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

Service of the Word

Introit

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

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

P Your throne, O God, is forever and ever.
 The scepter of your kingdom is a scepter of uprightness;
C you have loved righteousness and hated wickedness.

P Therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions;
C your robes are all fragrant with myrrh and aloes and cassia.

All Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

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

Kyrie

P In peace let us pray to the Lord.
C Lord, have mercy.

P For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
C Lord, have mercy.

P For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.
C Lord, have mercy.

P For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.
C Lord, have mercy.

P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
C Amen.

Hymn of Praise ~ This Is the Feast

Refrain



C This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 — Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and
 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and
 4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to
 5 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*
 hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*
 join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *Stanza 4*
 God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*
 gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*



Final Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Collect of the Day

P Let us pray. 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.

C Amen.

(be seated)

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 60:1-6

¹ Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. ² 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. ³ And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising.

⁴ 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. ⁶ 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.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle

Ephesians 3:1-12

¹ For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles— ² assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for you, ³ how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. ⁴ When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, ⁵ 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. ⁶ 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.

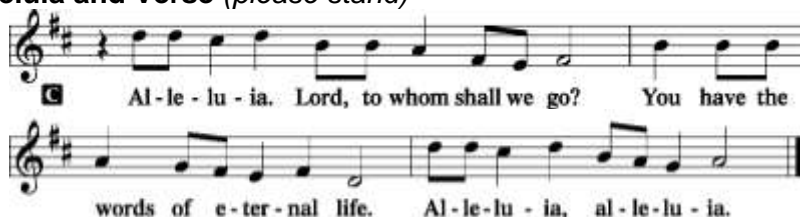
⁷ Of this gospel I was made a minister according to the gift of God's grace, which was given me by the working of his power. ⁸ To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, ⁹ and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God, who created all things, ¹⁰ so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹ This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ

Jesus our Lord, ¹² in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia and Verse (*please stand*)



Holy Gospel

Matthew 2:1-12

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 2nd chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

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, ² 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." ³When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴ and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. ⁵ They 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."

⁷ Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. ⁸ 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." ⁹ 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. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. ¹¹ 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. ¹² And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

(be seated)

Children's Message

Hymn of the Day *"Songs of Thanksgiving and Praise"* LSB #394

Sermon

Nicene Creed *(please stand)*

All 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 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 worshiped 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)

Presentation of the Offering and Musical Offering

"Christ is the World's Light" Robert A. Hobby

Our Catechism Moment ~ The Lord's Prayer

The Fifth Petition

P And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.

P What does this mean?

C **We pray in this petition that our Father in heaven would not look at our sins, or deny our prayer because of them. We are neither worthy of the things for which we pray, nor have we deserved them, but we ask that He would give them all to us by grace, for we daily sin much and surely deserve nothing but punishment. So we too will sincerely forgive and gladly do good to those who sin against us.**

Prayers of the Church

(After each portion of the prayers)

P Lord, in your mercy, **C Hear our prayer.**

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs:

P Heavenly Father, You have anointed Your Son to be our Savior and have established His throne forever and ever. Grant that we who are called by His name would see His reign spread among all nations; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Service of the Sacrament

Preface (*please stand*)

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P It is truly good, right, and proper that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

Sanctus



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

P Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

**All 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.**

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My (+) body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My (+) blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei



The musical score for Agnus Dei is written on four staves. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a common time signature (C). The melody is composed of eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics are: "Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have". The second staff continues the melody with the lyrics: "mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the". The third staff continues with: "world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the". The fourth staff concludes with: "sin of the world; grant us peace." The word "grant" is underlined with a long horizontal line that extends across the staff.

Distribution *(be seated)*

(All members of our St. Paul's family are invited to meet the Lord in this Sacrament. When at the table, please indicate your preference of common or individual cup.

The CENTER RING of the individual communion cup tray contains white grape juice. The OUTER RINGS contain red wine. Gluten free wafers are available from a communion assistant.)

Distribution Hymns

"Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"

LSB #621

"As With Gladness Men of Old"

LSB #397

Thank the Lord *(please stand)*



C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

Post-Communion Collect

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this precious gift, and we ask You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord make His face shine on you
 and be gracious to you.
 The Lord look upon you with favor
 and (+) give you peace.

C **Amen.**

Closing Hymn *“Lord, Dismiss Us With Your Blessing”* LSB #924

Silent Prayer

(be seated)

Postlude *“O Morning Star”* Ferguson/Doppelbauer

“Soli Deo Gloria”

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