

Morning and evening, this discipline from the *Book of Common Prayer*, prays Psalms. To start pray as many as you choose. Begin on the day of the month. End with the Lord's Prayer and Glory to the Father.

Day 1	Morning: 1-5	Evening: 6-8
Day 2	Morning: 9-11	Evening: 12-14
Day 3	Morning: 15-17	Evening: 18
Day 4	Morning: 19-21	Evening: 22-23
Day 5	Morning: 24-26	Evening: 27-29
Day 6	Morning: 30-31	Evening: 32-34
Day 7	Morning: 35-36	Evening: 37
Day 8	Morning: 38-40	Evening: 41-43
Day 9	Morning: 44-46	Evening: 47-49
Day 10	Morning: 50-52	Evening: 53-55
Day 11	Morning: 56-58	Evening: 59-61
Day 12	Morning: 62-64	Evening: 65-67
Day 13	Morning: 68	Evening: 69-70
Day 14	Morning: 71-72	Evening: 73-74
Day 15	Morning: 75-77	Evening: 78
Day 16	Morning: 79-81	Evening: 82-85
Day 17	Morning: 86-88	Evening: 89
Day 18	Morning: 90-92	Evening: 93-94
Day 19	Morning: 95-97	Evening: 98-101
Day 20	Morning: 102-103	Evening: 104
Day 21	Morning: 105	Evening: 106
Day 22	Morning: 107	Evening: 108-109
Day 23	Morning: 110-113	Evening: 114-115
Day 24	Morning: 116-118	Evening: 119:1-32
Day 25	Morning: 119:33-72	Evening: 119:73-104
Day 26	Morning: 119:105-144	Evening: 119:145-176
Day 27	Morning: 120-125	Evening: 126-131
Day 28	Morning: 132-135	Evening: 136-138
Day 29	Morning: 139-140	Evening: 141-143
Day 30	Morning: 144-146	Evening: 147-150

GLORY TO THE FATHER, AND TO THE + SON, AND TO THE HOLY SPIRIT, AS IT WAS IN THE BEGINNING, IS NOW, AND WILL BE FOREVER.

# LUTHERAN CHAPEL

Wise Men  
Seek Him Still



**MATTHEW 2:1-12**

***“THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD”***

**The wise men follow the star to worship the Christ Child. May all nations and peoples turn to Jesus Christ, the Light of the world.**

**EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD**

**JANUARY 5, 2020**

**[lutheranchapelchurch.org](http://lutheranchapelchurch.org)**

**704-864-6491**

LUTHERAN CHAPEL  
SUNDAY, JANUARY 5, 2020  
EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

GATHER

*\*Indicates that all who are able should stand to honor God.  
BOLD indicates congregational responses.*

WELCOME AND PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PARISH NEWS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: In the name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit. *Matthew 28:19b*

C: Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

*1 John 1:8-9*

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

P: Let us recite the gift of the Ten Commandments and the Great Commandment and use these teachings to examine our lives.

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

*Exodus 20:1-17*

1. You shall have no other gods.
2. You shall not make wrongful use of the Name of the LORD your God.
3. Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.
4. Honor your father and mother.
5. You shall not murder.
6. You shall not commit adultery.
7. You shall not steal.
8. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
9. You shall not covet your neighbor's house.
10. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife or (husband).

Praying the Psalter – Epiphany 2020

The Psalms are the prayer book of the Bible. To pray a Psalm is to read, recite, sing or put it in your heart. End praying the Psalm by hallowing the Name: **Glory to the Father, and to the + Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever.**

Which saints and heroes of Christian faith prayed the Psalms in their devotional life? Antony, Athanasius, Ambrose, Augustine, Basil, Benedict, Bonhoeffer, Calvin, Billy Graham, Catherine of Siena, Copernicus, Desmond Tutu, Hildegard of Bingen, Julian of Norwich, C.S. Lewis, Harriet Tubman, Martin and Katie Luther, Martin Luther King Jr., Sojourner Truth, Susanna, Charles and John Wesley, and the list goes on and on. Consider taking up this gift and discipline in your journey in 2020.

The richness of the Word of God ought to determine our prayer, not the poverty of our heart.

**The Prayerbook of the Bible**, Bonhoeffer

The rest of the Bible speaks **to** us, the Psalms speaks **for** us.

**On the Psalms**, Athanasius

For a soul rightly ordered by chanting the sacred words forgets its own afflictions and contemplates with joy the things of Christ alone.

**On the Psalms**, Athanasius



**CHURCH ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK**  
**SUNDAY, JANUARY 5 - SATURDAY, JANUARY 11, 2020**

<b>Sun-5</b>	8:30 am	Early Service (Memorial Chapel)
	9:00 am	Coffee Fellowship (Fellowship Hall)
	9:15 am	Opening for Children's Sunday School Class (Fellowship Hall)
	9:30 am	Sunday School
	10:30 am	Late Service w/ Communion (Sanctuary)
	5:00 pm	Luther Choir
		Roots Youth Group
	6:00 pm	Open Gym
		Crossroads Choir
	6:00 pm	Chancel Choir
<b>Mon-6</b>	6:30 pm	Roots Meal
	8:00 pm	Faith Group (Fellowship Hall)
	8:30 am	Preschool
	9:00 am	Dirty Collar Workers
<b>Tue-7</b>	<b>10:00 am</b>	<b>Esther Circle</b>
	<b>6:00 pm</b>	<b>Rebecca Circle at Olive Garden, Gastonia</b>
<b>Wed-8</b>	8:30 am	Preschool
	<b>6:00 pm</b>	<b>Sprouts</b>
<b>Thur-9</b>	8:30 am	Preschool
	10:00 am	Prayer Ministry (Scout Hut)
<b>Fri-10</b>	<b>4:00 pm</b>	<b>Private Event Set-up (Family Life Center &amp; Kitchen)</b>
<b>Sat-11</b>	<b>All Day</b>	<b>Private Event (Family Life Center &amp; Kitchen)</b>

**BOLD** indicates not a regular weekly event.

**THE GREAT COMMANDMENT** *Mark 12:28-31*

**You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength...you shall love your neighbor as yourself.**

P: Let us kneel or sit for a time of silent confession and self-examination.

P: Most merciful God,

**C: 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.**

P: 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.

**C: Amen.**

**\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN**      *"Angels, from the Realms of Glory"*      ELW #275

**\*THE APOSTOLIC GREETING** *2 Corinthians 13:13*

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

**C: And also with you.**

**\*THE KYRIE**

Mark 10:47

**DAILY PRAYER**

**EACH MORNING AND EVENING, PRAY TO THE LORD. (Psalm 1:2)** A prayer list, daily lessons to read the Bible together each year, and a song of praise are below. The “*Our Daily Bread*” devotional is available as a booklet, an app in eBook format, daily e-mail, or podcast. Visit [odb.org/subscribe](http://odb.org/subscribe). Fill out a prayer card to share or notify the church office with concerns.

**PRAYER LIST FOR FELLOWSHIP:** Braylon Beam, B.T. Bradley, Donna Carpenter, Jerry Carpenter, Sharon Carpenter, Hunter Clark, Tonya Dowdy, Braxton Finch, Kathy Finch, Robert Park, Betty Petty, Barbara Robinson, and Bill Robinson.

**FRIENDS OF THE FELLOWSHIP:** Charles Albright, Ruth Benoy, Jeff Coffey, Amelia Edwards, Heath Hasket, Michael Hobbs, Travis Hogue, Ernie Kincaid, Harry Nicholson, Sam & Lara Raisanen, Martin Salois, Emmalyn Reeder, Pastor Peter Setzer, Mary Ann Sheridan, Sharon Slessman, Charlene Sorenson, Betty Webb, Dana Williams, Hannah Wilson, and Lulu Zizak.

**WEEK 1: JANUARY 5, 2020 to JANUARY 12, 2020**

- 01/05** Morning Reading: Matthew 5:1-26—Evening Reading: Genesis 13, 14, 15
- 01/06** Morning Reading: Matthew 5:27-48—Evening Reading: Genesis 16, 17
- 01/07** Morning Reading: Matthew 6:1-18—Evening Reading: Genesis 18, 19
- 01/08** Morning Reading: Matthew 6:19-34—Evening Reading: Genesis 20, 21, 22
- 01/09** Morning Reading: Matthew 7—Evening Reading: Genesis 23, 24
- 01/10** Morning Reading: Matthew 8:1-17—Evening Reading: Genesis 25, 26
- 01/11** Morning Reading: Matthew 8:18-34—Evening Reading: Genesis 27, 28
- 01/12** Morning Reading: Matthew 9:1-17—Evening Reading: Genesis 29, 30

**Song Of Praise**                      “*We Three Kings of Orient Are*”                      WOV #646

**Next Sunday, JANUARY 12, 2020:**

- 8:30 Service with Holy Communion: Genesis 3 ~ “*The Fall*”
- Children’s Message: “*A Little Servant Girl*” (2 Kings 5)
- 10:30 Service: Matthew 3:13-17 ~ “*The Baptism of our Lord*”

**This QR** code goes straight to the Daily prayers page on the website that list the commemorations for the week.



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.      Lord, have mer - cy.

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

Lord,      have mer - cy.

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.

Lord,      have mer - cy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord.      Lord,      have mer - cy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.      A -      men.

**REBECCA CIRCLE:** Rebecca Circle will gather at the **Olive Garden** on Cox Road tomorrow evening, **January 6, at 6pm.**

**CARE BAGS FOR THOSE IN NEED:** When you see someone asking for money at a busy intersection it is a tough spot. As followers of Jesus, we are called to help and give (Luke 6:30-31). However just giving money can actually hurt someone rather than help them, especially if there is a drug or alcohol addiction present. A care bag may be an option depending on your discernment at the time. This gift offers food, hygiene items, and a flier with ministry contacts that can help in more permanent ways. Never tire in doing what is right (2 Thessalonians 3:13). **Items Needed: Lance crackers, granola bars, dried fruit/raisins, bottled water, wipes, mouthwash, toothbrush, deodorant, socks.** Please put all items in the box located in the educational building. If you have any questions, please contact Amy Carpenter.

**2020 ALTAR FLOWER CALENDAR:** There are two weeks available on the altar flower calendar: March 1 and November 22. If you'd like to sign up for one of these dates, please contact Susan Lewis at 704-864-5242.

**2020 YEARBOOK:** It's time to prepare the 2020 Yearbook. All committee chairs, please submit your respective reports to the church office by January 24. Also, if anyone has a change of address, home phone or mobile number, please contact the church office so that we can update the church database accordingly.

**OWLS:** Any older and wiser members, please join us for food and fellowship at *The Captain's Cap* at 5 pm on **Friday, January 17th**. Please let Amy know by Tuesday, January 14th if you can attend.

**GIRLS' NIGHT-** Women of the church, please join Amy for a night of food and fellowship on Monday, **January 27th** at 6 p.m. at *Terra Mia* in McAdenville. Please let her know if you are available to come by Monday, January 20th. Hope to see you there!

**YOUTH PARENT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** After the middle and high school youth group meets from 5-6 pm in the Youth Room on Sunday nights, we are in need of youth parent volunteers to supervise open gym and dinner from 6-7 pm. Please contact Amy Carpenter at amy@lutheranchapelchurch.org if you are willing to help.

**REMINDER:** If you do not wish to take your bulletin home please put it in the recycle bins when exiting the church. Thank you.

**THIS IS THE FEAST**

*Revelation 5:12-13; 19:5-9*

*Refrain*

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 blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and

strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of

God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,

glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,  
 al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was  
 slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.  
*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.

**PRAYER OF THE DAY** *(prayed together)*

P: The Lord be with you.  
 C: And also with you.

**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**

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE** *The Good Shepherd*  
 The Jesus Storybook Bible (pass prayer cards to the ushers)

**THE FIRST LESSON** **ISAIAH 60:1-6**  
*Jerusalem is assured that nations will make a pilgrimage to her because the light of God’s presence is in her midst. The bountiful food of the sea and the profits of international trade will come streaming to Jerusalem and thereby declare God’s praise.*

<sup>1</sup>Arise, shine; for your light has come,  
 and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.  
<sup>2</sup>For darkness shall cover the earth,

**THOSE WHO SERVING AT LUTHERAN CHAPEL TODAY**

Ministers.....	People of Lutheran Chapel
Pastor.....	Michael Comer
Administrative Assistant.....	Kim Rundzieher
Interim Director of Youth and Family Ministry .....	Amy Carpenter
Organist.....	Lisa Burch
Music Director .....	Roger Myers
Music Director .....	Jeanette Myers
Nursery Worker .....	Charlie Jones
Assistant Minister .....	Nancy Witman
Lector.....	Mark Goedl
Acolyte .....	Bram Comer
Crucifer .....	Ben Carpenter
Ushers.....	Steve Bell, Chris Clark, Mark Goedl & Katherine Sanders
Communion Presenters.....	Gail Brown & Sara Carpenter
Communion Assistants.....	Kathy Carpenter & Ed Robinson
Council Members .....	Chris Clark & Katherine Sanders
Finance Assistant.....	Ervin Hoffman
Altar Guild .....	Judy Anton & Suzie Ward
Helping Hands.....	Wendy Robinson

**PARISH NEWS**

**FRIENDSHIP ROSTER:** Please sign the friendship roster in the black folder at the end of each pew for a record of attendance and to share information with the church office.

**2020 OFFERING ENVELOPES:** Offering envelopes for 2020 are available for pickup in the hallway outside the nursery in the Education Building.

**THANK YOU:** Thank you for the Christmas cards, cookies and yummys, encouragement, and monetary gift during these 12 days of Christmas. It is an honor to serve our Lord Jesus together and I look forward to working together in His mission for us in 2020. Peace in Christ, Pastor Michael

**ESTHER CIRCLE:** Esther Circle will meet tomorrow, **January 6 at 10am** in the Conference Room. Francis Ford is the hostess and Pat Lindler is in charge of the program.

**\*SONG OF SIMEON**

*Luke 2:29-32*

Now, Lord, you let your ser-vant go in peace: your word has been ful -

filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre-pared in the

sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: a light to re-veal you to the na - tions

and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

Now, Lord, you let your ser - vant go in peace.

**\*POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

AM: Holy and compassionate God, in bread and wine You give us gifts that form us to be humble and courageous. May Your words come to life in our serving and in our witness, that we might speak a living voice of healing and justice to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our rock and our redeemer.

**C: Amen.**

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*RECESSIONAL HYMN**

*"Christ, Be Our Light"*

ELW #715

**\*THE DISMISSAL— LUTHERAN CHAPEL CHILDREN AND POSTLUDE**

Children: Go in peace, serve the Lord!

**C: Thanks be to God.**

and thick darkness the peoples;  
but the LORD will arise upon you,  
and his glory will appear over you.  
<sup>3</sup>Nations shall come to your light,  
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

<sup>4</sup>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.  
<sup>5</sup>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.  
<sup>6</sup>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.

L: The Word of the Lord.

**P: Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 72:1-7, 10-14**

*All kings shall bow down before him. (Ps. 72:11)*

<sup>1</sup>Give the king your jus- | tice, O God,  
and your righteousness to | the king's son;  
<sup>2</sup>**that he may rule your | people righteously**  
**and the | poor with justice;**  
<sup>3</sup>that the mountains may bring prosperity | to the people,  
and the | hills, in righteousness.  
<sup>4</sup>**Let him defend the needy a- | mong the people,**  
**rescue the poor, and crush | the oppressor.**  
<sup>5</sup>May he live as long as the sun and | moon endure,  
from one generation | to another.  
<sup>6</sup>**Let him come down like rain upon | the mown field,**  
**like showers that wa- | ter the earth.**  
<sup>7</sup>In his time may the | righteous flourish;  
and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall | be no more.  
<sup>10</sup>**May the kings of Tarshish and of the | isles pay tribute,**  
**and the kings of Sheba and Seba | offer gifts.**  
<sup>11</sup>May all kings bow | down before him,  
and all the nations | do him service.

<sup>12</sup>For the king delivers the poor who cry out | in distress,  
the oppressed, and those who | have no helper.

<sup>13</sup>He has compassion on the low- | ly and poor,  
and preserves the lives | of the needy.

<sup>14</sup>From oppression and violence he re- | deems their lives,  
and precious is their blood | in his sight.

**GLORIA PATRI** (sung together)

**Glory 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.**

**THE SECOND LESSON** **EPHESIANS 3:1-12**

*What had been hidden from previous generations is now made known through the gospel ministry of Paul and others. In Christ both Jews and Gentiles participate in the richness of God’s promised salvation.*

<sup>1</sup>This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles—<sup>2</sup>for surely you have already heard of the commission of God’s grace that was given me for you, <sup>3</sup>and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, <sup>4</sup>a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. <sup>5</sup>In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: <sup>6</sup>that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

<sup>7</sup>Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God’s grace that was given me by the working of his power. <sup>8</sup>Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, <sup>9</sup>and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; <sup>10</sup>so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. <sup>11</sup>This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, <sup>12</sup>in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**


**\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** “Alleluia” *John 6:68*




Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the

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.


**\*LAMB OF GOD** *John 1:29*




Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the



sin of the world; grant us peace.

**THE CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT**

*Admission to the Sacrament is by invitation of the Lord Jesus to all baptized. If you have yet to receive baptism, you are welcome to come for a blessing. For those of you who choose, grape juice is available in the middle of the tray. Gluten free Communion bread is available upon request.*

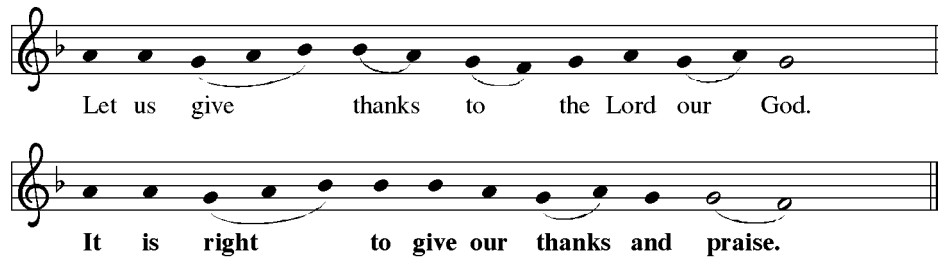
**SENDING**

**\*THE BLESSING**

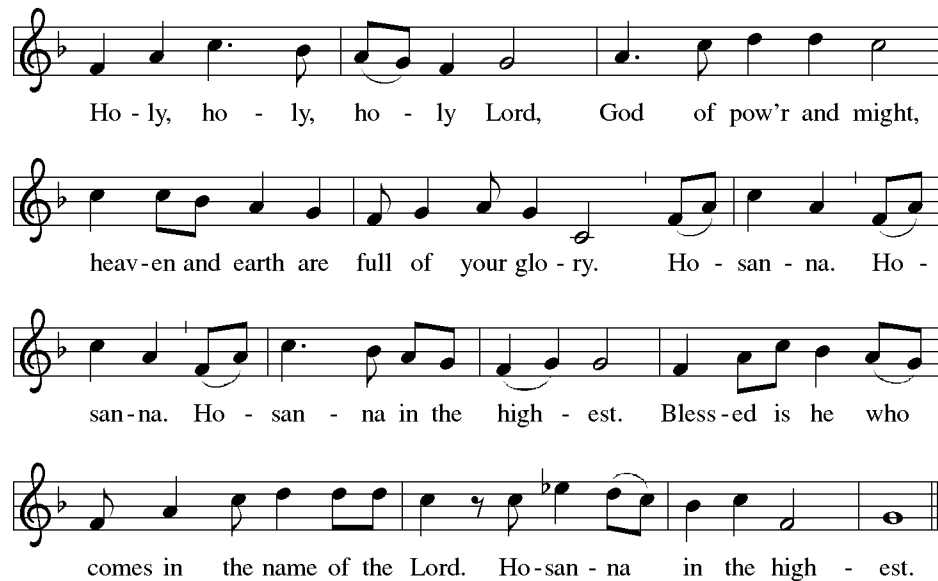
P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you and preserve you in body and soul to everlasting life. Let us depart in peace.

**C: Amen.**





**\*PREFACE FOR THE DAY AND THE HOLY, HOLY, HOLY** *Isaiah 6:3, Matthew 21:9*



**\*THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION** *Matthew 26, Mark 14, Luke 22, 1 Corinthians 11*

P: In the night in which He was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to His disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is My body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of Me.

Again, after supper, He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in My blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of Me.

**\*THE LORD’S PRAYER**

*Matthew 6:9-13*

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be Thy name,  
Thy Kingdom come,**



**THE GOSPEL**

**MATTHEW 2:1-12**

Response after announcement:

**People: Glory to You, O Lord.**

*God’s promise shines bright in the night as magi follow a star to honor a new king. Strangers from a faraway land, they welcome the long-awaited messiah of Israel.*

<sup>1</sup>In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup>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.” <sup>3</sup>When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; <sup>4</sup>and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. <sup>5</sup>They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

<sup>6</sup>‘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.’”

<sup>7</sup>Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup>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.” <sup>9</sup>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. <sup>10</sup>When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. <sup>11</sup>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. <sup>12</sup>And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise to You, O Christ.**

**MESSAGE**

*“Keeping Awake”*

T.S Eliot’s *The Journey of the Magi*

How Will Worship of the Christ Change You?

**The Law** is an aspect of God’s Word that shows sin and brokenness: Worship is boring. Why do I come to worship anyway?

**The Gospel** is an aspect of God’s Word that comforts and saves in Christ: In the gifts of the Service, Word and Sacrament, song and praise, confession and forgiveness, prayer and purpose, God is shaping us to become His people now and forever.

**On Discipleship - Learning of and from Jesus:** Worship God: Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit morning and evening, Sunday by Sunday, now and forever. Pay attention to the gift of God’s Word for you. What is your take away for following Christ?

**\*HYMN OF THE DAY**                      “What Child Is This”                      ELW #296

**\*THE APOSTLES’ CREED**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord.  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended into hell.  
The third day He rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

**\*THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**                      1 Timothy 2:1-4

AM: Gathered with all who seek the Christ child, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.  
  
*A brief silence.*

AM: Faithful God, continue to provide dedicated leaders and passionate people for your church, so that wisdom and compassion in all its rich variety may be made known throughout the world. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

*Prayers continue and conclude with this petition:*

P: Into your gracious hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your steadfast mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

**\*THE SHARING OF THE PEACE**                      *Matthew 5:22-24, Ephesians 4:1-3*

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**C: And also with you.**

**MEAL**

**TITHES AND OFFERINGS**                      *Malachi 3:10, 2 Corinthians 9:7-8*

**ANTHEM**                      **CHANCEL CHOIR**  
“We Three Kings Medley”                      arr. Jay Rouse

**\*DOXOLOGY**                      ELW #884

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise Him, all creatures here below;  
praise Him above, ye heav’nly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

**\*THE OFFERTORY PRAYER**                      (pray together)

Blessed are You, O God, maker of all things. Through Your goodness You have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered in feeding the world with Your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

**\*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**                      2 Timothy 4:22, Colossians 3:1, Psalm 136

