

LUTHERAN CHAPEL



PSALM 118:1-2, 14-24 AND MATTHEW 2:1-12

“The Epiphany of our Lord 2021”

*Wise men and women still come to worship the Christ Child,
the true King, Priest, and Sacrifice for us and all the world.*

Hallelujah!

EPIPHANY SUNDAY

JANUARY 3, 2021

lutheranchapelchurch.org

(704) 864-6491

**LUTHERAN CHAPEL
JANUARY 3, 2021
EPIPHANY SUNDAY**

BOLD indicates congregational responses.

GATHER

WELCOME

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

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).**

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.



1 Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for
 2 Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled. Long - ing for
 3 Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long - ing for
 4 Long - ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less. Long - ing for
 5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the



truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,
 hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone
 wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,
 warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,
 hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants



your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.
 has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.
 bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.
 shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.
 to one an - oth - er, signs of your king - dom come.



Refrain
 Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the



dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your



church gath - ered to - day.

Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957

Music: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell

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THE APOSTOLIC GREETING

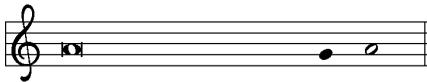
2 Corinthians 13:13

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



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



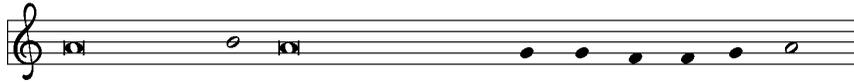
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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 wor-ship and praise,



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



Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord. **A - men.**

THIS IS THE FEAST

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

Refrain
Assisting minister



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

All



I Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



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

Refrain



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

STORY OF SALVATION LESSON

PSALM 118:1-2, 14-24

The Psalms are the prayer and song book that give words to our human condition in both existential sorrow and transcendent hope. Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again! Praise the LORD!

¹O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
his steadfast love endures forever!

²Let Israel say,

"His steadfast love endures forever."

¹⁴The LORD is my strength and my might;
he has become my salvation.

¹⁵There are glad songs of victory in the tents of the righteous:

"The right hand of the LORD does valiantly;

¹⁶the right hand of the LORD is exalted;

the right hand of the LORD does valiantly."

¹⁷I shall not die, but I shall live,

and recount the deeds of the LORD.

¹⁸The LORD has punished me severely,

but he did not give me over to death.

¹⁹Open to me the gates of righteousness,

that I may enter through them

and give thanks to the LORD.

²⁰This is the gate of the LORD;

the righteous shall enter through it.

²¹I thank you that you have answered me

and have become my salvation.

²²The stone that the builders rejected

has become the chief cornerstone.

²³This is the LORD's doing;

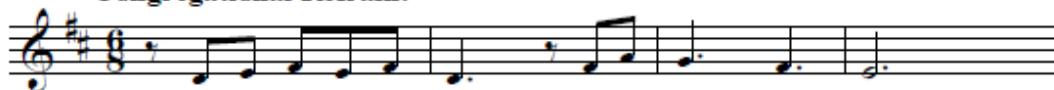
it is marvelous in our eyes.

²⁴**This is the day that the LORD has made;**

let us rejoice and be glad in it.

L: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Congregational Refrain:

Ev-'ry na-tion on earth will a - dore You, Lord;



ev - 'ry na-tion on earth will a - dore You, Lord.

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1. O God, with Your judgment endow the King; with Your justice endow the King's Son
With justice He will govern Your people, Your afflicted ones with right judgment.

Refrain:

2. Justice shall flower in His days, lasting peace 'til the moon be no more,
May He rule from sea to sea, from the river to the ends of the earth.

Refrain:

3. The kings of Tarshish and the Isles offer gifts, those from Seba and Arabia bring tribute.
All kings shall pay their homage, all nations shall serve Him.

Refrain:

4. He rescues the poor when they cry out, the afflicted with no one to help.
The lowly and poor He shall pity, the lives of the poor He will save.

Refrain:

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.

¹This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles—²for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, ³and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, ⁴a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. ⁵In 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: ⁶that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

⁷Of 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. ⁸Although 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, ⁹and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; ¹⁰so 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. ¹¹This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹²in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 6:68



GOSPEL

MATTHEW 2:1-12

Those who are able may stand to honor Christ during the reading of the Gospel.

Response after the announcement:

C: 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.

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

⁶"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.'"

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

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

MESSAGE

“The Epiphany of our Lord 2021”

On the Psalms

Gold, Frankincense, and Myrrh

The Light to All Nations

The Law is an aspect in the Word that shows our brokenness, sin and need for Jesus' saving power: The Light to the nations has come. Do I rejoice, kneel, and worship the Christ Child?

The Gospel is an aspect in the Word that gives strength, wisdom and hope in Jesus' ultimate saving power: In fulfillment of prophecy, the LORD guides the wise men, the nations to worship the Christ Child. Let us fall to worship Him and follow Him now and forever.

So What? Worship points us to the things that are of ultimate importance - the Light of Christ, His Word and Sacrament for my life, and the ultimate fulfillment that is coming. Learn the joy and mystery of praising Christ!





1 What feast of love is of - fered here, what ban - quet come from heav - en?
 2 What light of truth is of - fered here, what cov - e - nant from heav - en?
 3 What wine of love is of - fered here, what crim - son drink from heav - en?



What food of ev - er - last - ing life, what gra - cious gift is giv - en?
 What hope of ev - er - last - ing life, what won - drous word is giv - en?
 What stream of ev - er - last - ing life, what pre - cious blood is giv - en?



This, this is Christ the king, the bread come down from heav - en.
 This, this is Christ the king, the sun come down from heav - en.
 This, this is Christ the king, the sweet - est wine of heav - en.



Oh, taste and see and sing! How sweet the man - na giv - en!
 Oh, see and hear and sing! The Word of God is giv - en!
 Oh, taste and see and sing! The Son of God is giv - en!

Text: Delores Dufner, osb, b. 1939

Music: GREENSLEEVES, English ballad, 16th cent.

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THE NICENE CREED

All are invited to confess our faith in God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. If you have not received the gift of baptism or would like to affirm your faith in Jesus and join His mission here, please indicate on the attendance registry and talk to an usher or the pastor.

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary,
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

1 Timothy 2:1-4

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

A brief silence may be kept. Each prayer will conclude: Lord in Your mercy, and the congregation may respond **Hear our prayers.**

Prayers are commended in Jesus' Name.

P: All these prayers and whatever else You see that we need we ask in the Name of Jesus Christ, the Light of the world.

C: Amen.

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

Matthew 5:22-24: Ephesians 4:1-3

P: Sisters and brothers, rejoice. Mend your ways, encourage one another, agree with one another, live in peace. *2 Corinthians 13:11*

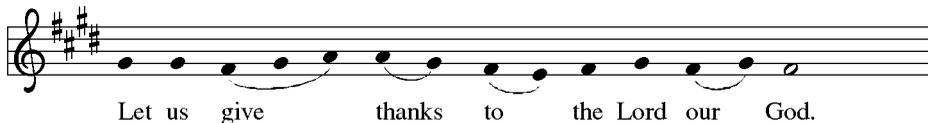
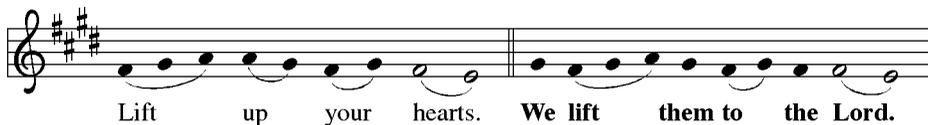
P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

THE MEAL AND SENDING

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

2 Timothy 4:22, Colossians 3:1, Psalm 136



PREFACE FOR THE DAY AND THE HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Isaiah 6:3, Matthew 21:9

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your 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.

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

P: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**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.**

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, grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION AND INDIVIDUAL DISMISSAL

P: This is the body of Christ given for you. This is the blood of Christ shed for you. Go in peace and serve the Lord!

POSTLUDE

+ + + + + + + + +

PARISH NEWS

THANK YOU!: Thank you to the fellowship at Lutheran Chapel for the many kind cards and gifts both financial and culinary during the celebrations of Christmas 2020. I am thankful to serve Christ and His mission in this place and look forward to new opportunities in 2021. Peace in Christ, *Michael Comer, Pastor*

Dear Lutheran Chapel family, We would like to thank you for your generous Christmas bonus. We appreciate your support and caring hearts. Hopefully one day we will all be able to sing and fellowship together. Soli Deo Gloria, *Roger and Jeanette*

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!: A former member of Lutheran Chapel, Suzanne Ledford, is in a bad situation. Suzanne is 85 years old and living in a tent the church gave her during these cold days. Suzanne has been off and on the church prayer list for years. Governmental agencies and medical assessments at the hospital have not led to a change in her situation. Suzanne has received help from good people among us for a long time but the needs continue to grow especially with the winter. After meeting to discuss the situation, the goal is to provide a warm meal at lunch for her daily. For this to happen, teams of two will be needed to deliver food and check on her. Please pray and consider volunteering to serve with this specific need. If you can help or want more information please contact Pastor Michael at 704-787-6439.

2021 ALTAR FLOWER CALENDAR: The following Sundays are still available on the Altar Flower Calendar: February 28, April 11, May 30, June 6, and June 27. Please contact Susan Lewis at 704-864-5242 if you'd like to sign up for one of these Sundays.

SPROUTS: We will continue with virtual meetings through January. Our next youth group meeting will be **Wednesday, January 6 at 6 pm**. We will also be meeting on **January 10 at 9:30 am** for *Zoom Sunday School*. Amy will email the Zoom link during the week.

ROOTS SERVICE PROJECT: Roots youth group will have a work day at the church on **January 23 from 10am - 12pm**. Lunch will be provided.

WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB: The next novel in our women's book club will be *Mere Christianity*. The next meeting will be on **Thursday, January 21st at 6 pm** in the Chapel. If you are interested in attending this book club session, please contact Amy at amy@lutheranchapelchurch.org.

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. Fill out a prayer card to share or notify the church office with concerns.

Please share prayer concerns or updates on the prayer list with the church office (704-864-6491), call/text Pastor Comer (704-787-6439) or call our prayer team (Katherine Carpenter 704-214-2493). Intercessions will be for a month and then removed unless requested to continue.

PRAYER LIST FOR FELLOWSHIP: BT & Pauline Bradley, Jerry & Shirley Carpenter, Elona Collins, Helen Hoffman, Henry & Debra Hoffman, Dru Huffstickler, Robert Park, Bill Robinson, and Bob Thornburg

FRIENDS OF THE FELLOWSHIP: Eula Brazell, Lee Brinkley, Taylor Brinkley, Garry & Carole Farmer, Jamison Franklin, Sherry Hester, Paula Kadel, Suzanne Ledford, Dawn Lemmond, Lee Norris, Chris Owings, the family of Pr. Peter Setzer, Charlene Sorenson, and Anne & Roger Stowe

WEEK 01: JANUARY 3 to JANUARY 10, 2021

- 01/03** Morning Reading: Matthew 3—Evening Reading: Genesis 7, 8, 9
01/04 Morning Reading: Matthew 4—Evening Reading: Genesis 10, 11, 12
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

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

Next Sunday, JANUARY 10, 2021

- 8:30 Holy Communion: Song of Solomon 2:1-7, 6:1-3 and Mark 1:4-11
9:00 Zoom Sunday School: The Kingdoms’ Fall (*The Story*, Chapter 17)
10:30 Service of the Word: Song of Solomon 2:1-7, 6:1-3 and Mark 1:4-11

“*The Baptism of our Lord 2021*”

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



CHURCH ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK
SUNDAY, JANUARY 3 - SATURDAY, JANUARY 9, 2021

Sun-03 8:30 am Early Worship (Family Life Center)
 9:00 am Sunday School via Zoom
 10:30 am Worship Service w/ Holy Communion (Sanctuary)
 6:00 pm Chancel Choir
 8:00 pm Faith Group (Prayer Hut)

Mon-04 NO Preschool

Tues-05 8:30 am Preschool
 10:00 am Clothing Closet Workday

Wed-06 8:30 am Preschool
 6:00 pm Sprouts via Zoom
 6:15 pm Handbells

Thur-07 8:30 am Preschool

*We are so happy you joined us for worship this morning.
Please fill out the information below and leave this page in the pew
following the service. Thank you!*

Date: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

____ Member ____ Visitor ____ Desire a call from the Pastor

Prayer Request: _____
