



Lake of the Isles Lutheran Church

✠ Epiphany of Our Lord ✠

January 3, 2021

Epiphany means “manifestation.” On this day we celebrate the revelation of Christ to the Gentiles—that is, to all nations. Some Christian traditions celebrate three great epiphanies on this day: the magi’s adoration of the Christ child, Jesus’ baptism in the Jordan River, and his first miracle, in which he changes water into wine. The word and sacraments are for us the great epiphany of God’s grace and mercy. We go forth to witness to the light that shines brightly in our midst

✠ Gathering ✠

Following the call of God’s Spirit, the community of faith gathers, welcoming one another and praying for God’s mercy to fill the church and the world.

We invite you to use the prelude time to prepare your heart and mind for worship.

Prelude

How Lovely Shines the Morning Star

Paul Manz (1919-2009)

Welcome

Call to Worship

*Please stand
as you are able.*

Psalm 72

Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to a king's son.

May he judge your people with righteousness, and your poor with justice.

In his days may righteousness flourish and peace abound, until the moon is no more.

May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles render him tribute, may the kings of Sheba and Seba bring gifts.

May all kings fall down before him, all nations give him service.

For he delivers the needy when they call, the poor and those who have no helper.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit

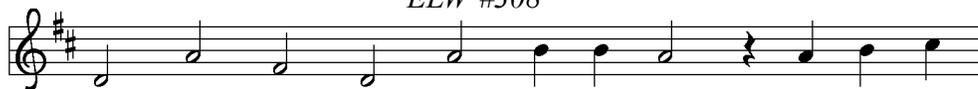
As it was in the beginning is now and will be forever. Amen

Gathering Hymn



O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright

ELW #308



1 O Morn - ing Star, how fair and bright! You shine with
 2 Come, pre - cious dia - mond, light di - vine, and deep with -
 3 Lord, when you look on us in love, at once there
 4 Al - might - y Fa - ther, in your Son you loved us,



God's own truth and light, a - glow with grace and mer - cy!
 in our hearts now shine; there light a flame un - dy - ing!
 falls from God a - bove a ray of pur - est plea - sure.
 when not yet be - gun was this old earth's foun - da - tion!



Of Ja - cob's line, King Da - vid's son, our Lord and Sav - ior,
 In your one bod - y let us be as liv - ing branch - es
 Your word and Spir - it, flesh and blood re - fresh our souls with
 Your Son has ran - somed us in love to live in him here



you have won our hearts to serve you on - ly! Low - ly,
 of a tree, your life our lives sup - ply - ing. Now, though
 heav'n - ly food. You are our dear - est trea - sure! Let your
 and a - bove: this is your great sal - va - tion. Al - le -



ho - ly! Great and glo - rious, all vic - to - rious, rich
 dai - ly earth's deep sad - ness may per - plex us and
 mer - cy warm and cheer us! Oh, draw near us! For life
 lu - ia! Christ the liv - ing, to us giv - ing life



in bless - ing! Rule and might o'er all pos - sess - ing!
 dis - tress us, yet with heav'n - ly joy you bless us.
 you teach us God's own love through you has reached us.
 for - ev - er, keeps us yours and fails us nev - er!

Text: Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
 Music: WIE SCHÖN LEUCHTET, Philipp Nicolai

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Apostolic Greeting

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.

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, you have filled all the earth with the light of your incarnate Word. By your grace empower us to reflect your light in all that we do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

✠ Word ✠

*The Word of God comes alive for the gathered community.
As God speaks to us in scriptures read, sung and preached.*

Children's Message

Dismissal Song



Bright and Glorious is the Sky

ELW #301

Vss. 1, 5 & 6



1 Bright and glo - rious is the sky, ra - diant are the
2 On that ho - ly Christ - mas night through the dark - ness
3 Sa - ges from the east a - far, when they saw this
4 Him they found in Beth - le - hem, yet he wore no



heav - ens high where the gold - en stars are shin - ing.
beamed a light; all the stars a - bove were pal - ing,
won - drous star, went to find the king of na - tions
di - a - dem; there they saw a maid - en low - ly



All their rays to earth in - clin - ing beck - on us to
all their lus - ter slow - ly fail - ing as the won - drous
and to of - fer their ob - la - tions to the child, the
with an in - fant pure and ho - ly rest - ing in her



heav'n a - bove, beck - on us to heav'n a - bove.
star drew nigh, as the won - drous star drew nigh.
new - born king, to the child, the new - born king.
lov - ing arms, rest - ing in her lov - ing arms.

5 Guided by the star, they found
him whose praise the ages sound.
We too have a star to guide us,
which forever will provide us
with the light to find our Lord,
with the light to find our Lord.

6 And this star, as bright as day,
that will never lead astray
with its message so appealing,
is the word of God, revealing
Christ, the way, the truth, the life,
Christ, the way, the truth, the life.

Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783–1872; tr. Jens Christian Aaberg, 1877–1970, alt.
Music: DEJLIG ER DEN HIMMEL BLÅ, Danish, 19th cent.
Text © 1958 Service Book and Hymnal, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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Reading

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.

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. ²For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. ³Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. ⁴Lift 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. ⁵Then 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. ⁶A 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.

R: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Epiphany Gradual

Please stand as you are able

Savior of the Nations Come



1 Sav - ior of the na - tions, come; vir - gin's son, make here your home.



Mar - vel now, O heav'n and earth: God has cho - sen such a birth.

Gospel

Matthew 2:1-12

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.

In 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 our Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.



Solo

Please be seated.

Sermon

Following the sermon, we will take a moment of silence to reflect on today's gospel message.

Hymn of the Day

*Please stand
as you are able.*

The Nativity Carol

John Rutter (b. 1945)

As With Gladness Men of Old

ELW #302



1 As with glad-ness men of old did the guid-ing star be - hold;
2 As with joy - ful steps they sped, Sav - ior, to thy low - ly bed,
3 As they of - fered gifts most rare at thy cra - dle, rude and bare,
4 Ho - ly Je - sus, ev - 'ry day keep us in the nar - row way;
5 In the heav'n-ly coun-try bright need they no cre - a - ted light;



as with joy they hailed its light, lead - ing on - ward, beam - ing bright;
there to bend the knee be - fore thee, whom heav'n and earth a - dore;
so may we with ho - ly joy, pure and free from sin's al - loy,
and when earth-ly things are past, bring our ran - somed souls at last
thou its light, its joy, its crown, thou its sun which goes not down;



so, most gra - cious Lord, may we ev - er - more be led by thee.
so may we with will - ing feet ev - er seek thy mer - cy seat.
all our cost-liest trea - sures bring, Christ, to thee, our heav'n-ly king.
where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glo - ry hide.
there for - ev - er may we sing al - le - lu - ias to our king.

Text: William C. Dix, 1837–1898, alt.
Music: DIX, Conrad Kocher, 1786–1872



Prayers of the Church

P: Joining our voices with the song of the angels, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need..

A brief silence.

A: Redeeming God, you gather together your people from the farthest parts ...
Lord in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Into your hands, God of abundant grace, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C: Amen.

Greeting of Peace

Please be seated

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

C: And also with you.

After the greeting, please share a word of peace with your neighbors.

✠ Offering ✠

Lake of the Isles Lutheran Church is supported through the generous gifts of time, talent and treasure of our friends and members. In order to fulfill our mission and ministry, we need to receive approximately \$6,000 in offerings each week. We thank you for your support and partnership in the proclamation of the good news.

Offering



The Silent Stars Shine Down

Herman G. Stuempfle Jr/ arr. Thomas Kessecker

*The silent stars shine down on us with bright but sightless eye,
Unmindful of our little earth, of us who live and die.
Are we but grains of stranded sand beside a cosmic sea
That lie unvalued and unseen in such immensity?
Creator of all stars you came to grace our transient race.
In Christ you spoke a word that broke the silences of space.
Still through that word you call our hearts to know that we are known,
To trust we do not walk through time unvalued and alone.
We see the star the wise men saw and hope again is stirred.
We track the footprints left in time by your incarnate Word.
We see them climb a lonely hill where Love is left to die –
The Love that formed the farthest star and hears the faintest cry.
O Christ, the bright and morning Star whose radiance does not fade,
Whose glory filled the universe before the planets played:
Come, heal our hearts of blinding doubt till faith shall end in sight.
Shine down upon our darkened earth and conquer sin's long night.*

Offertory

*Please stand as
you are able.*

What Child is This

*So bring him incense, gold and myrrh, come, peasant, king, to own him.
The King of kings salvation brings; Let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise the song on high, the virgin sings her lullaby;
Joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe the son of Mary!*

Offertory Prayer

A: Gracious God, you came to us as one unknown, bringing joy and salvation to the earth. Nourish us at your banquet table, that with all who welcome your birth we may proclaim your peace, revealed in Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C: Amen.



Great Thanksgiving

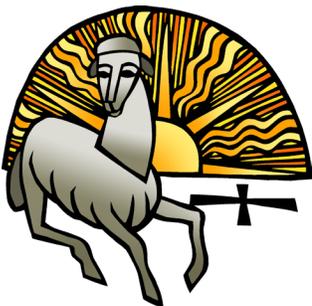
Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

Invitation to Communion

Please be seated.

Lamb of God



✠ Meal ✠

We lift our hearts with praise and thanksgiving as the table is set, and we receive the bread and wine—the humble meal through which we are fed by the presence of Jesus the Christ and united as the body of Christ in the world.

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 our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...we praise your name and join their unending hymn...

C: 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.

P: Come to me all who are tired and heavy laden, and I will give you rest. The table is ready. All are welcome.

O Christ, thou Lamb of God that tak - est a - way the sin of the world,
have mer - cy up - on us! O Christ, thou Lamb of God that tak -
est a - way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us!
O Christ, thou Lamb of God that tak - est a - way the sin of the world,
grant us thy peace! A - - - - - men

Text: German, 1528, based on the Agnus Dei; tr. unknown
Music: CHRISTI, DU LAMM GOTTES, *Kirchenordnung*, Braunschweig, 1528

**Post-Communion
Blessing**

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

**Post-Communion
Prayer**

A: We give you thanks, O God, that in this bread and cup of Christ's very life, you give us food for our journey. As you led the magi by a star, as you brought the holy family home again, guide us on the way unfolding before us. Wherever we go, may our lives proclaim good news of great joy in Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.



✠ SENDING ✠

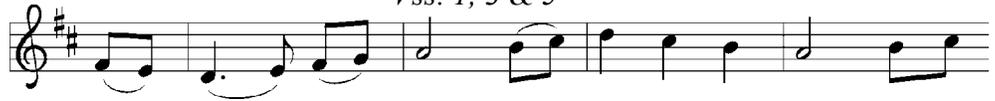
*We receive the blessing of God and leave in peace,
Sent out to live the way of Jesus for the sake of the world God loves.*

Sending Hymn



The First Noel

Vss. 1, 3 & 5



1 The first No - el the an - gel did say was to
2 They look - ed up and saw . . . a star shin - ing
3 And by the light of that . . . same star three . .
4 This star drew near to the . . . north - west, o'er . .
5 Then en - tered in those wise . . . men three, full . .



cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay; in fields where
in . . . the east . . . be - yond . . . them far; and to the
wise . . . men came . . . from coun - try far; to seek for a
Beth - le - hem . . . it took . . . its rest; and there it
rev - 'rent - ly . . . up - on . . . their knee, and of - fered



they lay, keep - ing their sheep, on a cold win - ter's
earth it gave . . . great light, and . . . so it con -
king was their . . . in - tent, and to fol - low the
did both stop . . . and stay right . . . o - ver the
there in his . . . pres - ence their . . . gold, . . . and



night that was so deep.
tin - ued both day and night.
star wher - ev - er it went. No - el, No - el, No -
place where Je - sus lay.
myrrh, and frank - in - cense.



el, No - el! Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

Text: English traditional
Music: THE FIRST NOWELL, English traditional

Benediction

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

C: Amen.

Announcements

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Live in love, as Christ loved us.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Medieval Prelude on *O Heiland, reiß die Himmel auf*

Grimoaldo Macchia (b. 1972)

*O clear sun, thou beautiful star,
We much desire to behold thee.
O sun, rise, for without thy light
We are all in darkness.*

*Here we suffer the greatest trials,
Before our eyes looms eternal death;
Ah come, lead us with a strong hand
From misery to the Father's land.*

*We all desire to thank thee,
Our redeemer, forever and ever.
We all desire to praise thee
ever and eternally at all times.*

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WELCOME

*We thank you for celebrating the love of Jesus Christ with us this week, and we invite you back again —
for prayer and worship and to any of the events our congregation has scheduled.*

We hope the message of God's grace will guide and strengthen you as you grow in love and faith in your daily life.

YOUR WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY

Preacher..... Rev. Dr. Arden D. Haug
Organist..... Dr. Kris Rizzoto
Worship Assistant..... Michelle McCreery
Soprano Solo..... Amanda Mara Rizzotto
Reader Mary Sabatke
Usher..... Linda Nelson

CHURCH OFFICERS

President..... Chanda Olson
Vice President Jennifer Cook
Treasurer Ross Bartels
Secretary Jon Sprain

STAFF

Pastor..... Rev. Dr. Arden D. Haug
Director of Music Dr. Kris Rizzotto
Children's Ministry Director..... Diane LaMere
Seminarian Al Aakre
Office Manager Linda Nelson
Design & Communication Michelle McCreery
Caretakers Sarah and Trevor Skorburg
Custodian Fernando Fierros

CALENDAR

SUNDAY, JANUARY 3	9:30 AM	Worship with Holy Communion.....Sanctuary
MONDAY, JANUARY 4	7:00 PM	AA.....Sanctuary
TUESDAY, JANUARY 5	9:15 AM	Prayer Ministry.....Zoom
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6	10:00 AM	Bible Study.....Zoom
	12:00 PM	Staff Meeting.....Zoom
	4:00 PM	Confirmation.....Zoom
THURSDAY, January 7	7:00 PM	Women's Bible Study.....Zoom
SUNDAY, JANUARY 10	9:30 AM	Worship with Holy Communion.....Sanctuary Baptism of our Lord

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Prayer List

Please keep the following friends & members of our community of faith in your prayers of thanksgiving or for comfort, peace, and healing:



Farrell Bergner; Duane Behrens, father of Diane LaMere; **Brian Krinke**, son of Jean Krinke; **Jim Jodie**, cousin of Carolyn Hagford; **Sam Pederson**, nephew of Jennifer Cook; **Jim Peterson**, brother-in-law of Rick and Suzanne Pepin; **Bruce Payne & Mike Payne**, cousins of Michelle McCreery; **Heluza Ramos**, grandmother of Rebecca Morell, **Deb Benson**, mother of Kayla Hoel; **Trevor Daniel**, prayer request by Cheri Moe; **Peggy Wagner**, friend of the congregation; **Heidi Chadwick**, sister of Cindy Huttner.

Poinsettias

Pointsettias are available for pickup when the church is open now until **January 10th**. Please call ahead to make sure we're in. Paper wrappers are in the Christy Room to protect your plant during transport.



Growlers & Theology

The informal study of theology and *adult beverages* will resume again in January. Following the model of Luther in his home in Wittenberg, Germany, [Pastor Haug](#) leads a twice monthly via Zoom on **January 14th & 28th at 7:00 PM**.

~HAPPY BIRTHDAY!~
Patrick Bracken 1/4 Laura Nortwen 1/6
Naomi Mechels 1/6 Mary Goplen 1/8

Thank You

On behalf of the church staff, we wish to thank you for your Christmas cards, greetings and gifts. They were a generous sign of your warmth and hospitality this season. Thank you as well for your generous gifts to the ministry of this congregation. We were able to end the year in a strong financial position. There are still challenges in regard to personnel for the year ahead but your continued gifts allow us to see a positive and bright future. Thank you.

Pastor Arden Haug

Our Saviour's Housing Meals in 2021

For many years, *Lake of the Isles Lutheran Church* has provided a meal for 40 on the first Friday of every month. Due to COVID 19 restrictions, our monthly meals are provided by donation via check, money order, or online. The shelter orders and serves the meal. Suggested donation is \$250.

Thank you to everyone who has provided a meal for the shelter in 2020!

Thanks to **Dave & Mary Goplen** for providing on **1/1/21 FEB 5: Arden & Janna Haug MAR 5: Linda Nelson**

Please consider providing on...

APR 2	JUL 2	OCT 1
MAY 1	AUG 6	NOV 5
JUN 4	SEP 3	DEC 3

Contact [Cheri Moe](#) or 952-431-5226 to reserve.

Loved Ones In The Military

Please keep all the members and families of the military in your prayers of thanksgiving and protection.



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God's Help, Our Hands

2020 W. Lake of the Isles Parkway

Minneapolis, MN 55405

☒ 612 377-5095 ☒

☒ churchoffice@loti.org ☒ pastor@loti.org ☒

loti.org

Office Hours:

Monday – Thursday 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Friday 9:00 to 12:00 PM