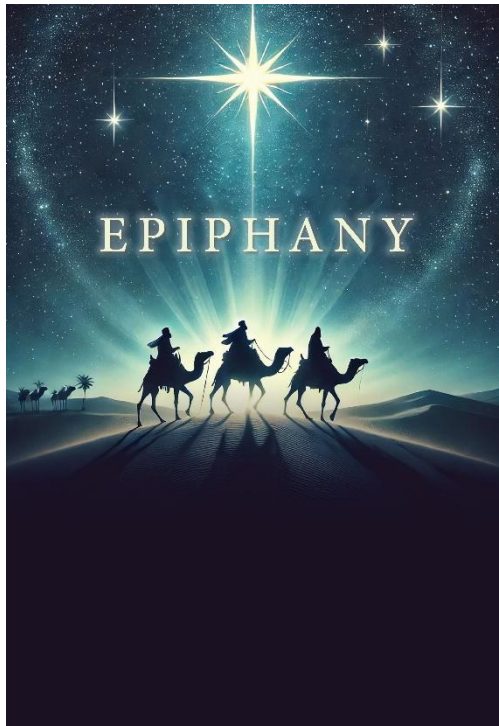


ASCENSION
LUTHERAN CHURCH
Epiphany Sunday



WELCOME To all of you who are visiting our service this morning, we extend a most cordial welcome in Jesus' name. It is our hope that you will feel at home in our midst and will be blessed by our message of Christ crucified and risen for the sins of the world.

If you are looking for a church home or would like to know more about our beliefs and practices, please see the pastor. He will be glad to visit with you at your convenience. Be sure to join us again.



Member of the Church of the Lutheran Confession

4501 Waller Rd E, Tacoma, WA 98443

Tacoma.clclutheran.org

Pastor Jonah Albrecht

(507) 329-2641

jonaalbr@ilc.edu

President Dan Darling

(253) 606-0316

dan@kbeelectric.com

Pre-Service Meditation:

Acts 13:48 ⁴⁸ And when the Gentiles heard this, they began rejoicing and glorifying the word of the Lord, and as many as were appointed to eternal life believed.

Prayer: Dear Lord Jesus Christ, You revealed to the world the light of salvation through Your birth, life, death, and resurrection. That precious Gospel spread throughout the lands, and, by Your grace, it has come even to me. Let that light continue to shine in my heart that I might not shove aside Your Word, but gladly hear and learn it. Through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who rules and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, One God, world without end. Amen.

Service of the Word

Opening Hymn

TLH 120 Help Us, O Lord! Vs. 1-4,6

Invocation

P In the Name of the Father and of the Son
and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Confession and Absolution

P: 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.

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: **who made heaven and earth.**

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C: **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

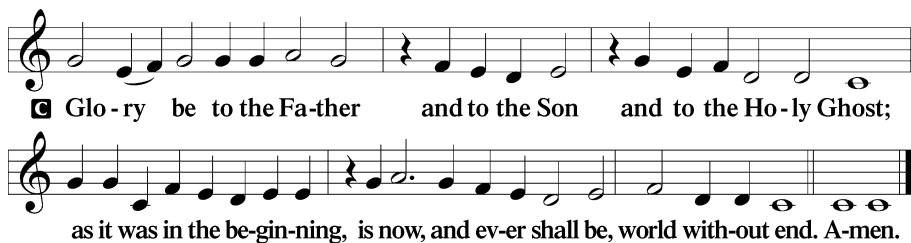
P: Almighty God, our maker and redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C: **O most merciful God, who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

P: Upon this your confession, I, as a called 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.

C: Amen.

Gloria Patri TLH pg 6



Two staves of musical notation in treble clef with a key signature of one flat. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of text, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are: "Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men."

C Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost;
as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Kyrie TLH pg 7



Two staves of musical notation in treble clef with a key signature of one flat. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of text, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are: "Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us."

C Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Hymn of Response: TLH 237

All Glory be to God on high, Who hath mankind befriended!
To us no harm shall now come nigh, The strife at last is ended.
God showeth His good will to men, And peace shall reign on earth
again; Oh, thank Him for His goodness!

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray. . .

. . . through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with
You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Old Testament Lesson:

1 Kings 10:1-9

¹Now when the queen of Sheba heard of the fame of Solomon concerning the name of the LORD, she came to test him with hard questions. ²She came to Jerusalem with a very great retinue, with camels bearing spices and very much gold and precious stones. And when she came to Solomon, she told him all that was on her mind. ³And Solomon answered all her questions; there was nothing hidden

from the king that he could not explain to her. ⁴ And when the queen of Sheba had seen all the wisdom of Solomon, the house that he had built, ⁵ the food of his table, the seating of his officials, and the attendance of his servants, their clothing, his cupbearers, and his burnt offerings that he offered at the house of the LORD, there was no more breath in her. ⁶ And she said to the king, "The report was true that I heard in my own land of your words and of your wisdom, ⁷ but I did not believe the reports until I came and my own eyes had seen it. And behold, the half was not told me. Your wisdom and prosperity surpass the report that I heard. ⁸ Happy are your men! Happy are your servants, who continually stand before you and hear your wisdom! ⁹ Blessed be the LORD your God, who has delighted in you and set you on the throne of Israel! Because the LORD loved Israel forever, he has made you king, that you may execute justice and righteousness."

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 27 [Selected Verses]

- P** The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?
- C** The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?
- P** Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear;
- C** though war arise against me, yet I will be confident.
- P** One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after:
- C** that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life
- P** I believe that I shall look upon the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living!
- C** Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the LORD!

Gospel Lesson

Matthew 2:1-12

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." ³ When 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.

Confession of Faith:

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 is seated at the right
hand of God the Father Almighty. From there 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.**

Hymn: TLH 127 As With Gladness Men of Old

Sermon: Acts 13:44-49

The next Sabbath almost the whole city gathered to hear the word of the Lord. ⁴⁵ But when the Jews saw the crowds, they were filled with jealousy and began to contradict what was spoken by Paul, reviling him. ⁴⁶ And Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly, saying, "It was necessary that the word of God be spoken first to you. Since

you thrust it aside and judge yourselves unworthy of eternal life, behold, we are turning to the Gentiles. ⁴⁷ For so the Lord has commanded us, saying, "I have made you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth." ⁴⁸ And when the Gentiles heard this, they began rejoicing and glorifying the word of the Lord, and as many as were appointed to eternal life believed. ⁴⁹ And the word of the Lord was spreading throughout the whole region.

Epiphany's Light Spreads to the Ends of the Earth

Offertory:

Create in Me ♪♪

Create in me a clean heart O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen

Hymn: TLH 106 The People That in Darkness Sat

Offering of Thankful Hearts

Prayer & Lord's Prayer:

- ☐ 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

Benediction

☐ Amen.

Hymn: TLH 129 Hail, Thou Source of Every Blessing

Silent Prayer

Acknowledgments

Service text and music reprinted and used by permission under One License #A-728019 and Concordia Publishing House, license # 201008341. Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are from *The ESV® Bible copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. All rights Reserved.*

Announcements

Upcoming Events:

- **Church Forum:** January 12th, the whole congregation is invited to a potluck meal where we will be updating everyone on the status of our church. Our annual meeting will follow.
- **Service Time Change:** January 26th, Ascension’s service will be held at 9am to accommodate Redemption’s Annual Meeting.
- **Lay Service:** Lord willing, I’ll be flying back East to spend time with family over January 19th weekend. Our service time will not change, but we will have a lay service. If you need to contact me during that time, please call or text 507-329-2641

‘Call News:

- Pastor George Dummann of Salem Lutheran Church in Eagle Lake, MN **has returned the call** to Faith Lutheran in Manchester, MO
- Pastor Del Mass of Gift of God Lutheran in Mapleton, ND **has returned the call** to St. Stephen Lutheran Church in Mt View, CA.

Fruits of Faith at Ascension:

DATE	NEEDED	RECEIVED
12/8/2024	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1071.00
12/15/2024	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 935.00
12/22&24/2024	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1361.00
12/29/2024	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 765.00

Usher Schedule:

Month:

January

Name:

Jim Hansen

Upcoming Schedule:

Sunday, January 12th Ascension Communion Sunday at 11:30

Sunday January 19th Ascension Lay Service at 11:30

Sunday, January 26th Ascension Sunday Service at 9