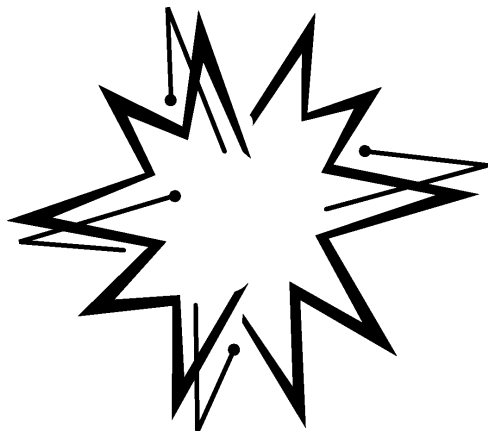


Gustavus Adolphus

LUTHERAN CHURCH

A Reconciling in Christ Congregation



All Are Welcome Here!

Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church proclaims that the Gospel is God's gift to all people, to be shared unconditionally. We rejoice in the manner in which diversity has enriched, nurtured and challenged the life and ministry we share in Christ. We know that the world is often an unloving place and that the experience of alienation is all too common. Because Christ reconciles us, we welcome people of all ages, ethnic backgrounds, sexual orientations, gender identities, physical and mental abilities, educational levels, and socioeconomic backgrounds. We strive to be an evermore welcoming community. Following the example of Christ, we extend a most heartfelt welcome to all.

Our Congregation's Vision Statement

God in Christ loves us; therefore, through the Holy Spirit we will:

Do justice

- We **hope** for our community and all of God's creation
- We feed the poor and comfort the afflicted
- We welcome and **respect** our neighbor and the stranger

Love kindness

- We **love** and care for our congregation and our community
- We practice **forgiveness** locally and globally
- We strive for **compassion** and **acceptance**

Walk humbly with our God

- We find **joy** in creation
- We desire to grow in **spirituality**
- We delight in liturgical worship and creative expression

We are all children of God. Jesus calls us by name. With the Holy Spirit, we seek to live out God's grace.

Epiphany of Our Lord

January 6, 2019

9:30 a.m.

Welcome to Gustavus Adolphus!

If you are a guest today, please fill out the blue slip included in today's bulletin so that we may have a record of your visit with us.

We welcome people of all ages in worship. Activity bags for children are available from the ushers.

We invite you to remain for refreshments and a time of fellowship following worship today.

Please remember to silence all electronic devices.

✝ Please stand as you are able.

Gathering

PRELUDE

Setting, Max Drischner

O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright!

✝ CONFESSON AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
who shines in glory, clothes us in compassion,
and bears gifts of mercy for all.

C Amen.

P Let us confess our sins with confidence in God's promise
of forgiveness. Gracious God,

C **we would like to be among those who saw
the coming of the Christ Child,
those who dropped all that they were doing
and traveled to worship the coming of God's love
into this world.**

**We would like to be those who cared for God
in infant vulnerability;
who nurtured and comforted the growing child,
that he might know love and safety.**

**And yet, merciful God,
we must recognize all the times we are
more like Herod.**

**Whenever we, in our actions or in our inactions,
find our own need for control more compelling
than the needs of others for health and safety.
Whenever we cling to the security of our privilege,
rather than standing up for the rights of the oppressed.
Whenever we are complicit in the harming of innocents
for the sake of profit, or power,
or because we fear to know, and to change,
the injustices of this world.**

**Loving God,
we confess our sins against you and one another,
and pray that you will fill us with your light,
that we may live our lives as true disciples
in your name,
without counting the cost.
In the name of Christ,
the one who showed us the way, we pray. Amen.**

Worship Notes

Numbers marked with the word
"page..." are found in the front
portion of ELW (the red
hardcover hymnal, *Evangelical
Lutheran Worship*) at the bottom
left and right corners of
the page.

Numbers marked with the word
"Hymn..." are found in the back
portion of ELW in the upper left
and right corners of the page.

P God's light is present in this world.
Present in the Christ child, born to lead us out of darkness.
Present in the star, in all that guides us to love.

C **God's light is in the world,
and the darkness did not overcome it.
God's grace is in the world,
and our mis-steps will not overcome it.
We are loved, we are forgiven. Alleluia! Amen.**

✝ GATHERING SONG ELW Hymn 300
The First Noel

✝ 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.**

✝ KYRIE ELW page 147

✝ CANTICLE OF PRAISE ELW page 148
Glory to God in the Highest

✝ PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray. Everlasting God, the radiance of all faithful people, you brought the nations to the brightness of your rising. Fill the world with your glory, and show yourself to all the world through him who is the true light and the bright morning star, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Word

FIRST READING Isaiah 60:1–6

¹Arise, 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.

Introduction to the Day

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.

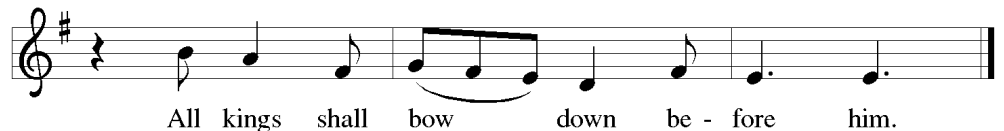
⁴Lift up your eyes and look around;
they all gather together, they come to you;
your sons shall come from far away,
and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms.
⁵Then you shall see and be radiant;
your heart shall thrill and rejoice,
because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to 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.

P Word of God. Word of life.

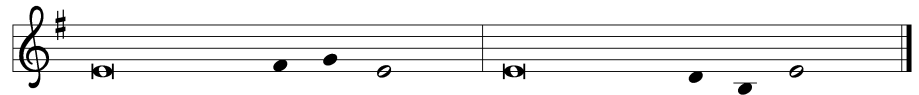
C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 72:1-7, 10-14

*The Choir will sing the refrain one time.
Please join the second time through
and then each time as indicated.*



*We will chant the verses responsively,
Choir/**Congregation**, using the following tone.*



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

- ¹¹May all kings bow | down before him,
and all the nations | do him service.
- ¹²**For the king delivers the poor who cry out | in distress,
the oppressed, and those who | have no helper.**
- ¹³He has compassion on the low- | ly and poor,
and preserves the lives | of the needy.
- ¹⁴**From oppression and violence he re- | deems their lives,
and precious is their blood | in his sight. Refrain**

SECOND READING

Ephesians 3:1–12

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.

☐ Word of God. Word of life.

☑ Thanks be to God.

✝ ACCLAMATION



✝ GOSPEL

Matthew 2:1–12

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

☑ Glory to you, O Lord.



Continuing Prayer Concerns

Joy Anderson;
Sharon & Paul Banitt;
Mary Boatwright;
Peggy Bowman; Charline Burns;
Jean Clausen; Shirley Cropper;
Vi Dorumsgaard; Katie Falang;
Ed Femrite; Joann Femrite;
Ted Femrite; Renae Frasee;
Kara Fraser; Kimberly Garner;
Dawn Jackson; Jeff McQuarrie;
June Mondeng;
Juliana Palmer; Jean Pope;
Jean Rosebrock; Walt Schopf;
Arden & Joyce Swanson;
Vi Tefft; Vesta Todd;
Stephanie Vavrichek;
Marion White; Andrew;
Annette and family; Sveah;
Gretchen; Bre; Winnie; those who
are homebound or in nursing
homes or care centers.

*Our continual prayers are offered
for peace. We pray for all of the
world's governments, leaders,
and peoples, especially for those
who work toward peace.*

*To have someone's name added
to or removed from this list,
contact Phil Holzman.*



Please join us for The Lord's Supper

All are invited to join us in the Lord's Supper. We believe that Christ is present in the bread and wine and that we receive God's grace and forgiveness through this meal. Those adults and children not communing with us are invited to come forward to receive a blessing.

There are gluten-free wafers available for those who need them. Simply indicate this to the communion server.

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.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

I NOTICE..., I WONDER...

SERMON

I HEAR...

✠ HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW Hymn 308

O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright!

Stanza 1 – All Voices

Stanza 4 – All Voices

Stanza 2 – Higher Voices

Stanza 5 – Higher Voices

Stanza 3 – Lower Voices

Stanza 6 – All Voices

✠ NICENE CREED

ELW page 104

✠ PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A On this day when peoples from afar came to worship Jesus the Lord, let our prayer be as wide as the world.

Petitions follow. Each petition ends...

A Let us pray to the Lord:

C **Let the light of Christ shine on all people.**

After the final petition...

P Lord our God, we rejoice that you have become near to us in Jesus your Son. Let him be the light of life now and for ever.

C **Amen.**

✝ PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

Meal

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Senior Choir

What Star Is This, With Beams So Bright? Howard Helvy

✝ OFFERTORY

ELW Hymn 301, Stanzas 1, 2, 3

Bright and Glorious Is the Sky

✝ OFFERING PRAYER

✝ GREAT THANKSGIVING

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...
join their unending hymn...



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

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God's Work. Our Hands
Your gift. Your choice.

Direct – Cash or check donation to the plate.

Online – On our website or by scanning the
QR code below with your smartphone.

Text to Donate – Text 612-235-4476 and
enter an amount (no dollar sign needed);
follow the prompts to complete your
donation.

Give+ App – Search “Give Plus Church” in
your phone’s App store, download, and find
Gustavus Adolphus by Zip Code (55418).



✝ WORDS OF INSTITUTION

✝ LORD'S PRAYER

☑ **Our Father, who art in heaven...**

ELW page 112

INVITATION AND DISTRIBUTION

*We serve communion by intinction. Receive a wafer and dip it
into the larger chalice containing wine or into the smaller
chalice containing grape juice.*

HYMNS DURING DISTRIBUTION

***As with Gladness, Men of Old
In the Bleak Midwinter***

ELW Hymn 302

ELW Hymn 294

✝ PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

☐ Let us pray. God of wonder, in Jesus we behold the light of the
world come near. As you have come among us now, send us
out in joy, hastening to share the good news of your love. We
ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit dwelling
among us now and forever.

☑ **Amen.**

Sending

✝ BLESSING

✝ SENDING SONG

ELW Hymn 303

Brightest and Best of the Stars of the Morning

✝ DISMISSAL

☐ Go in peace. Share the joy of Christ.

☑ **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

Claude Louis Balbastre

Noel with Variations

As always you are invited to remain and share in the postlude.
*This is Phil's annual rendition of this piece that he first played in his
home church in Pennsylvania at age 11.*