



**The Epiphany of Our Lord  
(Observed)  
January 7, A+D 2024**



# St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church

508 N. Chicago Road • Thornton, IL 60476

Voice & Fax: 708-877-6564

Church Mobile: 312-533-1896

[office@splcms.org](mailto:office@splcms.org)

[www.splcms.org](http://www.splcms.org)

[www.facebook.com/splcms](http://www.facebook.com/splcms)

DIVINE SERVICE

Setting 1 – Page 151

Lutheran Service Book

## **The Lord God Is Manifested in the Incarnate Son**

The Feast of the Epiphany centers in the visit of the Magi from the East. In that respect, it is a “thirteenth day” of Christmas, and yet it also marks the beginning of a new liturgical season. Where Christmas has focused on the incarnation of our Lord, that is, on God becoming flesh, the season of Epiphany emphasizes the manifestation or self-revelation of God in that same flesh of Christ. For the Lord Himself has entered our darkness and rises upon us with the brightness of His true light (Is. 60:1–2). He does so chiefly by His Word of the Gospel, which He causes to be preached within His Church on earth, not only to the Jews but also to the Gentiles (Eph. 3:8–10). As the Magi were guided by the promises of Holy Scripture to find and worship the Christ Child with His mother in the house (Matt. 2:5–11), so does He call disciples from all nations by the preaching of His Word to find and worship Him within His Church (Is. 60:3–6).

*Ringing of the Bells*

*Welcome*

## Confession and Absolution

**397 As with Gladness Men of Old**

*Stand*

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

### Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** **Amen.**

### Exhortation

*LSB 151*

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

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

### Confession of Sins

*LSB 151*

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.  
**C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.**

### Absolution

*151*

- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** **Amen.**

# Service of the Word

## Introit

*Psalm 45:6–8a; antiphon: v. 17*

- P** I will cause your name to be remembered in all generations;  
**C** **therefore nations will praise you forever and ever.**  
**P** Your throne, O God, is forever and ever. The scepter of your kingdom is a scepter of uprightness;  
**C** **you have loved righteousness and hated wickedness.**  
**P** Therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions;  
**C** **your robes are all fragrant with myrrh and aloes and cassia.**  
**C** **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.**  
**P** I will cause your name to be remembered in all generations;  
**C** **therefore nations will praise you forever and ever.**

## Kyrie

152

- A** In peace let us pray to the Lord.



- C** Lord, have mer - cy.

- A** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



- C** Lord, have mer - cy.

- A** 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.



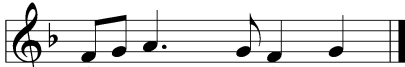
- C** Lord, have mer - cy.

- A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

- A** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



**C** A - men.

### This Is the Feast

LSB 155



**C** 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  
 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and  
 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and  
 4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to  
 5 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*  
 hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*  
 join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *Stanza 4*  
 God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*  
 gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*

*Final Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-tory for our God.

Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

### Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And al - so with you.

**P** Let us pray.

O God, by the leading of a star You made known Your only-begotten Son to the Gentiles. Lead us, who know You by faith, to enjoy in heaven the fullness of Your divine presence; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** A - men.

*Sit*

### Old Testament Reading

*Isaiah 60:1–6*

**A** The Old Testament Reading for The Epiphany of Our Lord is from the sixtieth chapter of the prophecy of Isaiah.

<sup>1</sup>Arise, shine, for your light has come,  
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

<sup>2</sup>For behold, darkness shall cover the earth,  
and thick darkness the peoples;  
but the LORD will arise upon you,

and his glory will be seen upon you.  
<sup>3</sup>And nations shall come to your light,  
 and kings to the brightness of your rising.  
<sup>4</sup>Lift up your eyes all around, and see;  
 they all gather together, they come to you;  
 your sons shall come from afar,  
 and your daughters shall be carried on the hip.  
<sup>5</sup>Then you shall see and be radiant;  
 your heart shall thrill and exult,  
 because the abundance of the sea shall be turned 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 bring good news, the praises of the LORD.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## Epistle

*Ephesians 3:1–12*

**A** The Second Reading is from the third chapter of the Epistle of St. Paul to the Ephesians.

<sup>1</sup>For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles— <sup>2</sup>assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God's

grace that was given to me for you, <sup>3</sup>how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. <sup>4</sup>When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, <sup>5</sup>which was not made known to the sons of men in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit. <sup>6</sup>This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

<sup>7</sup>Of this gospel I was made a minister according to the gift of God's grace, which was given me by the working of his power. <sup>8</sup>To me, though

I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, <sup>9</sup>and to bring to light for everyone 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 manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. <sup>11</sup>This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, <sup>12</sup>in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

**Alleluia and Verse**

*LSB 156*



**C** Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

**Holy Gospel**

*Matthew 2:1–12*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the second chapter.



**C** Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup>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." <sup>3</sup>When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; <sup>4</sup>and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. <sup>5</sup>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.””

7Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. 8And 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.” 9After 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. 10When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. 11And 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. 12And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

*Sit*

### **We Three Kings of Orient Are**

1 We three kings of Orient are;  
Bearing gifts we traverse afar,  
Field and fountain, moor and mountain,  
Following yonder star.

Chorus:

O star of wonder, star of night,  
Star with royal beauty bright,  
Westward leading, still proceeding,  
Guide us to thy perfect light.

- 2 Born a King on Bethlehem's plain  
Gold I bring to crown Him again,  
King forever, ceasing never,  
Over us all to reign.

*Chorus*

- 3 Frankincense to offer have I;  
Incense owns a Deity nigh;  
Prayer and praising, voices raising,  
Worshipping God on high.

*Chorus*

- 4 Myrrh is mine, its bitter perfume  
Breathes a life of gathering gloom;  
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,  
Sealed in the stone cold tomb.

*Chorus*

- 5 Glorious now behold Him arise;  
King and God and sacrifice;  
Alleluia, Alleluia,  
Peals through the earth and skies.

*Chorus*

## Sermon

*Stand*

## Apostles' Creed

159

- ☩ 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.**

*Sit*

### **Gathering of Tithes & Offerings**

*If you are submitting a prayer request on a prayer card, kindly hand it directly to the usher. Do not place it into the offering plate.*

*Stand*

### **955 Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful**

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, And fill to the brim our  
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were  
sown, That we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the  
hopes and the dreams of all; U - nite them with the prayers we  
of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with Your pres - ence, and  
give us A fore - taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-80

Tune: Richard W. Hillert, 1923-2010

Text and tune: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001510

### **Prayer of the Church**

159

- P** ... Lord, in Your mercy,  
**C** hear our prayer.

# Service of the Sacrament

## Preface

160

**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And al - so 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 Him thanks and praise.

## Proper Preface (Full)

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

## Sanctus

LSB 161



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:

Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo-ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -  
 san-na. 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.

### Prayer of Thanksgiving

*LSB 161*

- P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

- C** **Amen.**

### Lord's Prayer

162

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

## The Words of Our Lord

- P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My  $\text{✠}$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My  $\text{✠}$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## Pax Domini

LSB 163

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.



**C** A - men.

## Agnus Dei

LSB 163

**C** 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.

*Sit*

## Distribution of Christ's Body and Blood

*Members of other Christian denominations who are present may come forward to receive a blessing from the Pastor during the distribution. It is requested that you cross your arms over your chest to indicate that you desire this blessing.*

**Silent Prayer Before Communing:** *Dear Savior, at your gracious invitation, I come to Your table to eat and drink Your holy body and blood. Let me find favor in Your eyes to receive this holy Sacrament in faith for the salvation of my soul and to the glory of Your holy name; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

**Silent Prayer After Communing:** *Almighty and everlasting God, I thank and praise You for feeding me the life-giving body and blood of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Send your Holy Spirit that, having with my mouth received the holy Sacrament. I may by faith obtain and eternally enjoy Your divine grace the forgiveness of sins unity with Christ, and life eternal; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.*

## 394 Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

### 650 Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling

*Stand*

#### The Communion Dismissal

**P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart  $\text{✠}$  in peace.

**C** Amen.

#### Thank the Lord

LSB 164



**C** Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear His name.

He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy  
with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia.

### Post-Communion Collect

**A** Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** A - men.

### Benediction

166

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**C** A - men.

### 388 Go Tell It on the Mountain

*Silent Prayer*

*Announcements*

### Acknowledgments

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Prayer of the church is adapted from "Let us Pray" a service of the Commission on Worship of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.





# The Glad Spirit St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church

January 7, 2024

## REMEMBER IN PRAYER

### ST. PAUL'S FAMILY

Barry & Karen Diekelman  
Judy Diekelman  
Kurt Diekelman  
Kristen Dunne, Family Paisley, Olive  
Lisa Durkin  
Nicholas Durkin  
Lucas Durkin

### BIRTHDAYS

Oliver Gribbin, 1/8

### BAPTISM ANNIVERSARIES

Coral Middleton, 1/13

### SPECIAL CONCERNS

**Pray for** Diane Akers, Norma Allen, Janice Abel, Sondra Budde, Jay Carey, Carmen Dampier, Judy Diekleman, Latricia Harris, Ed Hoeksema Jr., Chester Orendorff, Violet Rich, Dolly Tagenhorst, Warren Van Mynen, Gene Wiltjer, Ray Zander.

**Serving in the Military** – Austin Brandy, James Fluechtling, Nathan Lopez, and Robert Wisely.

**Serving as First Responders** – David Allen, Dave Bloom, Nathan Conway, Brianne Giba, Melanie Hudson, Brian Orth, Dana Tatgenhorst, Taylor VanDommelen and Dan Zander.



## NEWS UPDATE

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Dear St. Paul Friends, With my greetings and love in Christ! What a delight to be with you on Christmas Eve with song, Word, Sacrament laughter and the lighting of the candle and placing of the baby Jesus... in the “front yard.” That was memorable and for all your kindness I thank you! You have a special place in my heart! –Pastor Allan Buss.

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St. Paul Book Club will meet Wednesday January 10, to review *The Discovery* by Dan Walsh. We usually meet at 10am on the second Wednesday of the month and always welcome new members. Book Club is in person and thru FB chat. Please let Deb know in advance so she can link you in.

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**Christ For You this week on KFUE.org:** Blessed Epiphany! Begin studying 2 Corinthians on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT), begin a new series on the history of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod with Dr. Cameron Mackenzie on The Coffee Hour (1/10 at 9:00 a.m. CT), and begin studying Ephesians on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT). Find your favorite programs on demand at kfuo.org and the KFUE Radio app!

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**Unanswered Bible Questions...** Issues, Etc., a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio, will have Pastors Bryan Wolfmueller and Brian Kachelmeier respond to your unanswered Bible questions. You can submit your question via email: talkback@issuesetc.org, Facebook: facebook.com/issuesetc, or the Issues, Etc. Comment Line: (618) 223-8382. You can listen to the interview at your convenience at issuesetc.org, the LPR mobile app and your favorite podcast provider.

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**We’d love to see** you in worship. Our worship services are every Sunday at 9:30 AM. If you are unable to attend it can be viewed on Facebook live at <https://www.facebook.com/splcms/videos>. A previous recording is also available. Bulletins for the services are available for viewing or download on our website at <https://www.splcms.org/worship>.

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“What is it that is essential for your life this New Year? What gifts do you cherish? Certainly, Jesus is the most precious gift we have! Let Him shine through your whole life this year. Take Him with you everywhere. Remember whose family you belong to! Cling to Jesus, our Father’s Son this New Year! Our Father goes with you and promises His blessings,

now and forever!” Rev. Darren Green, St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church, Redwood Falls, Minnesota – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org)

## The Visit of the Magi

On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh.  
Matthew 2:11 (NIV)



Y W A Y L X P H C H H M Q D H  
 K N N T Y I G R Q V O E G M B  
 W I U A W C N N I R U W R Y R  
 O V N R T E A C H E R S R O G  
 R W Q G X T R V E K S A O M D  
 S O M C H R I S T N M T E K E  
 H R O V B G H V L M S H S O H  
 I S T Y L O O U G I E E H C Q  
 P H H U A D U O B L E B R Y J  
 E I E Y Z V S E H N M A G I D  
 D P R O N Y E T V A E G H L Q  
 G B O R N H E E A S T R I B T  
 T P B K F B G A V E R H W C E  
 P M W I C I N E J Y C S T A R  
 M M B Q D D L V M V T X L X Y

PRIESTS	MYRRH	BETHLEHEM	KING	CHRIST
GOD	CHILD	HOUSE	INCENSE	MARY
STAR	MAGI	TEACHERS	WORSHIP	MOTHER
WORSHIPED	EAST	SEARCH	BORN	HEROD

# GOD'S PEOPLE IN ACTION

## ATTENDANCE AND OFFERINGS



December 24<sup>th</sup> 6:00 pm Attendance 48, 30 Communed

December 31<sup>st</sup> Attendance 19, 19 Communed

Basket	\$529.00	Weekly Missions	40.00
Envelopes	3,145.00	Luth. Church Charity	10.00
Christmas	210.00	Church Maint	10.00
Christmas Eve	362.00	Social Ministry	125.00
<b>Budgeted Total</b>	<b>4,246.00</b>	<b>Non-budgeted Total</b>	<b>\$185.00</b>
Offering Needed	1,233.00		
	<b>\$3,013.00</b>		



## THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Today	9:30 am	Worship Service
	10:30 am	Epiphany Brunch
Monday		
Tuesday		
Wednesday	10:00 am	Book Club
Thursday		
Friday		
Saturday		
Sunday	9:30 am	Worship Service
	10:30 am	Coffee &...
	10:45 am	Council

## SERVANT SCHEDULE

	<b>Sun, Jan 7, 9:30 AM</b>	<b>Sun, Jan 14, 9:30 AM</b>
Pastor	Pastor Dobberstein	Pastor Fluechtling
Usher	Louis Sella	Bill Sommer
Lay Reader		Norma Allen

## DONATIONS



FOOD PANTRY



GENERAL FUND