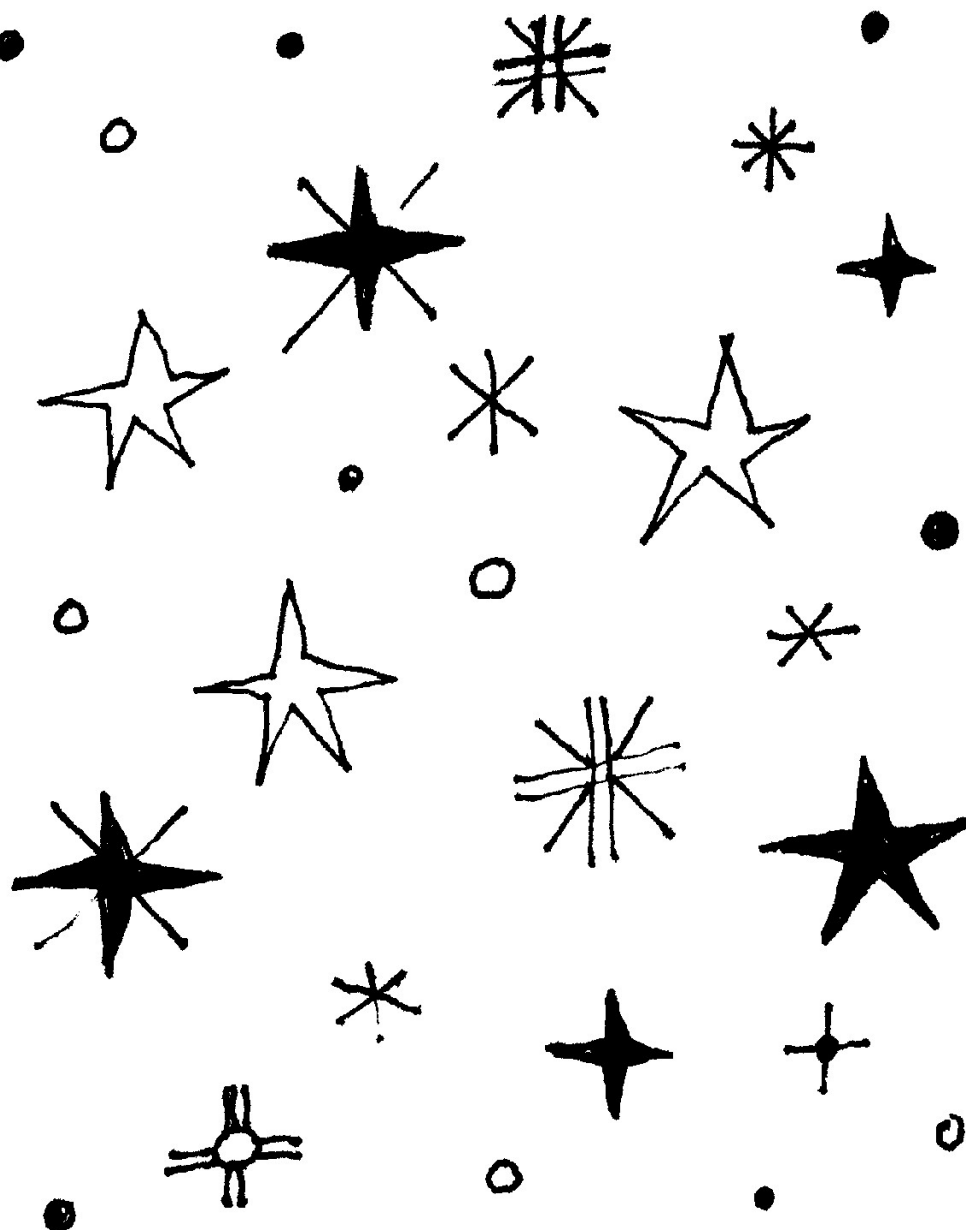


Welcome to
Luther Memorial Church
of the Erie Lutheran Parish



5 JANUARY 2025
The Epiphany, *transferred*
10:30 am

LUTHER MEMORIAL CHURCH

LUTHER MEMORIAL ACADEMY

225 West Tenth Street • Erie, PA 16501 • 814-454-0106

REV. JAY C. MITCHELL, *Pastor*

BRYAN TIMM, F.A.I.O.

Cantor

RON KING

Pastoral Asst. ~ Holy Trinity

THE REV. KAREN LUNDWALL, THE REV. BRIAN MORAN

THE REV. KAREN PARSH, THE REV. GAIL ZACKRISON

Pastors in Residence

MICHELLE THOM

Academy Administrator

BETH KELLER

SARAH PRYLINSKI

Youth and Family Ministry

JAN MACINNES

Care Ministry

WELCOME!

THIS IS THE DAY THE LORD HAS MADE!

TOGETHER WE WILL REJOICE AND BE GLAD IN IT!

- + Everything you need to follow along in worship is included in this bulletin. You are invited to stand and sit—as you are able—as indicated herein.
- + If you have a need to **children**'s bulletins, coloring pages, crayons, or other supplies they are available on the Welcome Table. You can proceed out the door next to the pulpit and find the Welcome Table near the door.
 - Children are always welcome in worship and together we make a joyful noise! However, if you have need, a staffed nursery is available down the stairs across from the Welcome Table.
- + An all-gender and accessible **restroom** is available out the door next to the pulpit, up the ramp, and to the right. Follow signs for "Handicap Bathroom." Other restrooms are available down the hallway next to Faith Chapel across from the parlor.
- + You do not need to turn off or disconnect here! However, please be mindful of those worshipping around you and turn your phones and devices to silent. Feel free to take pictures of our beautiful sanctuary or post about the sermon. However, we ask that you ask permission before taking any people pictures.
- + We welcome all to worship and to the Table trusting that it is the Holy Spirit that draws us all together. If you would like information about joining the congregation or receiving the Sacraments of the Church, be sure to talk to Pastor Jay after worship (you can usually find him next to the pulpit after the service).

5 JANUARY 2025
THE EPIPHANY, *TRANSFERRED*
Holy Communion • 10:30

GATHERING – “The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.”

PRELUDE – “Noel X, *Grand Jeu et Duo*”

L. Daquin

Please stand as you are able as we gather with song.

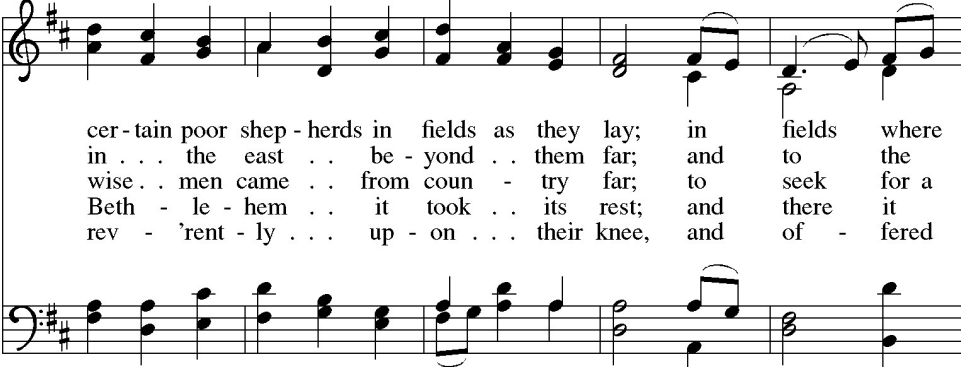
GATHERING HYMN

ELW 300

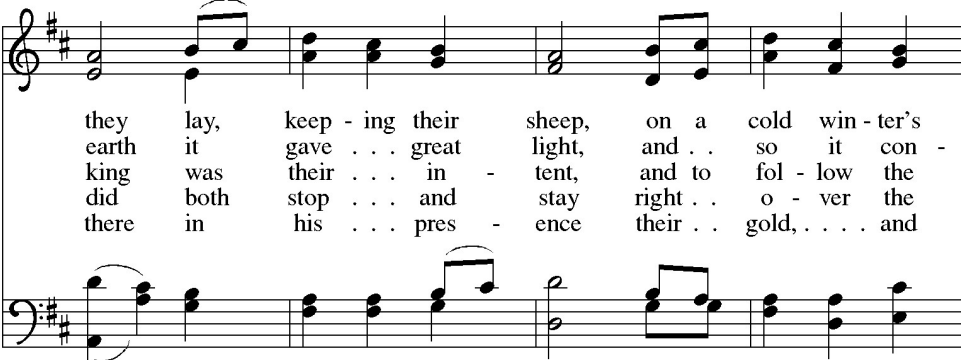
The First Noel



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

Refrain

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; arr. John Stainer, 1840-1901

GREETING

- P** We have seen the star!
- C** **And have come to worship!**
- P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C** **And also with you.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

ELW 308

O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright!

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
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
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

Almighty and ever-living God, you revealed the incarnation of your Son by the brilliant shining of a star. Shine the light of your justice always in our hearts and over all lands, and accept our lives as the treasure we offer in your praise and for your service, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Please be seated.

MESSAGE FOR THE YOUNG AND YOUNG-AT-HEART

WORD – “*God speaks to us in Scripture reading, preaching and song.*”

FIRST READING: Isaiah 60:1-6

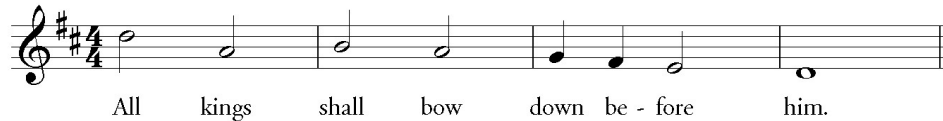
¹Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. ²For darkness shall cover the earth and thick darkness the peoples, but the Lord will arise upon you, and the glory of the Lord will appear over you. ³Nations shall come to your light and rulers to the brightness of 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 in 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.

L The Word is made flesh.

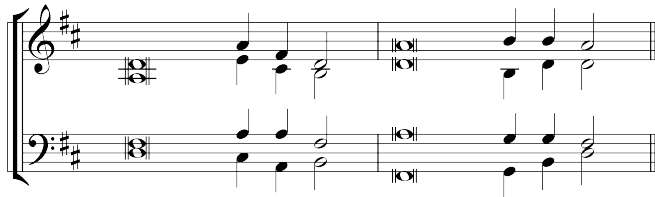
C Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14

Antiphon: (*Sung once by the choir, then repeated by the congregation and sung where indicated.*)



Tone:



¹Give the king your [justice] O God,
and your righteousness [to the] king's son;

**²that he may rule your [peo]-ple righteously
and the [poor] with justice;**

³that the mountains may bring prosperity [to] the people,
and the [hills] in righteousness.

**⁴Let him defend the needy a-[mong] the people,
rescue the poor, ... and [crush the] oppressor. *Antiphon***

⁵May he live as long as the sun and [moon] endure,
from one generation [to] another.

**⁶Let him come down like rain upon the [mown] field,
like showers that [water] the earth.**

⁷In his time may the [right]-eous flourish;
and let there be an abundance of peace ...
till the moon shall [be] no more.

**¹⁰May the kings of Tarshish and of the [isles] pay tribute,
and the kings of Sheba and Seba [of]-fer gifts. *Antiphon***

¹¹May all kings bow [down] before him,
and all the nations [do] him service.

**¹²For the king delivers the poor who cry [out in] distress,
the oppressed, ... and those who [have] no helper.**

¹³He has compassion on the [lowly] and poor,
and preserves the [lives of] the needy.

**¹⁴From oppression and violence he re-[deems] their lives,
and precious is their [blood in] his sight. *Antiphon***

SECOND READING: Ephesians 3:1-2

¹ This 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 heirs with us, 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 God's 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

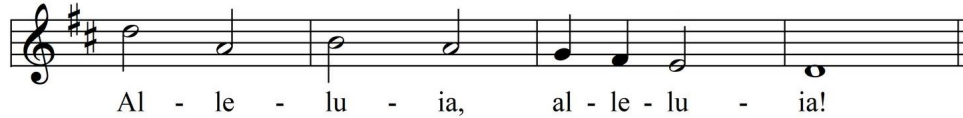
eternal purpose that God has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹²through faith in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence.

☐ The Word is made flesh.

☑ Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



We have observed his star at its rising, and have come to worship him.

GOSPEL: Matthew 2:1-23

☐ The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

☑ Glory to you, O Lord.

^{2:1}In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, magi from the east came to Jerusalem, ²asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star in the east 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 magi 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 in the east, 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. ¹³Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.” ¹⁴Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt ¹⁵and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, “Out of Egypt I have called my son.”

¹⁶When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the magi, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the magi. ¹⁷Then what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled:

¹⁸“A voice was heard in Ramah,
wailing and loud lamentation,
Rachel weeping for her children;
she refused to be consoled, because they are no more.”

¹⁹When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, ²⁰“Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child’s life are dead.”

²¹Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. ²²But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. ²³There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, “He will be called a Nazarene.”

☐ The Gospel of the Lord.

☑ Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

SERMON

Pastor Jay

Please stand as you are able to proclaim the Word of God in song. During the singing, you may bring forward you magi and place them around the creche.

HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW 295

Of the Father's Love Begotten



1 Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten ere the worlds be -
2 Oh, that birth for - ev - er bless - ed, when the vir - gin,
3 This is he whom seers in old time chant - ed of with
4 Let the heights of heav'n a - dore him; an - gel hosts, his
5 Christ, to thee, with God the Fa - ther, and, O Ho - ly



gan to be, he is Al - pha and O - me - ga,
full of grace, by the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing,
one ac - cord, whom the voic - es of the proph - ets
prais - es sing; pow'rs, do - min - ions, bow be - fore him
Ghost, to thee, hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing



he the source, the end - ing he, of the things that are, that
bore the Sav - ior of our race, and the babe, the world's re -
prom - ised in their faith - ful word; now he shines, the long - ex -
and ex - tol our God and King; let no tongue on earth be
and un - wea - ried prais - es be: hon - or, glo - ry, and do -



have deem - been, and that fu - ture years shall see,
pect - er, first re - vealed his sa - cred face,
si - ed; let cre - a - tion praise its Lord
min - lent, ev - 'ry voice in con - cert ring
ion, and e - ter - nal vic - to - ry



ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
ev - er - more and ev - er - more! A - men.

You may be seated.

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE MOVEABLE FEASTS

☐ Know, dear siblings, that, as we have rejoiced at the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ, so by leave of God's mercy we announce to you also the joy of his Resurrection, who is our Savior:

On the fifth day of March will fall Ash Wednesday, and the beginning of the great fast of Lent.

On the seventeenth day of April we will gather around this Table for the celebration of Maundy Thursday and our annual commemoration of the institution of Our Lord's Supper and his command to love one another with servant-like love.

On the eighteenth day of April will fall Good Friday, and the contemplation of our Lord's merciful Passion.

On the nineteenth day of April, we will gather for the Great Vigil of Easter and the recitation of our Salvation History.

On the twentieth day of April we will celebrate with joy Easter Day, the Paschal feast of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the commencement of the Week of Sundays, the Great Feast of Eastertide.

On the twenty-ninth day of May will fall the Ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ.

On the eighth day of June, the Great feast of Pentecost, and the celebration of the birth of the Church catholic.

On the fifteenth day of May, the Feast of the Holy Trinity, and the contemplation of the great mystery of the Godhead.

The twenty-third day of November will see the conclusion of this liturgical year as we celebrate the feast of Christ Jesus, Sovereign of the Universe.

And on the thirtieth day of November, we will begin the Church year again with the celebration of the First Sunday of Advent.

To Jesus Christ who was and is and is to come the ruler of time be all honor and glory forever.

☑ **Amen.**

THE PRAYERS

You may remain seated for the prayers.

☐ Filled with good news of great joy, let us offer our prayers for the church, the earth, and all people.

A brief silence.

☐ O God, you reveal yourself in this assembly. In water, wine, and bread, show us again and again your grace upon grace, that your church boldly testifies to your love. God of grace,

☑ **receive our prayer.**

☐ You reveal yourself in creation. In seedlings and planets, microorganisms and galaxies, awaken us to the cry of the earth. As you nourish your people like a watered garden, empower us to nourish our creaturely companions. God of grace,

☑ **receive our prayer.**

☐ You reveal yourself in every land and in the farthest parts of the earth. Deliver peoples who suffer under oppressive regimes. Thwart the foolish plans of unjust leaders. Give wisdom to our elected officials. God of grace,

☑ **receive our prayer.**

☐ You reveal yourself in every human being. Help us recognize your image in our siblings in Christ who are in the strong grip of addiction, depression, anxiety, hopelessness, or other illness. Grant us compassion in our care for your people. God of grace,

☑ **receive our prayer.**

- A** You reveal yourself anew every day. In this new year, renew this congregation and its ministries in our witness to the good news of the incarnation. Transform the way we have always done things into your new future for us. God of grace,
- C** receive our prayer.
- A** You reveal yourself in the lives of your holy ones. We give you thanks for those who set their hope on you, trusting the inheritance we receive in you. God of grace,
- C** receive our prayer.
- A** We commend these prayers to you, O God, trusting your grace made known to all, through the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C** Amen.

Please stand as you are able.

THE PEACE

- P** The peace of the Christ Child be with you.
- C** And also with you.

We share signs and gestures of peace with one another. Please be mindful of others' comfort with touch. After, please be seated.

MEAL – “God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.”

THE OFFERING IS RECEIVED



An offering is received for the ministry of the church. Our offering at Luther Memorial supports our ministry locally, as well as that of the Northwestern Pennsylvania Synod and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. You may make your checks payable to Luther Memorial Church. Additionally, you may visit <https://bit.ly/LMCDonate> or scan the QR Code and scroll to the bottom of the page to give electronically.

VOLUNTARY – "Es ist ein Ros"

J. Leavitt

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERTORY

O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright!

ELW 308

Oh, let the harps break forth in sound! Our joy be all with mu-sic crowned,
 Our voic - es gai - ly blend - ing! For Christ goes with us all the way,
 To-day, to-mor - row, ev' - ry day! His love is ne - ver end - ing!
 Sing out! Ring out! Ju - bi - la - tion! Ex - ul - ta - tion!
 Tell the sto - ry! Praise to Christ, who reigns in glo - ry!

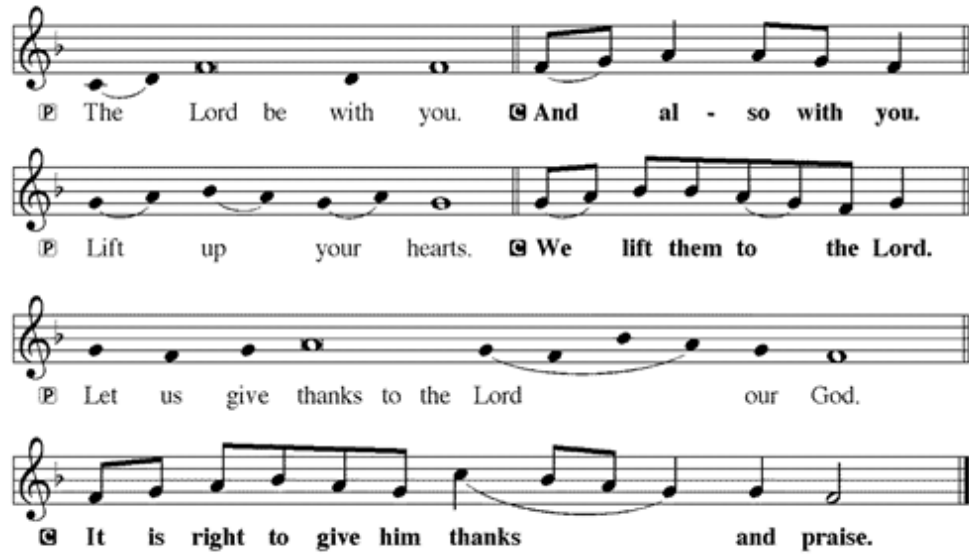
Text: Philipp Nicolai, 1556-1608
 Music: WIE SCHÖN LEUCHTET, Philipp Nicolai, 1556-1608

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A Let us pray. God of heaven and earth, from the beginning, you have called forth life, in which you take delight. The trees, the fields, and the seas sing for joy. Bless now these gifts, received from your bounty, that we may join the chorus of creation to tell of your salvation from day to day.

C Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING DIALOG



P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.

P Lift up your hearts. **C** We lift them to the Lord.

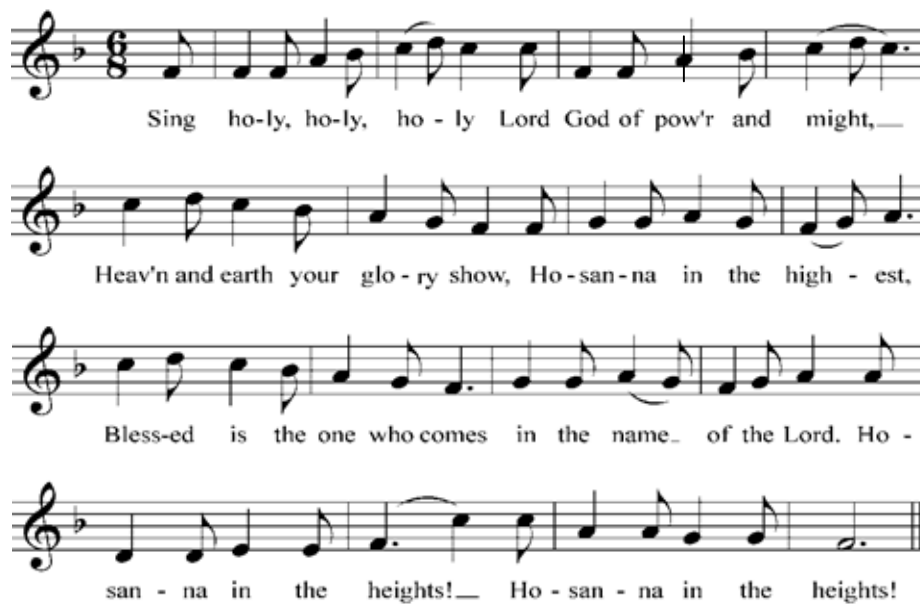
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

P *It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy...join their unending hymn:*

SANCTUS



Sing ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly Lord God of pow'r and might, —

Heav'n and earth your glo - ry show, Ho - san - na in the high - est,

Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name_ of the Lord. Ho -

san - na in the heights!_ Ho - san - na in the heights!

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

- Ⓟ Almighty Lord, we praise your shining light, your glowing grace. From before the earth's foundation, you loved us and promised us life forever. Within the earth's deep sadness, we laud your great and glorious might. Despite our tears and sinning, we sing of the gladness of your mercy.
- Ⓟ We praise your Son, our Morning Star. Christ is our diamond bright, our treasure dear. He is our living Savior who has ransomed us in love. He keeps us yours and fails us never—today, tomorrow, every day.

*On the night before his great salvation,
he 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.*

- Ⓟ With joy we tell our story:
Alleluia!
- Ⓟ We call for your Spirit on us and this meal. Refresh our souls with this heavenly food, the body and blood of your Son. Nourish us as branches of your tree, and enlighten us with your undying flame.
- Ⓟ We sing out to the Father, we ring out to the Son, we exult in the Spirit. Transport us in our yearning, and be for us the end and the beginning, our purest pleasure, our victorious crown, our never-ending love. And so we pray and praise
- ☪ **Amen!**

LORD'S PRAYER

- Ⓟ Lord, remember us in your sovereignty 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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

- Ⓟ A child has been born for us, a Son given to us. Come, receive the gift of Jesus.
- Ⓟ Those communing at home: take, eat, drink: the body and blood of Christ for you.

The congregation is seated.

THE COMMUNION

*This is Christ's Table and all Christians are welcome to the feast!
We believe that this is the Body and Blood of Christ for you.*

Please come forward from both sides by the center aisle.

Take a small empty cup from the trays at the head of the center aisle.

White grape juice is in pre-filled cups for those who cannot have alcoholized wine.

*Baked bread is being used. For those who so desire, gluten-free wafers are available;
please let the pastor know.*

Receive the bread in your open palm, then hold your cup steady for the assisting minister to fill.

As you return by the side aisles, please place your empty cup in the tray.

*All are invited to the Meal. If you would like to participate but not to receive the bread and wine,
please cross your arms in front of you for a blessing from the pastor.*

HYMNS DURING THE COMMUNION

ELW 314

Arise, Your Light Has Come!

1 A - rise, your light has come! The Spir - it's call o - bey;
2 A - rise, your light has come! Fling wide the pris - on door;
3 A - rise, your light has come! All you in sor - row born,
4 A - rise, your light has come! The moun - tains burst in song!

show forth the glo - ry of your God which shines on you to - day.
pro - claim the cap - tive's lib - er - ty, good tid - ings to the poor.
bind up the bro - ken - heart - ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.
Rise up like ea - gles on the wing, God's pow'r will make us strong.

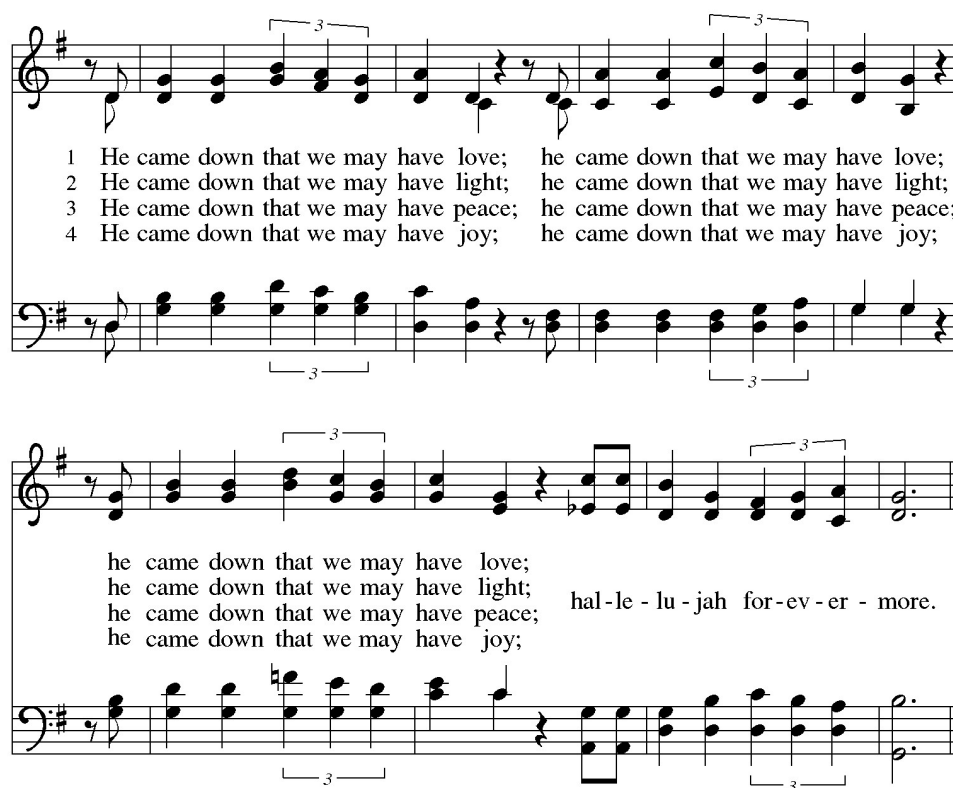
Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1825-1893

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He Came Down



1 He came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love;
 2 He came down that we may have light; he came down that we may have light;
 3 He came down that we may have peace; he came down that we may have peace;
 4 He came down that we may have joy; he came down that we may have joy;

he came down that we may have love;
 he came down that we may have light; hal-le-lu-jah for-ev-er-more.
 he came down that we may have peace;
 he came down that we may have joy;

Text: Cameroon traditional
 Music: HE CAME DOWN, Cameroon traditional; arr. John L. Bell, b. 1949
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TABLE BLESSING

- P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ...and bring you to everlasting life.
C Amen.

SENDING OF HOLY COMMUNION

- P** O God, whose grace and truth are revealed in the Word-made-flesh, bless those who go forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are not able to join in our celebration. Nourish and strengthen those who receive this holy communion, that through the body and blood of your Son all may rejoice at his birth and in his presence among us now and forever.
- P** We send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that the Meal we have shared here may be extended for our siblings who are not here.
- C** We who are many are one body in Christ, sharing one bread, one cup. Amen.

O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright!

What joy to know, when life is past, the Lord we love is first and last,
 the end and the be-gin - ning! He will one day, oh, glor-ious grace,
 trans-port us to that hap-py place be-yond all tears and sin - ning!
 A - men! A - men! Come, Lord Je - sus! Crown of glad - ness!
 We are yearn-ing for the day of your re - turn - ing.

Text: Philipp Nicolai, 1556-1608
 Music: WIE SCHÖN LEUCHTET, Philipp Nicolai, 1556-1608

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

- A** Let us pray. Merciful God, we thank you for Jesus, who is our heavenly food. Strengthened by this goodness, send us forth to announce your peace, comfort the afflicted, and share the good news of great joy.
- C** Amen.

SENDING – “God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.”

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand as you are able.

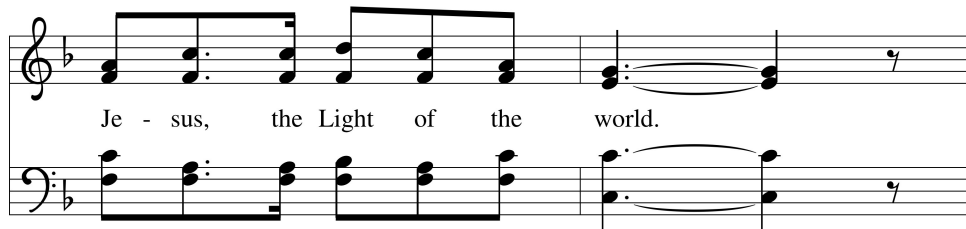
BLESSING

- P** ... now and forever.
- C** Amen.

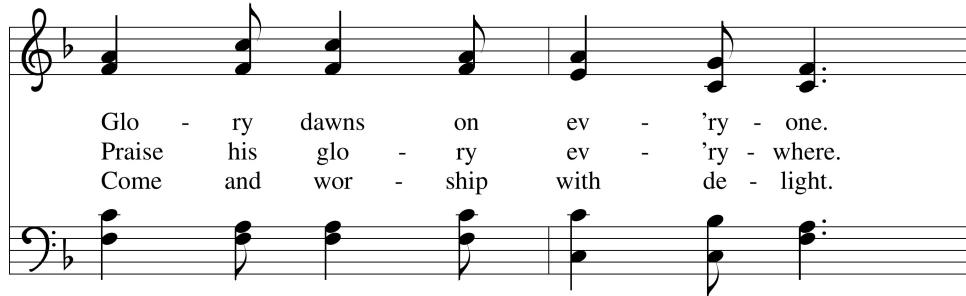
SENDING HYMN

Rise Up! Shine!

1 Rise up! Shine! Your light has come.
 2 Bring him gold and spic - es rare.
 3 We have seen his star so bright.



Je - sus, the Light of the world.



Glo - ry dawns on ev - 'ry - one.
Praise his glo - ry ev - 'ry - where.
Come and wor - ship with de - light.

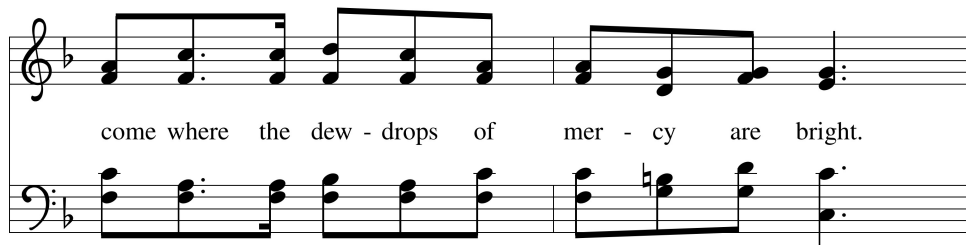


Je - sus, the Light of the world.

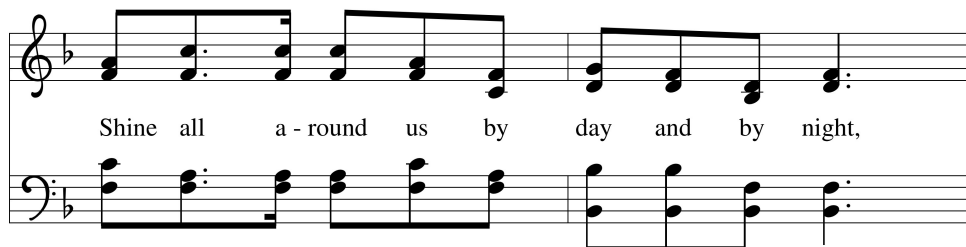
Refrain



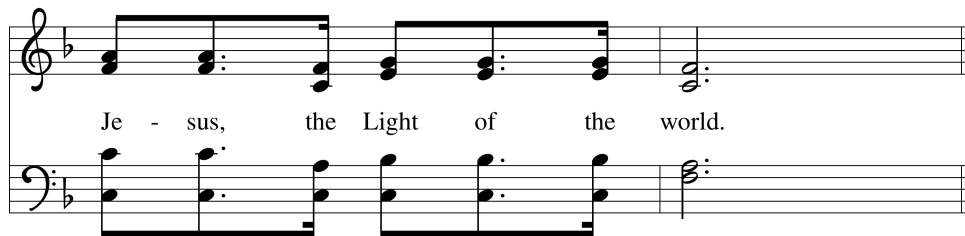
We'll walk in the light, beau - ti - ful light,



come where the dew - drops of mer - cy are bright.



Shine all a - round us by day and by night,



Text: Isaiah 60:1, 6; Matthew 2:2, para. Daniel Schwandt; George D. Elderkin, refrain
Music: WE'LL WALK IN THE LIGHT, traditional, arr. George D. Elderkin, alt.
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DISMISSAL INTO THE WORLD FOR SERVICE

- A** We have seen the star!
- C** And go forth to tell the world!
- A** Go in peace. Tell the good news!
- C** Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE – "As With Gladness Men of Old (Dix)"

W. Wold

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— SERVING TODAY —

PRESIDING MINISTER – Pastor Jay Mitchell

ACOLYTE – Jessica Copfer

ASSISTING MINISTER – Kate Martin

COMMUNION ASSISTANT – Jeanne Gaber

LECTOR – Linda Melaragno

MAGI BEARERS – Elijah, Ezra & Noah Montroy, Cecilia & Madeline Ulrich

ALTAR GUILD – Martha & Tom Klomp

USHERS – Diane & Bob Banks, Eric Hedlund, Jonathan Ulrich

VIDEO STREAMING – John Bartlett



Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and in honor of our children and grandchildren by Cindy and Eric Hedlund.

Today's Events

"De-decking" our church will take place following services this morning. Please set aside some time after service to help remove ornaments from our trees and begin the new year. Thank you.

Offering envelopes for 2025 are located on the table by the ramp door. To save on postage we ask that you please pick up your envelopes. They are arranged alphabetically. Thank you.

Desk calendars for 2025, compliments of the Burton Quinn-Scott Funeral Home, are located at the welcome tables. Please pick up as many as you need for the coming year.

Greeting cards can be found in the information rack located near the parlor area. A large variety of cards that will fit every occasion are available. Youth are offering these cards for \$1 each or 6 for \$5. Proceeds will benefit our youth.

Worship Matters!

Twelfth Night is tonight! While it can be debated whether tomorrow, The Epiphany of Our Lord, is the end of the 12 Days of Christmas or the beginning of the next seasons, what we realize is that this celebration opens the good news of God in the World through Jesus to all people. By the revelation of a star, the Great Morning Star is known to all the world and not just to some shepherds in Bethlehem. The season which follows—the Season after the Epiphany—begins and ends with two feasts that again reveal Jesus as the beloved Child of God. In this season, we take inspiration from all those who encounter Jesus—whether the Christ Child in the manger, the boy on his mother’s lap in Bethlehem, the boy-child in the Temple, or the man on a mission who is baptized by his cousin before his ministry begins—and go forth from our encounter with Jesus here to proclaim the good news in the world.

The Epiphany, celebrated on January 6 each year is the last of the Major Feasts of the Church with an immovable date. All the rest of the feasts and fasts of the year take their dates from the “Golden Date” of Easter (the first Sunday after the first full moon after the vernal equinox) which moves every year. As such, it has been a tradition in the church—and one we share this morning—to announce the moveable feasts for the rest of the Church Year just after the Gospel reading.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Annual Congregational Meeting will be held Sunday, January 26, 2025 following the 10:30am service. The 8:15am service will not be held. Annual reports from staff members, committee heads and other key members of the congregation are appreciated to the church office by Sunday, January 12, 2025. The Annual Report will be emailed prior to January 26, and copies will be available to the congregation.

Concert Event

Decho Ensemble will present a concert at Luther Memorial Church on Saturday, January 18 at 7:00pm. Hailed as a “winning combination in every way!”, **Decho** was founded by Sarah Marchitelli and Jacob Swanson in 2011 with the intention of sharing the saxophone as a concert instrument of wide ranging capability. Critically acclaimed for their “blend and precision”, the ensemble has performed throughout North America and Europe. Following years of continuous collaboration, in 2019 Dr. Katherine Petersen joined Decho to champion works for voice and saxophone.

Worship

Prayers Arise, a Service of Evening Prayer in the spirit of Holden Village, will be offered each Wednesday in January at 6:00pm. We will gather on the 5th floor for this half hour Vespers Service; January 8, 15, 22 and 29.

Faith Formation

Brown Bag Bible gathers each Wednesday in the parlor at 12:00 noon for Bible Study and discussion. You are invited to bring lunch for yourself. Our topic for January–February is *O Word of God Incarnate*. We will share stories about the ways that God has appeared to humanity in human ways throughout the stories of God’s people. We will meet again beginning January 8, 2025.

Book Group, Paging Through with Pastor Jay, will meet the second Monday of odd months at 6:00pm in the parlor. At our next gathering on January 13 we will begin the book *The Amen Effect, Ancient Wisdom to Mend our Broken Hearts and World* by Sharon Brous. The book may be purchased at local bookstores and on Amazon.

B.A.D. (Bible After Dark) will not meet in January. Our gatherings will begin on February 5 at Calamari’s at 6:30pm and continue to meet the first Wednesday of each month. Join together with Lutherans from around Erie as we discuss the book **Context** by Josh Scott. Copies of the book may be purchased from the church office for \$12. Feel free to purchase an adult beverage as we chat.

Opportunities for Fellowship

Sunday, January 12, will be our next Second Sunday Soirée. If you would like to help with hosting this opportunity for fellowship between the services, please talk with Pastor Jay.

Come and join us for an escape from reality. Your cares will be left behind after a morning of laughter and conversation with the Magic Fingers Grace Group. Join us for knitting and crocheting the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month from 10:00am– 12:00 noon. We will begin our 2025 gatherings on January 14 and 28. Please contact Norma, in the church office, or Jan MacInnes if you are in need of more yarn or have any questions.

OWLS Valentine Luncheon at the Ambassador Conference Center, 7794 Peach Street, will be held Friday, February 14, 2025 from 12:00-12:30pm. This event is attended by so many that to ensure your reservation we ask that you contact Jan MacInnes or Norma in the church office as soon as possible. The entrées are sliced sirloin with red wine reduction and Mary Me chicken, along with oven roasted red skin potatoes and steamed broccoli. Also included is a side salad, bakery rolls with butter and for dessert, cake.

Epiphany Service

All are welcome to attend the **Erie Conference Epiphany Service with Burning of the Greens** which will be held Monday, January 6, 2025, at 7:00pm at Faith Lutheran Church, 5414 East Lake Road. Celebrate the Epiphany of our Lord together with a candlelight Eucharist, with Pastor Kristen Papson preaching, followed by an outdoor burning of the Christmas greens. The Scandinavian custom of an Epiphany burning of the greens was introduced to Faith Lutheran by Pastor David Laakso; it has become a beloved local tradition. Refreshments and fellowship will follow in the social hall. Dress warm for the bonfire; you may also watch from the comfort of the social hall if you prefer. A simple house blessing liturgy will be available to take and use at home this Epiphany season. If you would like to bring Christmas trees or greens from home to add to the bonfire, please contact Faith Lutheran Church to let them know.

Items to Note

In case of a pastoral emergency, please contact Pastor Jay either at the church (814-454-0106 x. 227) or, if not, on his personal phone (267-549-9858). If you are unable to reach him and need a response quickly, please contact our church office at 454-0106, ext. 221 during weekday business hours of 8:00am – 4:00pm to speak with Norma. Thank you.

– PRAYER LIST –

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:			
Our Members:			
Abbie & Ben Dixon	Ed Hokaj	Rose-Marie Rose	Ron King
Matt, Jessica Kinzig & family	Virginia Long	Pat Gilbert	Lois Fobes
Marilyn Bohn & family	Ann Flick		
Friends and Family:			
Cheryl Runstedler	Jenn	Norma Lynch	Jenn Eddy
Jessica Bulos Grubb	Phil F.	Karen	Curtis Krick
Leigh Ann Fassnacht	Janine Frank	Casey Smith	Tom Dean
Branden Jones	Teddy & Rebecca	Jean Coburn	Cheryl Atkinson
Bernadette Mulder	Kevin D.	Tom Kraut	Steve Sensor
Andy Zimmerman	Jim Roberts	Bev	Dale Dannhaus
Betsy & Rudy, Sydney Kohn	Racheal Thompson	Joey & family	Michele Seifert
Grant, Alina, Charlie Jane McGrail	Phil	Jane	Amy S.
Mary & Urban LaRiccia	Carol Steffey & Marissa	Andrew Wachter	Chris Beckman
Cara & Bradley Kendra			
Grief:			
Tina Clark DiNicola family	JoAnn Guilianelli family	Fred Kern family	
Emma Houseman family			
Our Military Service Men & Women:			
Lt. Col. Matt Anderson	Michael Stickner	Andrew Watson	Alli Brown
Ben Dixon	Lt. Col. Mark Collins	Christopher Rose	

READINGS AND COMMEMORATIONS

January 6 – THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD – Isaiah 60:1-16; Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14; Ephesians 3:1-12; Matthew 2:1-12 -- *The feast of Epiphany (“manifestation”) concludes the Christmas season with a celebration of God’s glory revealed in the person of Jesus Christ. In Isaiah and Ephesians, that glory is proclaimed for all nations and people. Like the light of the star that guided the magi to Jesus, the light of Christ reveals who we are: children of God who are claimed and washed in the waters of baptism. We are sent out to be beacons of the light of Christ, sharing the good news of God’s love to all people.*

January 7 – Psalm 72; Daniel 2:1-19; Ephesians 4:12-5:1

January 8 – Psalm 72 ; Daniel 2:24-249; Ephesians 5:15-20

January 9 – Psalm 29; Ecclesiastes 1:1-11; I Corinthians 1:18-31

January 10 – Psalm 29; Ecclesiastes 2:1-11; I Corinthians 2:1-10

January 11 – Psalm 29; Ecclesiastes 3:1-15; I Corinthians 2:11-16

CALENDAR

MONDAY, JANUARY 6 7:00pm Epiphany Service @ Faith Lutheran Church

TUESDAY, JANUARY 7

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8 12:00pm Brown Bag Bible

THURSDAY, JANUARY 9 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal

FRIDAY, JANUARY 10

SATURDAY, JANUARY 11 12:00pm Bridal Shower

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12, 2025 THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

Worship with us at 8:15am in Faith Chapel or 10:30am in the main church.

Second Sunday Soirée will be held in the parlor a 9:15am.

Sunday School for PreK-grade 5 will gather at 9:30am.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12, 2025		
ASSISTING IN WORSHIP		
Assisting Minister	8:15am	Mark Howell
	10:30am	Linda Swanson
Communion Assistant (<i>1 needed</i>)	10:30am	
Lector (<i>1 needed</i>)	10:30am	
Altar Guild	8:15am	Cathie Dugan
	10:30am	Jessica Copfer, Mary Daniels
Greeter	8:15am	Vicky Blasco
	10:30am	
Video Streaming	10:30am	NickLang
Counters	10:30am	Jeff Swanson, Pat Young
Ushers (<i>4 needed</i>)	10:30am	