

January 8, 2023
Epiphany Sunday
Peace Lutheran Church
Hutchinson, MN

10:30am Prelude music: Hosanna Handbells

HYMN 397 (Maroon): As With Gladness Men of Old

INVOCATION & PSALM 72

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

¹ Endow the king with your justice, O God,
the royal son with your righteousness.

² **May he judge your people in righteousness,
your afflicted ones with justice.**

³ May the mountains bring prosperity to the people,
the hills the fruit of righteousness.

⁴ **May he defend the afflicted among the people
and save the children of the needy;
may he crush the oppressor.**

⁵ May he endure as long as the sun,
as long as the moon, through all generations.

⁶ **May he be like rain falling on a mown field,
like showers watering the earth.**

⁷ In his days may the righteous flourish
and prosperity abound till the moon is no more.

⁸ **May he rule from sea to sea
and from the River to the ends of the earth.**

¹⁰ May the kings of Tarshish and of distant shores bring tribute to him.
May the kings of Sheba and Seba present him gifts.

¹¹ **May all kings bow down to him and all nations serve him. (NIV)**
This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

CONFESSION

Heavenly Father, we are drawn to your feet in worship—
creation facing its creator,
Hearts laid bare by your light,
Humbly asking for your mercy.
We come to you as a people in need
of assurance and forgiveness.
We come to you as a people in need
of healing and wholeness.

**We come dependent upon your love.
Draw us close. Enfold us in your arms.
Fill us with your Spirit
that we might reflect your light
within this dark world,
speak your Word with boldness,
and draw others to your feet.**

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

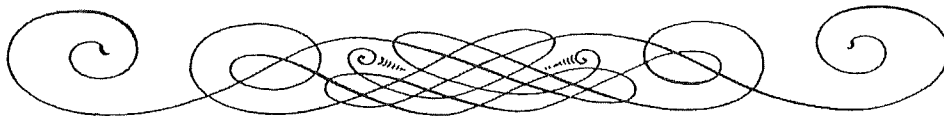
Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**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.**

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. **Amen.**

HYMN 370 (Maroon): What Child Is This?

*CALLING ALL KINGS! During this hymn, students are dismissed and asked to prepare their
crowns and costumes for a procession of kings during the upcoming hymn – “We Three Kings.”*



Readers: 6:30pm John Mons; 8:30am Sandra Hall; 10:30am Sara Peterson

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

“Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the LORD rises upon you.

²See, darkness covers the earth
and thick darkness is over the peoples,
but the LORD rises upon you
and his glory appears over you.

³Nations will come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

⁴“Lift up your eyes and look about you:
All assemble and come to you;
your sons come from afar,

and your daughters are carried on the hip.
⁵ Then you will look and be radiant,
your heart will throb and swell with joy;
the wealth on the seas will be brought to you,
to you the riches of the nations will come.
⁶ Herds of camels will cover your land,
young camels of Midian and Ephah.
And all from Sheba will come,
bearing gold and incense
and proclaiming the praise of the LORD. (NIV)
This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE LESSON: Ephesians 3:1-12

For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles—

² Surely you have heard about the administration of God's grace that was given to me for you, ³ that is, the mystery made known to me by revelation, as I have already written briefly. ⁴ In reading this, then, you will be able to understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, ⁵ which was not made known to people in other generations as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to God's holy apostles and prophets.

⁶ This mystery is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members together of one body, and sharers together in the promise in Christ Jesus.

⁷ I became a servant of this gospel by the gift of God's grace given me through the working of his power. ⁸ Although I am less than the least of all the Lord's people, this grace was given me: to preach to the Gentiles the boundless riches of Christ, ⁹ and to make plain to everyone the administration of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things. ¹⁰ His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms, ¹¹ according to his eternal purpose that he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord. ¹² In him and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence. (NIV)

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**



HYMN 367 (Maroon):

Angels from the Realms of Glory, Verses 1, 3 and ▲ 5

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 2:1-12

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 2nd chapter. **Glory to You, O Lord.**

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem ² and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him."

³ When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. ⁴ When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵ "In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied, "for this is what the prophet has written:

⁶ "But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel."

⁷ Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. ⁸ He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him."

⁹ After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. ¹¹ 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, frankincense and myrrh. ¹² And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route. (NIV)

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to You, O Christ.**

THE 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 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.

HYMN: We Three Kings

- 1. We three kings of Orient are, Bearing gifts we traverse afar
Field and fountain moor and mountain, Following yonder star
*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.
*O star of wonder star of night, Star with royal beauty bright
Westward leading still proceeding, Guide us to Thy perfect light***

3. Frankincense to offer have I, Incense owns a Deity nigh
Prayer and praising all men raising, Worship Him, God on high.
*O star of wonder star of night, Star with royal beauty bright
Westward leading still proceeding, Guide us to Thy perfect light*

4. Myrrh is mine its bitter perfume, Breathes a life of gathering gloom
Sorrowing sighing bleeding dying, Sealed in the stone cold tomb.
*O star of wonder star of night, Star with royal beauty bright
Westward leading still proceeding, Guide us to Thy perfect light*



CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

"And They Worshiped Him" Text: Matthew 2:1-12

5. Glorious now behold Him arise, King and God and sacrifice
Alleluia, Alleluia, Peals thru the earth and skies.
*O star of wonder star of night, Star with royal beauty bright
Westward leading still proceeding, Guide us to Thy perfect light*

SERMON Pastor Meyer

The Star of Epiphany: God's Invitation - Inviting All to the Savior, Jesus (Matthew 2:1-12)

1. It's Not About Us (though we often try to make ourselves the star!)
2. It's About Jesus - and Inviting ALL to Jesus!

PRESENTATION OF OFFERINGS

PRAYERS & THE LORD'S PRAYER

10:30am SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

The First Nowell
Joy to the World

BENEDICTION - 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. **Amen.**

HYMN 388 (Maroon): Go Tell it on the Mountain

Students are asked to please return their costumes to the hangers.
Thank you for your participation!