



January 4, 2026
Epiphany Sunday
Peace Lutheran Church
Hutchinson, MN

6:30, 8:30am HYMN 397 (Maroon): As With Gladness Men of Old
10:30am He Came Down

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

As we gather in joy and celebration, let us confess our sins
and receive the joy of being reconciled to God through His Son.

**The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.
We come this morning/evening confessing our need and desire for the one true Light.
We are burdened by our sins and the darkness around us.
O Holy Child of Bethlehem, forgive us and enlighten us by Your grace that we may forever
praise and worship You, with the angels, and with all of creation.**

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.**

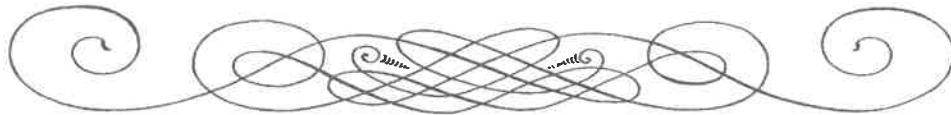
6:30 & 8:30am HYMN: Gloria in Excelsis (Maroon hymnal page 204)

**To God on high be glory And peace to all the earth;
Goodwill from God in heaven Proclaimed at Jesus' birth!
We praise and bless You, Father; your holy name, we sing—
Our thanks for Your great glory, Lord God, our heav'nly King.**

**To You, O sole-begotten, The Father's Son, we pray;
O Lamb of God, our Savior, You take our sins away.
Have mercy on us, Jesus; Receive our heartfelt cry,
Where You in pow'r are seated At God's right hand on high—**

**For You alone are holy; You only are the Lord.
Forever and forever, Be worshiped and adored;
You with the Holy Spirit Alone are Lord Most High,
In God the Father's glory. "Amen!" Our glad reply.**

10:30am HYMN: Angels We Have Heard on High



Readers: 6:30pm Bennett Oberg; 8:30am Lynn Brown; 10:30am Liam Schlueter

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

² 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.

³ And nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your rising.

⁴ 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.

⁵ 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.

⁶ 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. (ESV)

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

EPISTLE LESSON: Ephesians 3:1-12

For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles— ² assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for you, ³ how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. ⁴ When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, ⁵ 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. ⁶ 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.

⁷ 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. ⁸ 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, ⁹ and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God, who created all things, ¹⁰ so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹ This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹² in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him. ¹³ So I ask you not to lose heart over what I am suffering for you, which is your glory. (ESV)

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



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**

**▲ 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**

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 2:1-12

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

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, 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, 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. (ESV)

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

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SOLO: The Star's Song by Erin Bode

He picked me out, one in a billion. He said, "I've got something for you to do."
They'll need to know where to go to find him. And it's all up to you.

Standing out in the desert, There's a little town called Bethlehem
Lead the way to the little stable, Lead the way to the little lamb.

Chorus: What a strange and a lovely thing for a star to do
To lead the way to the baby boy born for you
Shine the light across the footprints in the sand
Follow me down the road that leads to Bethlehem

He picked me out, one in a billion. He said, "I've got something for you to do."
After centuries of darkness, Comes my promised son to you. Chorus.

SERMON "Follow His Star" Pastor Weber

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.

PRESENTATION OF OFFERINGS



10:30am Sunday School students will present the offerings they donated to Lutheran World Relief for animals for missionary outreach.

\$621.30 was raised and doubled with a matching gift for a total of \$1,242.60.

That's 6 goats, 6 pigs, 10 chickens and 19 chicks!

Our January -February offering will be a "SOUP-er Bowl" for Common Cup Ministries.



Elia Peterson, Director of Children's, Youth and Family Ministries

PRAYERS & THE LORD'S PRAYER

6:30pm & 8:30am SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

HYMN 364 Away in a Manger

HYMN 370 What Child Is This?

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