

# FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

1100 EAST SUPERIOR STREET, DULUTH, MN

January 10, 2021

10:00 a.m.

## EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD



*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.*

### PRELUDE *O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright!*

setting by Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707)  
Karen Sande, organ

### WELCOME

### GATHERING HYMN *We Three Kings*



1 We three kings of O - ri - ent are; bear - ing  
2 Born a king on Beth - le - hem’s plain, gold I  
3 Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I; in - cense  
4 Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a  
5 Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise, King and



gifts we tra - verse a - far, field and foun - tain,  
bring to crown him a - gain; king for - ev - er,  
owns a de - i - ty nigh; prayer and prais - ing,  
life of gath - er - ing gloom; sor - rowing, sigh - ing,  
God and Sac - ri - fice; heav’n sings al - le -



moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.  
ceas - ing nev - er, o - ver us all to reign.  
glad - ly rais - ing, wor - ship - ing God Most High.  
bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the stone - cold tomb.  
lu - ia: al - le - lu - ia the earth re - plies.

*See next page for refrain*

*Refrain*

Oh, star of won-der, star of night, star with roy - al beau-ty bright;  
west-ward lead-ing, still pro-ceed-ing, guide us to thy per-fect light!

### APOSTOLIC GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

### SONG OF PRAISE

1 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;  
2 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;  
3 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;

yours is the prom - ise, the bless - ing, the birth.  
yours the ho - san - nas, the dy - ing, re - birth.  
yours the a - noint - ing, the ra - di - ant worth.

Ours the re - joic - ing for Word giv - en frame;  
Ours the re - joic - ing for na - ture re - claimed;  
Ours the re - joic - ing for spir - its a - flame;

ours the thanks - giv - ing to your ho - ly name.

Ours be the tell - ing of deeds great - ly done;

yours be the glo - ry, O God, yours a - lone.

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

O God, on this day you revealed your Son to the nations by the leading of a star. Lead us now by faith to know your presence in our lives, and bring us at last to the full vision of your glory, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **WORD**

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song*

### **TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES**

Pastor Dianne O. Loufman

### **FIRST READING *Isaiah 60:1-6***

*read by Kris Karsell*

- <sup>1</sup>Arise, shine; for your light has come,  
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.
- <sup>2</sup>For darkness shall cover the earth,  
and thick darkness the peoples;  
but the LORD will arise upon you,  
and his glory will appear over you.
- <sup>3</sup>Nations shall come to your light,  
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.
- <sup>4</sup>Lift 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.
- <sup>5</sup>Then 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.
- <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 proclaim the praise of the LORD.

Word of God.

**Word of Life.**

**SECOND READING *Ephesians 3:1-12***

*read by Carolyn Karsell*

<sup>1</sup>This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles—  
<sup>2</sup>for surely you have already heard of the commission of God’s grace that was given me  
for you, <sup>3</sup>and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a  
few words, <sup>4</sup>a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the  
mystery of Christ. <sup>5</sup>In 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: <sup>6</sup>that is, the  
Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise  
in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

<sup>7</sup>Of 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. <sup>8</sup>Although 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,  
<sup>9</sup>and to make everyone see 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 wisdom of God in its rich variety might  
now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. <sup>11</sup>This was in  
accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, <sup>12</sup>in  
whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

Word of God.  
**Word of Life.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

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

*Repeat alleluia*

Choir: We have observed his star | at its rising,\* and have come to | worship him.

## **GOSPEL *Matthew 2: 1-12***

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup>asking, “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.” <sup>3</sup>When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; <sup>4</sup>and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. <sup>5</sup>They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

<sup>6</sup>‘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.’ ”

<sup>7</sup>Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup>Then 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.” <sup>9</sup>When 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. <sup>10</sup>When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. <sup>11</sup>On 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. <sup>12</sup>And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

Logan McLean Strike, Pastoral Intern

HYMN OF THE DAY #308 *A Stable Lamp Is Lighted*



1 A sta - ble lamp is light - ed whose glow shall wake the  
 2 This child through Da - vid's cit - y shall ride in tri - umph  
 3 Yet he shall be for - sak - en, and yield - ed up to  
 4 But now, as at the end - ing, the low is lift - ed



sky; the stars shall bend their voic - es, and ev - 'ry stone shall  
 by; the palm shall strew its branch - es, and ev - 'ry stone shall  
 die; the sky shall groan and dark - en, and ev - 'ry stone shall  
 high; the stars shall bend their voic - es, and ev - 'ry stone shall



cry. And ev - 'ry stone shall cry, and  
 cry. And ev - 'ry stone shall cry, though  
 cry. And ev - 'ry stone shall cry, for  
 cry. And ev - 'ry stone shall cry, in



straw like gold shall shine; a barn shall har - bor  
 heav - y, dull, and dumb, and lie with - in the  
 hearts made hard by sin: God's blood up - on the  
 prais - es of the child by whose de - scent a -

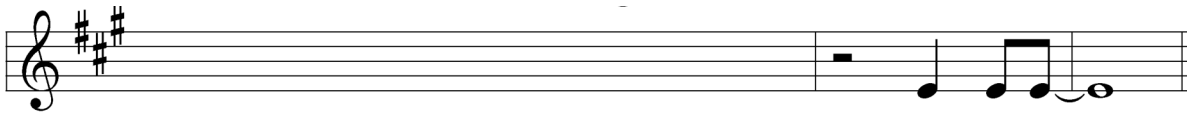


heav - en, a stall be - come a shrine.  
 road - way to pave his king - dom come.  
 spear - head, God's love re - fused a - gain.  
 mong us the worlds are rec - on - ciled.

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

### PRAYERS FOR THE HEALING OF THE NATIONS

Michael Fuchs, cantor



*The leader names those for whom prayers are made. The assembly responds: Peace be yours.*

#### **Refrain:**



For the heal-ing of the na-tions, we pray to you, O God.



For the heal-ing of the na-tions, we pray to you, O God.

#### *Final verse:*

For the nations of the world and for all their peoples,  
for each tribe and family, and for all creation.

#### **THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

#### **GOD EXTENDS AN INVITATION**

Catherine Anderson

#### **OFFERING**

*You are invited to use our digital offering plate. Simply send a text to **218-325-9525** with amount you would like to contribute. Enter a simple number (with no decimal). You'll be sent a text with a link to register. Click on the link and enter your card information. Thank you for supporting God's mission through FLC.*

#### **OFFERTORY MUSIC** *O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright!*

arr. Donald Busarow

Kristin Sande, violin; Nathan Sande, cello; Karen Sande, organ

#### **OFFERING PRAYER**

How silently the wondrous gift is given. Open our hands and our hearts to receive this Child. Bless our offerings of gratitude as outpourings of your light that they might be used to share in word and deed with all who hunger for the good news you bring. Through the Christ child we pray. **Amen.**

# FOOD FOR THE JOURNEY

*I will bring her into the wilderness and speak tenderly to her. Hosea 2:14*

As we travel through the uncertainties of this time, we remember the journey of Mary and Joseph, no place in the inn, the wilderness of the stable, and the visiting shepherds and kings. We take bread remembering that as God sustained this holy family, God sustains us. We break off a piece of bread, touching, tasting and seeing, remembering our God—Breath of Heaven come to earth. **Amen.**

## HYMN #296 *What Child Is This?*



- 1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar - y's lap is sleep - ing?
- 2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed - ing?
- 3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas - ant, king, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet while shep - herds watch are keep - ing?  
Good Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.  
The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.



This, this is Christ the king, whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;  
Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;  
Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!  
hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y!  
joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!



# SENDING

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world*

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Rejoicing in the presence of God here among us, as our Savior taught us, so we 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.**

## **OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE**

### **BLESSING**

*The presiding minister proclaims God's blessing.*

Almighty God,  
Who sent the Holy Spirit to Mary,  
Proclaimed joy through the angels,  
Sent the shepherds with good news,  
And led the magi by a star,  
Bless you this day through the Word made flesh. **Amen.**

**SENDING HYMN #301** *Bright and Glorious Is the Sky* (stanzas 1-3 and 6)



1 Bright and glo - rious is the sky, ra - diant are the  
2 On that ho - ly Christ - mas night through the dark - ness  
3 Sa - ges from the east a - far, when they saw this  
6 And this star, as bright as day, that will ne - ver



heav - ens high where the gold - en stars are shin - ing.  
beamed a light; all the stars a - bove were pal - ing,  
won - drous star, went to find the king of na - tions  
lead a - stray with its mes - sage so ap - peal - ing,



All their rays to earth in - clin - ing beck - on us to  
all their lus - ter slow - ly fail - ing as the won - drous  
and to of - fer their ob - la - tions to the child, the  
is the word of God, re - veal - ing Christ, the way, the



heav'n a - bove, beck - on us to heav'n a - bove.  
star drew nigh, as the won - drous star drew nigh.  
new - born king, to the child, the new - born king.  
truth, the life, Christ, the way, the truth, the life.

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Share the gift of Jesus.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE** *Festival Dialogue*

from *Prophets & Angels: Festival of Lessons & Carols*  
by Aaron David Miller  
Karen Sande, organ

**MINISTERS** All People of First Lutheran Church

**PASTOR** The Rev. Dianne O. Loufman

**PASTORAL INTERN** Logan McLean Strike

**PROGRAM STAFF** Ann Beck, Pastoral Associate  
Karen Sande, Director of Music  
Michael Fuchs, Director of Choral Activities  
Bryan Gatten, Director of Contemporary Worship

**MUSICIANS** Aine Miller, Erna Peterson, Glenn Peterson, Dennis Paulson and Michael Fuchs,  
singers; Kristin Sande, violin; Nathan Sande, cello; Karen Sande, organ

**VIDEO TEAM** Shania Krause, David Sproat, Sam Weston

**DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER** Stacie Curnow

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First Lutheran Church, dedicated to the mission of Jesus Christ, welcomes YOU into this community of faith, where we share life in its entirety, with all its joys and sorrows. We believe all people are created in the image of God and are offered God's love, grace, and forgiveness, regardless of religious tradition, age, gender identity, race, education, economic status, sexual orientation, family structure, mental or physical abilities. We acknowledge the indigenous culture of this land.

We extend a special welcome in Christ's love.

**faithlovecommunity**  
First Lutheran Church

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