



EPIPHANY

Trinity Lutheran Church

Jenera, Ohio

January 5th, 2025



Sunday, January 5, 2024

Epiphany of Our Lord

Theme of the Day:

The Gift of God: The Gift of God is For All People

Congregation sings or speaks the bolded text

372 As with Gladness Men of Old

CW 372

Text: William C. Dix, 1837–1898, alt. Tune: Conrad Kocher, 1786–1872, alt. Text and tune: Public domain

Please stand.

P: In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Confession

P: If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

C: If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

P: Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

C: Holy God, gracious Father, I am sinful by nature and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have not loved you with my whole heart; I have not loved others as I should. I deserve your punishment both now and forever. But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins with his innocent suffering and death. Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for meditation and reflection

P: Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy

P: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: 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 mercy.

P: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

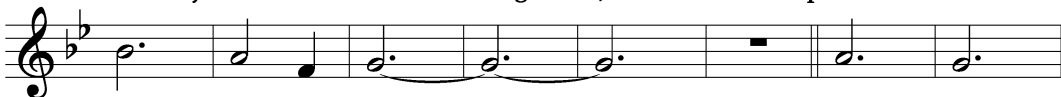
C: Amen.

Glory to God in the Highest

CW 176



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his



peo - ple on earth. Lord God,



heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we



wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your



glo - ry. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and



peace to his peo - ple on earth.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,



Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world; have mer - cy on us. You are seat - ed at the
right hand of the Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer.
Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his
peo - ple on earth. For you a -
lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,
you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ,
with the Ho - ly Spir - it in the glo - ry of
God the Fa - ther. A - men. A - men.
Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his
peo - ple on earth.

Tune: Marty Haugen Tune: © 1984 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 714016

The Word

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray.

Lord God, by the leading of a star, you once made known to the nations your one and only Son. Guide us, also, who know him now by faith to come at last to the perfect joy of your heavenly glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Please be seated.

First Reading

1 Kings 10:1–9

An African queen visits Israel to test the wisdom of King Solomon. The result of her visit: she ends up praising the LORD for his love. The gift of God is for all people.

¹When the queen of Sheba heard about the fame of Solomon and his relationship to the LORD, she came to test Solomon with hard questions. ²Arriving at Jerusalem with a very great caravan—with camels carrying spices, large quantities of gold, and precious stones—she came to Solomon and talked with him about all that she had on her mind. ³Solomon answered all her questions; nothing was too hard for the king to explain to her. ⁴When the queen of Sheba saw all the wisdom of Solomon and the palace he had built, ⁵the food on his table, the seating of his officials, the attending servants in their robes, his cupbearers, and the burnt offerings he made at the temple of the LORD, she was overwhelmed. ⁶She said to the king, “The report I heard in my own country about your achievements and your wisdom is true. ⁷But I did not believe these things until I came and saw with my own eyes. Indeed, not even half was told me; in wisdom and wealth you have far exceeded the report I heard. ⁸How happy your people must be! How happy your officials, who continually stand before you and hear your wisdom! ⁹Praise be to the LORD your God, who has delighted in you and placed you on the throne of Israel. Because of the LORD’s eternal love for Israel, he has made you king to maintain justice and righteousness.”

P: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

72B A King on High Is Reigning

Psalm 72B

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith Tune: Henry T. Smart Text: © 1999 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 714016 Tune: Public domain

Second Reading

Acts 13:46–49

The focus of St. Paul's ministry would be to share the gift of eternal life with the Gentiles.

⁴⁶Then Paul and Barnabas answered them boldly: "We had to speak the word of God to you first. Since you reject it and do not consider yourselves worthy of eternal life, we now turn to the Gentiles. ⁴⁷For this is what the Lord has commanded us: " 'I have made you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth.'" ⁴⁸When the Gentiles heard this, they were glad and honored the word of the Lord; and all who were appointed for eternal life believed. ⁴⁹The word of the Lord spread through the whole region.

P: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 2:2

P: Alleluia. 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. Alleluia.

Gospel

Matthew 2:1–12

The Lord miraculously led Magi across many hundreds of miles of difficult terrain, so that they might worship the child who offered the gift of salvation.

¹After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem ²and 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." ³When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. ⁴When 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.'" ⁷Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. ⁸He 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." ⁹After 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. ¹⁰When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. ¹¹On 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. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Please be seated.

374 The Star Proclaims the King Is Here

CW 374

Text: tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.; Coelius Sedulius, 5th cent., abr. Tune: Geistliche Lieder auff's new gebessert, Wittenberg, 1535, ed. Joseph Klug Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon Text: 1 Kings 10:1-9

Sermon Theme: God's Wisdom and Name Travel Beyond Man-made Boundaries.

- 1) We are unlikely recipients of these gifts.**
- 2) We have God's gifts to point to his gracious gifts.**

Please stand.

Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.

**For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,
and became truly human.**

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,**

**who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who in unity with the Father and the Son
is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Please be seated.

Prayer of the Church

P: Eternal Lord, give us peace as we ponder the good news that you forgive our sins in Christ. Lead us to see clearly the path you have laid out for us.

C: Work in us so that we believe and live the Word we have heard today.

P: Provide courage and compassion to all who preach and teach your Word. Fill them with a love like yours as they proclaim your grace to us and all people.

C: Move us to love all ministers of the Word wherever they serve.

P: Guard and guide the families of our congregation. Lead husbands and wives to love each other with commitment, respect, and patience. Help parents to grasp the eternal value of keeping their children close to Jesus all their lives. Grant joy to those who are single, and make them a blessing to others.

C: Protect us from the temptations that surround us; give us pure hearts and minds.

P: Provide wisdom and insight to those who make laws and set policies. Give us respect for those who protect us from crime. Lead us to value the rights of our fellow citizens and to defend those who cannot defend themselves.

C: Bless our land with peace and prosperity so that the gospel may be proclaimed to all.

P: Give us passion to share the story of your love with our family and friends. Overcome unbelief, and open the hearts of people everywhere to believe the good news that Jesus has forgiven their sins and opened the gates of heaven.

C: Fill us with joy over every sinner who repents and comes to trust in you.

P: Extend your healing power to those who are sick and suffering in body or mind. Give patience and compassion to all who care for the sick and dying.

C: Lift the eyes of the distressed to your love in Christ.

P: Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

P: Gracious God, you govern and direct all things and you love all people. Hear our prayers, spoken and silent, and answer them in your wisdom and grace.

C: In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Offering

Friendship Registration

Guests: Please fill out name, address, and phone number.

Members: Please fill out name and any new information.

Please, return the booklet to its original location. Thank you!

The Sacrament

Please stand.

Preface

CW 183



The Lord be with you.



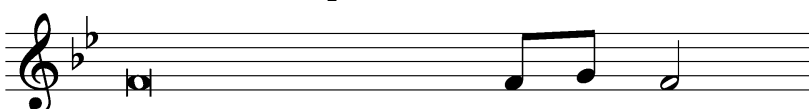
And al - so with you.



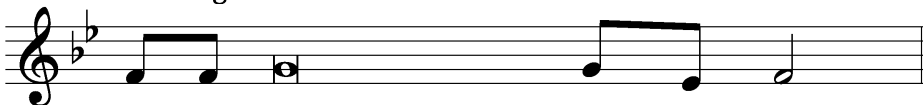
Lift up your hearts.



We lift them up to the Lord.



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Tune: Marty Haugen Tune: © 1984, 1985, 2010 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 714016

P: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared when he called people to repentance and pointed to Jesus as the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy

CW 184

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er,
 God of might. Heav - en and earth are full of your
 glo - ry. 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, ho -
 san - na in the high - est!

Tune: Marty Haugen Tune: © 1984, 1985 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 714016

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P: Lord God, you are worthy to receive thanks and praise from all people. You created the world and all who live in it, and in your mercy you saved us. We give thanks to you for the grace of your Son, Jesus Christ. Though in very nature God, he took the nature of a servant and became obedient to death, even death on a cross. He offered himself as a sacrifice for sin and redeemed us from its curse and penalty. He rescued us from the terrors of death and restored eternal life with you. He conquered our enemies and gained for us the kingdom of grace and glory.

Bless us as we receive your Son’s body and blood, and lead us to remember his suffering, death, and resurrection. Forgive our sins and fill us with the hope of new life in heaven. Hear our praise and receive our thanks as we worship you—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Lord’s Prayer

All: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Words of Institution

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take and eat; this is my † body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you; this is my † blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

Jesus, Lamb of God

CW 186

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are: "Je - sus, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us." The first two staves contain the first line of the melody and lyrics. The last two staves contain the second line of the melody and lyrics. The score ends with a double bar line.

Je - sus, Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us your peace.

Tune: Marty Haugen Tune: © 1984, 1985 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 714016

Please be seated.

Distribution

370 How Lovely Shines the Morning Star

CW 370

Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608, abr., adapt Tune: Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608 Text and tune: Public domain

384 Hail to the Lord's Anointed

CW 384

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, abr., alt. Tune: Leonhart Schröter, c. 1532–c. 1601 Text and tune: Public domain

Please stand.

P: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

C: his mercy endures forever.

P: Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,

C: we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

P: We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet you have given us in this Sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit, help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Blessing

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

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

C: Amen.

380 Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun

CW 380

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, abr., alt. Tune: attr. John C. Hatton, 1710–1793 Text and tune: Public domain **Acknowledgments:** Setting Two from Christian Worship Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide. Liturgical and musical settings of Scripture based on text from The Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide. Software distributed in partnership with Northwestern Publishing House. Created by Christian Worship: Service Builder © 2024 Concordia Publishing House.

Announcements

WELCOME! Thank you for joining our Trinity family in worship today. We invite you to keep growing with us through God's Word and Sacraments. If you have a question, please speak to a pastor or a Trinity member. If you are a guest, please pick up a guest packet and give your name and address in the friendship registration located in each pew. Ask the ushers if you need a pocket-sized aid for the hearing impaired. Large print bulletins are available upon request, with the Hymns for the service printed in them. A Nursery with our service on TV is located off the lobby for parents who need to calm young children.

THANK YOU The family of Carol Nessler would like to thank Pastor Nowak for his visits and kind and loving words of comfort at her funeral on December 21st. We'd also like to thank Jr. Weihrauch, Mr. Falck and the Funeral Food Committee for all they did. And a thank you to everyone for the many cards, thoughts, prayers and comforting words during this time of loss. We are truly blessed. *The Carol Nessler Family*

RECESS VOLUNTEER a recess volunteer for the school is needed on Wednesdays starting in January. The time slot would be from 12:15-12:45. Please contact the office or Mr. Falck if you are able to help out!

POWER POINT PRESENTER There is an opening for 2nd service for a Power Point Presenter. Please contact Pastor Nowak if you are interested in filling in the vacancy and/or for more details.

OFFERING ENVELOPES for 2025 are available in the Narthex. Pick them up at your earliest convenience! If you are not able to find your envelopes or have any questions, please contact Bob Inniger at 567-674-6049.

BIBLE STUDY FOR JANUARY: Today, we will study Saul's (Apostle Paul's) Conversion, as we prepare to study his letter written to the Corinthian congregation. On January 19, we will begin our study of 1 Corinthians. Corinth was a divided and struggling congregation in a challenging place. As we examine the struggles of this congregation, we will apply them to our lives and the everyday struggles of living in America today. As we will see our study in the Lord will not be in vain as he teaches and strengthens us today.

WARM WINTER WALKING: Beginning January 6th, the school gym is open for walking on week nights between 7:00-8:00 PM. Please bring a pair of shoes that you haven't worn outside to wear while walking. You may walk at your own pace and walk as long or short as you want. Bring a friend!

LUTHERAN SCHOLARSHIP GRANTING ORGANIZATION OF OHIO (LSGOO) To date, we have been able to provide over \$10,000 in scholarships from this program to school families needing additional assistance. If you are not taking advantage of this excellent opportunity to direct a portion of your Ohio tax liability directly to our school's ministry, please check out www.lsgoohio.org or talk to Mr. Falck. Remember: Up to \$750/individual or \$1500/filing jointly can be directed to this program with a one-time or recurring payment!

WOMEN'S MINISTRY: Women are invited to an afternoon of Bunco on Sunday, January 19 starting at 2:00 PM at Dawn Curth's house (303 East Sandusky St. Jenera). Bunco is a fun and easy dice game in which players simply roll dice to score points. It's a social game that's based on luck, so there's no need to learn a complex strategy. Ladies will sit at small tables and switch seats throughout the game. This is a great chance to meet and talk with other many other women! No experience necessary! Snacks will be provided. Please sign up on the sheet in the back of church if you plan to attend.

OPEN GYM: The school's gym will be available for those wanting to play basketball indoors on Sunday afternoons beginning on December 1st. The gym will be open on Sundays from 2:00 - 4:00 PM. All children must be accompanied by an adult at all times. Please change into dry, non-marking athletic shoes before entering the gym to help keep our gym floor in good condition.

MUSIC AND INSTRUMENTS: Join other kids (ages 0-6) and their caretakers in the church basement on Monday or Tuesday, January 6 or 7. This Mornings with Mommy session will have your children singing, dancing, and playing instruments. You and your children can dance on bubble wrap, paint a guitar, make a maraca, and do musical note hopscotch!. The program costs \$5 per family. Register online at tlcjenera.org or call 262-391-7994.

PRESCHOOL PLAYTIME: Do your kids need a warm place to get some energy out? Join us for a FREE open gym for all preschool aged children (infants, toddlers, and preschoolers) in the school gym on Monday, January 13 from 10:00-11:00 AM. We will have balls to play with, ride-on toys, mats to crawl/roll around on, mini-trampolines, infant toys, large building blocks, and lots of space to run around and play. Grab a snack for your ride home.

DISCOVERY STORY: The Hancock County Parks is coming for its next Discovery Story on Wednesday, January 15 at 10:00 AM in the church basement. Have you ever looked closely at bird feet? They come in many different shapes and sizes, and they help birds do important jobs. Join us in the church basement with your toddler, preschoolers, and kindergartners as we take a closer look at actual bird feet. Stay after the program for crafts and other activities. Please email Jenny at mwmtrinity@tlcjenera.org if you plan to attend.

LUTHER SOCIETY We plan to go to lunch and then axe throwing at Axe Venture in Findlay, on Sunday, January 19th. Mark your calendars! Please text Kathy Miles 419-348-3075 by January 13th if you would like to join us as we need to make a reservation. Feel free to bring a friend.

LENTEN MEALS Lent begins on March 5th with Ash Wednesday at 7:00pm and will be on Wednesdays at 7:00pm through April 9th. Please sign up at the table doors if you are willing to help out with Lenten Meals or contact Pastor Nowak or the office.

DAILY LECTIONARY

1.5: Is 65:8-25, Lu 3:1-20

1.6: Is 66:1-12, Lu 3:21-38

1.7: Ez 1:1-14, 22-28, *Hab 1:1-3:19*, Rom 1:1-17

1.8: Ez 2:1-3:11, Ro 1:18-32

1.9: Ez 3:12-27, *Ez 4:1-11:25*, Rom 2:1-16

1.10: Ez 18:1-4, 19-32, *Ez 19:1-24:27*, Rom 2:17-29

1.11: Ez 33:1-20, Rom 3:1-18

1.12: Ez 34:1-24, Rom 3:19-31

CONTACT INFORMATION

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OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S LOVE (week of December 22nd & 29th)

December 22nd Week: Total Worship Attendance: 224, Early: 114, Late: 110; Christmas Eve: 312 ; Christmas Day: 188 ; Adult Bible Class: 25; Sunday School: 21; Online Worship Views for Dec. 15th: 51

December 29th Week: Total Worship Attendance: 195, Early: 81, Late: 114; Online Worship Views for Dec. 22nd: 36

MONEY COUNTERS for this morning through January 11th are the members of Joe Spaeth's Undershepherd group. Beginning Sunday, January 12th, will be the members of Ron Bower's Undershepherd group.

GREETERS today are: Deb Reichley – early
Bob & Julie Inniger – late

Next Sunday: Joe & Jean Spaeth – early
Warren Pratt– late

THIS WEEK AT TRINITY (January 5th through January 12th)

TODAY Worship 8:00 & 10:30; WELS Connection; Adult Bible Study, Teen Bible Class, Sunday School 9:20; Open Gym 2:00

TUE New Year's Eve Communion Service 7:00

WED NO NEW YEAR'S DAY SERVICE

SUN **Worship 8:00 & 10:30;** Communion; Adult Bible Study, Teen Bible Class, Sunday School 9:20; Open Gym 2:00

Vanco
Mobile
App



OUR MISSION STATEMENT: *Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church exists to glorify our Triune God as we train, strengthen and nurture ourselves and others through His Word and Sacraments, so that we are enabled by His love to live lives of faith and to bring the Good News of Jesus Christ to all people.*