

**ST. MICHAEL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

118 State Street ♦ Harrisburg, Pennsylvania



EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

January 6, 2012

7:00 p.m.

## **PRAYERS BEFORE WORSHIP**

Bright Morning Star, your light has come, and the birth of Jesus has overwhelmed us with joy. Like the magi of long ago, may we be drawn to you and offer you such gifts as we are able. Amen.

Everlasting God, your radiance has shown brightly in our world through the coming of your Son, but there is much that continues to be evil. The role of Herod is filled today by many who pretend to bring tolerance and peace, but instead, like Herod, they exploit, plunder and murder. Give us courage through this worship to live lives that daily bring the light of Christ to all people. Amen.

## **WORSHIP NOTES**

Epiphany means “manifestation.” On this day we celebrate the revelation of Christ to the Gentiles—that is, to all nations. Some Christian traditions celebrate three great epiphanies on this day: the magi’s adoration of the Christ child, Jesus’ baptism in the Jordan River, and his first miracle, in which he changes water into wine. The word and sacraments are for us the great epiphany of God’s grace and mercy. We go forth to witness to the light that shines brightly in our midst.

**Persons with impairments** - St. Michael offers to those with any type of hearing difficulty a small, remote personal speaker which provides the user an amplified, high quality audio of the entire service. We invite our guests who may have the need for such an accommodation to ask an usher for a personal speaker. (They are available upon entering the Nave.) We welcome any comments concerning St. Michael's efforts to accommodate persons with impairments or disabilities.

We extend a welcome to all who worship with us this evening. We invite you to join us in Fellowship Hall after the service.

## **PHONE AND INTERNET INFORMATION**

Church phones:	Office: 234-0092	Kitchen: 234-0106
Pastor Hawkins:	Home: 939-8981	Cell: 579-8803
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		larryhawkins@verizon.net
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## SERVICE OF WORD AND SACRAMENT

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### MEDITATION

**PRELUDE**     *Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light*     Benton Price

### CHALKING OF THE DOOR

### GREETING

May peace be to this house and to all who enter here. By wisdom a house is built and through understanding it is established; through knowledge its rooms are filled with rare and beautiful treasures.

### READING

As we prepare to ask God's blessing on this house of prayer, let us listen to the words of scripture: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.

### INSCRIPTION

*This inscription may be made with chalk above the entrance:*

20 + C M B + 12

C: *Christe*

M: *mansionem*

B: *benedica,*

The year of our Lord

20: two thousand

12: and twelve year.

+: Christ, bless this house,

+: and remain with us throughout the new year.

### PRAYER OF BLESSING

O God, you revealed your Son to all people by the shining light of a star. We pray that you continue to bless this house of prayer and all who worship here with your gracious presence. May your love be our inspiration, your wisdom our guide, your truth our light and your peace our benediction; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### WORSHIP LEADERS

Presiding Minister	The Reverend Larry Hawkins
Director of Music	Daniel W. Deitzel III
Assisting Minister	Guy Kehler
Eucharistic Minister	Will Hawkins
Acolytes and Torchbearers	Karl Hawkins and Caity Sherrod
Thurifer	Isaac Hawkins
Cantor	Elizabeth Benion
Lector and Bookbearer	Sue Will
Bannerbearer	Ken Umbenhauer
Greeters	Norma Ickes and Susan Wesley
Ushers	Lloyd and Shirley Kramer
Altar Guild	Guy Kehler and Lindsay Mills

+++GATHERING+++

GATHERING HYMN *Hail to the Lord's Anointed* ELW 311

GREETING

Today Christ is born: Alleluia, alleluia! 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.

KYRIE *Sung in unison.*

Musical notation for the first line of the Kyrie: In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

Musical notation for the second line of the Kyrie: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Musical notation for the third line of the Kyrie: Lord, have mer - cy.

Musical notation for the fourth line of the Kyrie: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,

Musical notation for the fifth line of the Kyrie: and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Musical notation for the sixth line of the Kyrie: Lord, have mer - cy.

Musical notation for the seventh line of the Kyrie: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,

Musical notation for the eighth line of the Kyrie: let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

Musical notation for the ninth line of the Kyrie: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Great and saving God, you have gathered your scattered people around gifts of grain and wine, the body and blood of our Savior Christ. As we, like the shepherds, return on our way, may we proclaim all we have heard and seen, praising you in word and loving deed for the gift of Jesus, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

+++SENDING+++

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Brief announcements related to our participation in God's mission for the world are made prior to our being blessed and sent as workers in the Kingdom of God.

BLESSING

God most high, God with us, God poured out on us, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING SONG *Arise, Your Light Has Come!* ELW 314

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *Rejoice, the Lord is King* arr. by James Mansfield

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We invite you to join with us in Fellowship Hall following this evening's service for an international-themed reception sponsored by the Fellowship Committee.



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
God's work. Our hands.

## SONG AFTER COMMUNION

*Refrain*

Lis - ten! you na - tions of the world: lis - ten to the Word of the Lord. An -  
 nounce it from coast to coast; de - clare it to dis - tant is - lands.

1 The Lord who scat - tered Is - ra - el will gath - er his peo - ple a - gain; and  
*Refrain*  
 he will keep watch o - ver them as a shep - herd watch - es his flock.

2 With shouts of joy they will come, their fac - es ra - diant - ly hap - py, for the  
*Refrain*  
 Lord is so gen - 'rous to them; he show - ers his peo - ple with gifts.

3 Young wom - en will dance for joy, and men young and old will make  
 mer - ry. Like a gar - den re - fresh - ed by the rain, they will nev - er be in want a -  
 gain. Break in - to shouts of great joy; Ja - cob is free a - gain! Teach  
 na - tions to sing the song: "The Lord has saved his peo - ple!"

## HYMN OF PRAISE

*Assisting minister*

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

*All*

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.  
 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.  
 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.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

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**+++

## FIRST READING

ISAIAH 60:1-6

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.\

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## COMMUNION SONG

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace.

## COMMUNION HYMN

*Bright and Glorious Is the Sky*

ELW 301



## SECOND READING

EPHESIANS 3:1-12

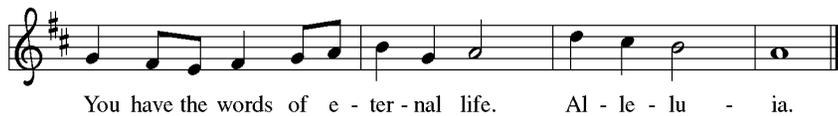
This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles — <sup>2</sup>for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, <sup>3</sup>and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, <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 human-kind, 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.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



## GOSPEL

MATTHEW 2:1-12

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.



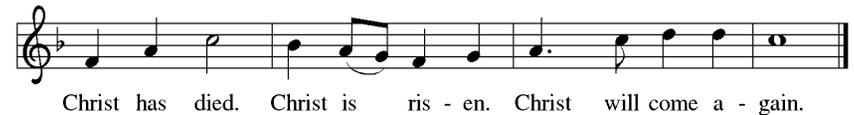
## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:  
Blessed are you for the birth of creation.  
Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.  
Blessed are you for your promise to your people.  
Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.  
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.  
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,  
the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus 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.

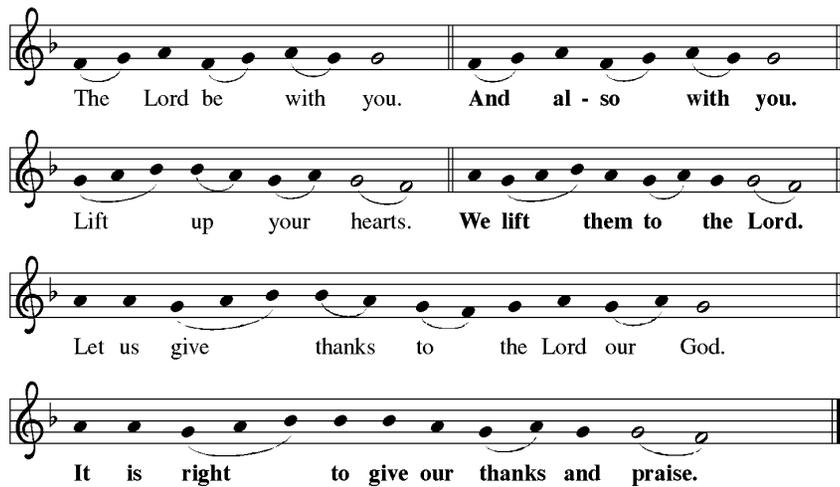
Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:



With this bread and cup  
we remember your Word dwelling among us,  
full of grace and truth.  
We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.  
We look with hope for his coming.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit.  
Come among us.  
Bless this meal.  
May your Word take flesh in us.  
Awaken your people.  
Fill us with your light.  
Bring the gift of peace on earth.  
All praise and glory are yours,

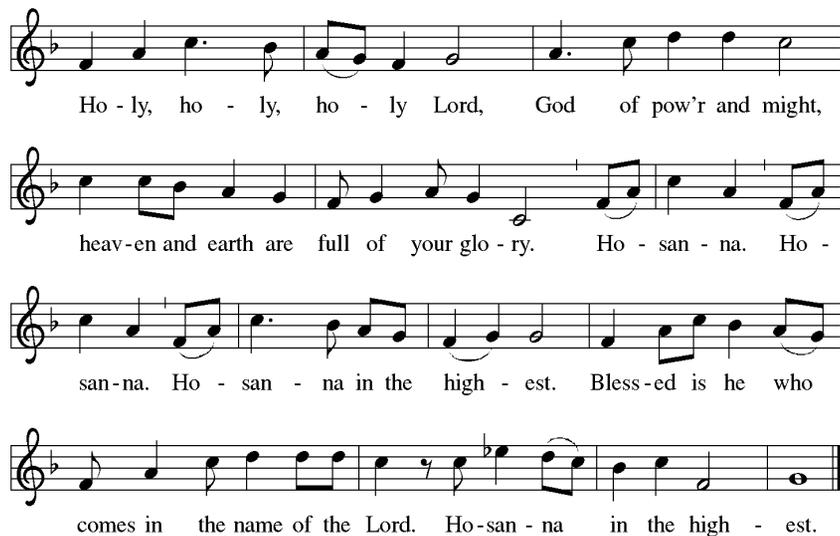
## DIALOGUE



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

## PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son, and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



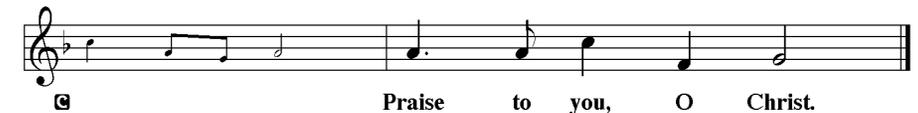
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -  
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

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.

**GOSPEL PROCESSION** *As with Gladness Men of Old* ELW 302  
VS 1-2

## SERMON

**HYMN OF THE DAY** *Brightest and Best of the Stars* ELW 303

## 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 with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic 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.

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Hear us, O God.  
Your mercy is great.

## PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*The assembly shares the Lord's peace with those nearby.*

+++MEAL+++

**CHOIR ANTHEM**      *What Star Is This?*      Arr. by Richard Shephard

## OFFERTORY HYMN



## OFFERING PRAYER

Good and loving God, we rejoice in the birth of Jesus, who came among the poor to bring the riches of your grace. As you have blessed us with your gifts, let them be blessing for others. With the trees of the field, with all earth and heaven, we shout for joy at the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**