

GLORY OF CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Missouri Synod



The Epiphany of our Lord January 7-8, 2017

Rev. Jeremiah Johnson and Rev. Kyle Krueger

Missions Pastor: Rev. John Fehrmann
Visitations Pastor: Rev. Dean Weibel

Church Office: 763-478-6031

www.glorvofchrist.org

Welcome all in the name of Jesus, especially those who are worshiping for the first time with us. Please sign our guest book (make sure to indicate if you would like the Pastor to visit) and accept our invitation to worship with us again.

Who should commune at the Altar of Glory of Christ Lutheran Church? According to the Scriptures and the Confessional statements of the church only those should commune who "have been examined and absolved" by the pastor. If you wish to commune at Glory of Christ for the first time, please talk to the Pastor before doing so. Holy Communion is the most intimate expression of Christian fellowship and it is important to the members of Glory of Christ Lutheran Church that all who commune have a common understanding and commitment to the Gospel teachings of the Bible.

Altar Flower Chart: The cost of the Altar flowers is \$40 per Sunday and you will be able to take your flowers home with you after the service in a box located on the kitchen counter. In order to have your payment for flowers applied correctly, please use one of the *Designated Offering* envelopes found in your box of envelopes or label the outside of one of your regular envelopes with the words 'Altar flowers'. Janice Hartness is our flower coordinator. If you have any special requests, please contact her at 763-355-5427 by the Wednesday prior. **If you take the black "liners" home, please be sure to bring them back to church by the following Wednesday. Thank You!**

2017 Altar Flower Chart: The Flower chart for 2017 is now up. Please be sure to sign up for the dates you want to give Altar Flowers.

Saturday Evening Divine Service: 5:00 PM

Sunday Schedule: Divine Service 9:00 AM; followed by Bible Class and Sunday school at 10:30.

Northwest Suburban Circuit Congregation Prayers – Each week we will be praying for a congregation in the circuit and for others who have or have had a connection with them. This week, we are asking for prayers for St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church and School, Corcoran, and Pastor Steven Briel and Pastor Matthew Johnson.

SAVE THE DATE! Sunday, January 8th, Janet Preus is hosting an Epiphany Party at her home – 10930 55th Ave N Plymouth, beginning at 4:00 pm. Please bring something to share for food. Questions? Call Jan at 763-438-2387. All are welcome!

Update to the Prayer List: We have updated the prayer list. If you have the name of a friend or loved one that you would like to place on the list, please let either Pastor Johnson, Pastor Krueger or Brenda know. Once a name is added, it will be removed after 4 weeks unless we are notified to have it remain. Thank You!

The Youth Group is astounded and thanks you for your generosity during our December Bake Sale. Your support means "Higher Things" for us!

Next Youth Group Event will be January 22nd at church. Lunch and devotions after Bible Study at about 11:30am; with games and fun following until 1:30pm-ish. Any questions, please contact Julie Anderson julesanders@live.com or 612-791-0163.

New Sunday Morning Bible Study on Colossians Has Begun: Paul's letter to the church at Colossae has some of the richest Christology (the nature and work of Christ as both God and man) in all of scripture. Christ as the head of the Church is the center of Paul's proclamation. The false teachings in the Colossian church were obscuring the sufficiency of Jesus. These errors were extremely dangerous because they weren't being offered to replace Christ. Rather, they were being offered to supplement Christ as if He wasn't enough. These errors came from within the organized church, not from outside it. Still today, the greatest threats against Christ and His Word come from within the church, when other man-made spirituality or human imagination try to supplement Christ. In our post-modern age, there is great pressure to acknowledge that everyone has some claim on truth and that there is no such thing as truth for all people of all times and places. There is also great pressure to acknowledge the idols of many religions as having a place alongside Jesus Christ. The center of this letter is well confessed by you as you gather in the Divine Service and say, *I believe...in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, Begotten, not made, Being of one substance with the Father, By whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven And was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary And was made man; And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.*

Quilting Dates for January: Please join us for Quilting on Tuesday, January 10th and Tuesday January 24th from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Thank You!

Ladies Coffee Social: Due to scheduling conflicts, the Ladies Coffee Social to be held on January 21st will be re-scheduled. Look for a date to be set in February. Thank You!

January Compassion Circle Meeting: Compassion Circle will be meeting on Monday, January 9th at 1:00 pm. They will be making sandwiches for the homeless. All are welcome!

At Glory of Christ the pastor typically makes announcements after the service. So the service just starts at the appropriate time without a specific welcome. (The welcome actually occurs in the service itself when the pastor says "The Lord be with you" and the congregation responds.) To follow the service, you should turn to the page indicated at the top of your bulletin insert. This week the page is 203. Usually we simply work through the service interrupting the process for the singing of hymns, certain prayers and the scripture readings. The prayers are usually printed in the service folder as are the Scripture readings. Hymns are found in the latter half of the Service book. If you are having trouble following the service, you can ask someone nearby and they will help you. You can also comfort yourself with the knowledge that almost everyone has a little trouble following the service the first time through. It gets easier.

Worship Notes

The Epiphany of our Lord

Matthew 2:1-12

"Now it's the Magi's turn"

Mary, Joseph, and the shepherds all had their turn to worship the Christ child. Keep in mind that the first visitors to Jesus were all *Jews*, the original stock of God's chosen people. But the Magi are foreigners, *Gentiles*, but they too received their divine invitation to come and see Jesus. This is why Epiphany is often called "the Gentiles' Christmas." And Paul reminds us in Ephesians 3 that this is the great mystery of Christ (v4)--that God has extended salvation even to the Gentiles. The long arm of God's redemption can reach *all* people.

The Epiphany of our Lord

Divine Service, Setting Four (page 203)

Saturday Night – January 7, 2017

HYMN OF INVOCATION #412 – *"The People That in Darkness Sat"*

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

INVOCATION – page 203

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION – page 203

SERVICE OF THE WORD (page 204)

INTROIT Ps. 45:6–8a; antiphon: Ps. 45:17



I will cause your name to be remembered in all gener- | ations;*
therefore nations will praise you forever and | ever.

**Your throne, O God, is forever and ever. The scepter of your kingdom is a scepter of up- | rightness;*
you have loved righteousness and hated | wickedness.**

**Therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your com- | panions;*
your robes are all fragrant with myrrh and aloes and | cassia.**

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*

and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will cause your name to be remembered in all gener- | ations;*
therefore nations will praise you forever and | ever.

KYRIE – page 204

GLORIA – page 204

COLLECT

O God, by the leading of a star You made known Your only-begotten Son to the Gentiles. Lead us, who know You by faith, to enjoy in heaven the fullness of Your divine presence; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

☩ Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 60:1–6

¹Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

²For 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.

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

⁴Lift 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.

⁵Then 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.

⁶A 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.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL



Praise the LORD, all | nations!*

Extol him, all | peoples!

**For great is his steadfast | love toward us,*
and the faithfulness of the LORD endures for- | ever.**

**Ascribe to the LORD the glory | due his name;*
bring an offering, and come in- | to his courts!**

EPISTLE Ephesians 3:1–12

¹For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles— ²assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God’s grace that was given to me for you, ³how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. ⁴When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, ⁵which 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. ⁶This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

⁷Of 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. ⁸To 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, ⁹and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things, ¹⁰so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places.

¹¹This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹²in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

ALLELUIA and VERSE - page 205

HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 2:1–12

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the second chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, ²saying, “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.”

³When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. ⁵They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:

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

⁷Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. ⁸And 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." ⁹After 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.

¹⁰When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. ¹¹And 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. ¹²And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

CREED

Apostles' Creed – page 207

SERMON HYMN #395 – *"O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright"*

SERMON

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

OFFERING

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE – page 208

SANCTUS – page 208

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING – page 209

LORD'S PRAYER – page 209

PAX DOMINI – page 209

AGNUS DEI – page 210

Individual Prayer for after Communion:

(It is suggested that you pray this in your pew after returning from the altar.)

Lord, grant me then, thus strengthened
With heav'nly food, while here
My course on earth is lengthened,
To serve with holy fear.
And when You call my spirit
To leave this world below,
I enter, through Your merit,
Where joys unmingled flow.

NUNC DIMITTIS – page 211

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT – page 212

BENEDICAMUS and BENEDICTION – page 212

CLOSING HYMN #397 – *"As With Gladness Men of Old"*