



**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.**

Matthew 2.9



Faith Lutheran Church Naples, Florida

Epiphany Sunday

January 2 & 3, 2021

Divine Service, Setting Two, Page 167

AS WE GATHER

We consider the mysteries highlighted by the readings for Epiphany. The Wise Men, or Magi, mysteriously show up in Jerusalem, and these strangers are looking for the King of the Jews. The King of the Jews is mysteriously an infant, born to a humble family in Bethlehem, not in Jerusalem. And this King of the Jews mysteriously invites all people from all nations into His kingdom. These mysteries, hidden for the ages, are revealed in Jesus, the Light of the world.

We reflect today on what it means to belong. We may often feel out of place at school, at work, or perhaps even in our congregation. Perhaps the Wise Men felt like they were out of place in Jerusalem. Yet, regardless of feelings, God invites all people from all nations to be heirs of His kingdom. In Christ, we all belong, and we always will.

U THE PRELUDE

U THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Y **THE CHIMING OF THE TRINITY** *(The congregation stands at the ringing of the bell.)*

Y THE OPENING HYMN “Songs of Thankfulness and Praise” Page 394, vs. 1, 2, 5



1 Songs of thank - ful - ness and praise, Je - sus, Lord, to Thee we raise,
2 Man - i - fest at Jor-dan's stream, Proph-et, Priest, and King su-preme;
5 Grant us grace to see Thee, Lord, Pres - ent in Thy ho - ly Word—



Man - i - fest-ed by the star To the sa - ges from a - far,
And at Ca - na wed - ding guest In Thy God-head man - i - fest;
Grace to im - i - tate Thee now And be pure, as pure art Thou;



Branch of roy - al Da - vid's stem In Thy birth at Beth - le - hem:
Man - i - fest in pow'r di - vine, Chang - ing wa - ter in - to wine;
That we might be - come like Thee At Thy great e - piph - a - ny



An - thems be to Thee ad-dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.
An - thems be to Thee ad-dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.
And may praise Thee, ev - er blest, God in man made man - i - fest.

Y THE INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

Pastor: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

People: **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Y THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

People: **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Pastor: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

People: Amen.

The Service of the Word

Y THE KYRIE

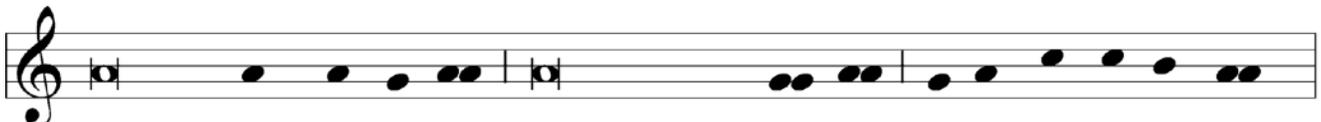
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A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



G Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace from a-bove and for our sal-va-tion let us pray to the Lord.



G Lord, have mer - cy.



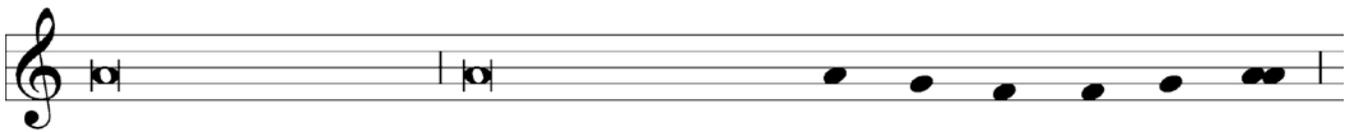
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the uni-ty of all let us pray to the Lord.



G Lord, have mer - cy.



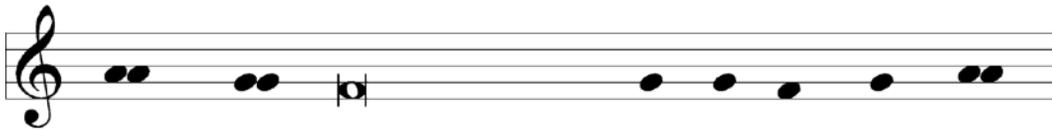
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



C A - men.

Y THE SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY



P The Lord be with you.



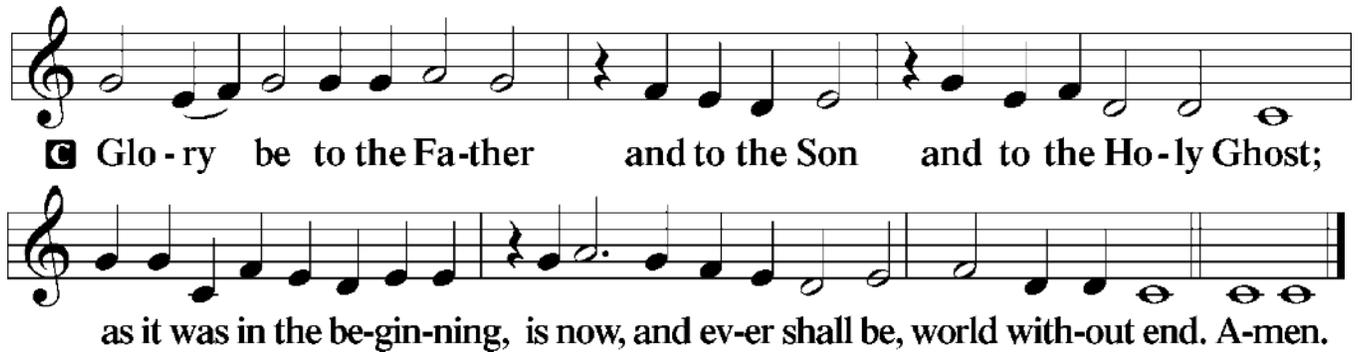
C And al - so with you.

Pastor: Let us pray. O God, by the leading of a star You made known to the Gentiles Your only-begotten Son. 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.



C A - men.

Y THE GLORIA PATRI



Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost;
as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

U THE OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 60:1-6

Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. 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. And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. 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. 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. 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.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

U THE EPISTLE READING

Ephesians 3:1-12

For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles – assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God’s grace that was given to me for you, how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, 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. 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. 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. 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, and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things, so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was according to the eternal purpose that He has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in Him.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Y THE ALLELUIA VERSE

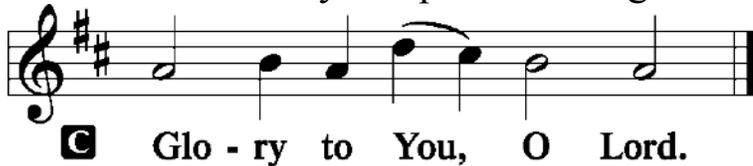
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Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

Y THE HOLY GOSPEL

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



Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

Matthew 2:1-12

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, 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.” When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet: ““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.”” Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. 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.” 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. When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. 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. And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

U THE HYMN OF THE DAY *“As with Gladness Men of Old”* Page 397, vs. 1-4



1 As with glad-ness men of old Did the guid-ing star be-hold;
2 As with joy-ful steps they sped, Sav-ior, to Thy low-ly bed,
3 As they of-fered gifts most rare At Thy cra-dle, rude and bare,
4 Ho-ly Je-sus, ev-'ry day Keep us in the nar-row way;



As with joy they hailed its light, Lead-ing on-ward, beam-ing bright;
There to bend the knee be-fore Thee, whom heav'n and earth a-dore;
So may we with ho-ly joy, Pure and free from sin's al-loy,
And when earth-ly things are past, Bring our ran-somed souls at last



So, most gra-cious Lord, may we Ev-er-more be led by Thee.
So may we with will-ing feet Ev-er seek Thy mer-cy seat.
All our cost-liest trea-sures bring, Christ, to Thee, our heav'n-ly King.
Where they need no star to guide, Where no clouds Thy glo-ry hide.

U THE SERMON

“People Who Don't Belong”

Pastor Donald Treglown

Text: Matthew 2:1-12

Y THE NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And 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. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead; whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Y THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

Y THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

The Service of the Sacrament

Y THE PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

Y THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My T body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My T blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of

sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.

Y THE AGNUS DEI

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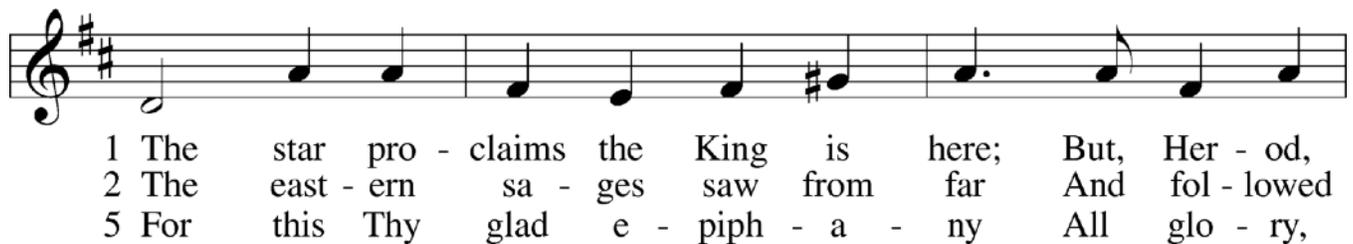
C Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world;
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of
God, You take a - way the sin of the world;
grant us peace, grant us peace.

Y THE BENEDICTION

Pastor: 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 in favor and T give you peace.

People: Amen.

Y THE SENDING HYMN "The Star Proclaims the King Is Here" Page 399, vs. 1, 2, 5



1 The star pro - claims the King is here; But, Her - od,
2 The east - ern sa - ges saw from far And fol - lowed
5 For this Thy glad e - piph - a - ny All glo - ry,

why this sense - less fear? For He who of - fers heav'n - ly
 on His guid - ing star; And, led by light, to light they
 Je - sus, be to Thee, Whom with the Fa - ther we a -
 birth Seeks not the king - doms of this earth.
 trod And by their gifts con - fessed their God.
 dore, And Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more.

THE DISTRIBUTION

(Please review our statement of faith on the back cover.)

THE POSTLUDE



As you exit the Sanctuary, you may leave your gifts to the Lord in the basket that has been placed in the Narthex. When we worship God with our offerings, we recall the words of Jesus: *“For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”*



The Original Gifts of Christmas

- Gold -** The gift given by Melchior, a king of Arabia. He is said to have been the oldest of the three kings.
- Frankincense -** The gift given by Balthazar, a king from Saba, present day Yemen. Frankincense is resin from the dried sap of the Boswellia tree, a tree that has grown on the craggy slopes of the Arabian Sea for thousands of years. In ancient times frankincense and gold were equally precious.
- Myrrh -** The gift given by Caspar, is also resin. It was first used by the Egyptians in mummifying the Pharos. It was thought to be the key to immortal life. In ancient times, the finest myrrh came from southern Arabia. Break a piece of either frankincense or myrrh and smell the fresh incense.



For All Who Intend to Commune

The Lord's Supper is celebrated here at Faith in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine, but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. How we come to the Lord's Table to receive this transforming gift of life is of vital importance. The apostle Paul wrote: "A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself. (1 Corinthians 11:28-29 NIV) **We are always receiving this Sacrament to our benefit or detriment. Out of loving concern for the communicants and from our understanding of the Holy Scriptures, we request that those who commune here:**

1. Be baptized Christians.
2. Have received instruction on the essence and significance of the Lord's Supper.
3. Are spiritually mature enough to examine themselves, recognizing their sin and their need for God's grace through this special means, affirming the following truths:
 - I am a sinner in need of a Savior.
 - I believe Jesus Christ is my only Savior from sin, Satan and death.
 - I believe forgiveness is offered to me freely in this Sacrament.
 - I believe Jesus' body is present in the bread and His blood in the wine for the benefit of my faith.
 - I resolve to turn from my sins I know and to dedicate my life to the service of the Lord in missional living and generous giving.
4. Profess the real presence of Christ in this Sacrament, that is, trusting the mystery of the true presence of Christ's body in the bread and His blood in the wine.

5. Believe the Savior's words, "Given and poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins."

The Lord welcomes you to His table,

knowing that your coming shows agreement with us in these statements of faith.

THOSE NOT COMMUNING are encouraged to come forward, fold their hands across their chest, and receive a blessing. **IF YOU DO NOT AGREE** with our beliefs as stated above, we invite you to come forward for a blessing or to use this time to pray and worship God with singing.

For those with **HEALTH CONCERNS**, gluten-free wafers are available on request, and nonalcoholic wine is available in the center cups of the communion tray. You may select individual cup or the chalice for the wine.

For further understanding of this gift of life from Jesus, please see the following Scripture passages: Matthew 26:17-30, Mark 14:12-26, Luke 22:7-23, 1 Corinthians 10:14-22 & 11:17-34. If you have any other questions, please speak with Pastor or a Faith Elder. You will find Elders, wearing name tags, at all services. (Copyright June, 2010 Used by permission)