

January 8, 2023  
Epiphany Sunday



*The*  
**LIGHT**  
*of the world*



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## ✠ Opening Prayer ✠

**Hymn: TLH #129**

*"Hail, Thou Source of Every Blessing"*

**P** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** ♪ Amen.

**P** Pastor

### **Confession of Our Sins**

**C** Congregation

*We come before God recognizing that we are sinful and daily need His forgiveness.*

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**P** God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.

**C** **If we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.**

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

**C** **If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

**P** Let us pray.

**C** **Almighty God, merciful Father, we are sinful by nature, and have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. But we are sorry for our transgressions and pray You, of Your bountiful mercy, to be gracious and merciful unto us. Forgive us for Jesus' sake, renew us by Your Spirit, and lead us in the way everlasting. Amen.**

### **Absolution from Our God**

*"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (1 John 1:9)*

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**P** Jesus Christ is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. We are forgiven. With boldness and confidence we may approach the throne to find grace to help in time of need. In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

**Response: TLH #644**

*"Praise God, from Whom..."*

**C** ♪ **Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host:  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

## The Introit

Ps. 45:6-8, 17


*A collection of passages that set the tone for the service.*

- P** I will cause your name to be remembered in all generations; therefore nations will praise you forever and ever.
- C** **Your throne, O God, is forever and ever. The scepter of your kingdom is a scepter of uprightness; you have loved righteousness and hated wickedness.**
- P** Therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions; your robes are all fragrant with myrrh and aloes and cassia.
- C** **I will cause your name to be remembered in all generations; therefore nations will praise you forever and ever.**
- P** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
- C** **As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

## The Gloria Patri


TLH 131:5

*Latin for "Glory be to the Father."*

- C**  **All glory, Jesus, be to Thee  
For this Thy glad epiphany;  
Whom with the Father we adore  
And Holy Ghost forevermore.**

## Collect Prayer of the Day

*A prayer to God that collects together the thoughts and theme of the day.*

- P** 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.
- C**  **Amen.**

## 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, <sup>2</sup> 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." <sup>3</sup> When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem

with him; <sup>4</sup> and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. <sup>5</sup> They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet: <sup>6</sup> "'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.'" <sup>7</sup> Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup> 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." <sup>9</sup> 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. <sup>10</sup> When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. <sup>11</sup> 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. <sup>12</sup> And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

### **Ephesians 3:1-12**

For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles-- <sup>2</sup>

assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for you, <sup>3</sup> how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. <sup>4</sup> When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, <sup>5</sup> 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. <sup>6</sup> 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. <sup>7</sup> 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. <sup>8</sup> 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, <sup>9</sup> and to bring to light for everyone 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 manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. <sup>11</sup> This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, <sup>12</sup> in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him.

## Confession of Faith

*The Apostles' Creed*

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*The Apostles' Creed is a summary of Christian faith as taught by the Apostles. We boldly confess what God has taught us to believe.*

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### I BELIEVE...

**in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;**

**And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into Heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost; the Holy Christian Church, the Communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

### Hymn: TLH #127

*"As With Gladness Men of Old"*

#### **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 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. <sup>3</sup> And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. <sup>4</sup> 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. <sup>5</sup> 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. <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 bring good news, the praises of the LORD.

## “Rise and Shine!”

### The Offertory

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*In this prayer we offer our hearts, asking God for the best gift, the Holy Spirit.*

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- ✪ Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a right spirit within me Cast me not away from Thy presence; And take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; And uphold me with thy free spirit. Amen.**

✠ The Offering of Thankful Hearts ✠

**Sermon Hymn: WS #718**

*“O Jesus, King of Glory”*

### Prayers, Lord's Prayer, and Benediction

*Numbers 6:24-26*

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*The blessing given by God for His people.*

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- ✪ The LORD bless you and keep you; The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you; The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you His peace.**
- ✪ Amen, amen, a – men.**

**Hymn: TLH #359:1,3**

*“Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies”*

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**The Annual Voters' Meeting** is scheduled for January 22<sup>nd</sup> after church. If you are a voter, please be sure to attend!

**CLC Call News:** Pastor Andrew Schaller of Calvary Lutheran Church, Marquette, MI, is still considering the call to Luther Memorial, Fond du Lac, WI.

### **January 1<sup>st</sup> Offerings:**

	\$ 1,594.50
Weekly Offerings needed for budget	\$ 1,607.69
General Fund Balance	\$23,225.16
Faith-Blue Springs Balance	\$30,382.75
<b>Total Cash All Funds</b>	<b>\$68,943.75</b>

## **“Rise and Shine?”**

*Written by Pastor Michael Eichstadt, Hales Corners, WI*

“Rise and shine!” You crack an eyelid open as a cheery voice wakes you from a sound sleep. Do you feel much like “shining”? The room is cold, but it's toasty and comfortable under the quilts. Maybe it's hard to work up much enthusiasm for the day because of a mess you made yesterday which has to be cleaned up. You put off a responsibility that really should have been done. You got into an argument with someone at work or school and lost your temper. You ignored a family member who was having a rough day and didn't offer any encouragement or help. What's more, our country and the world are in shambles. Problems and suffering seem more insurmountable with each passing day. What is there to “rise and shine about?”

If you have trouble seeing any reason to get out of bed with a smile, listen to Isaiah's words: “Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD rises upon you. See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples, but the LORD rises upon you and his glory appears over you” (Is. 60:1-2). The Lord calls us to wake up to a brand new day filled with light and hope. Jesus came into the world to shine the light of God's love into dark hearts. He came to substitute His perfect obedience for all the times we made a mess of things by our sin. He was obedient even to the point of dying on the cross to take away our guilt and punishment. He paid for the sins of all humankind once for all. By faith we have a spotless record before God and a glorious future to anticipate.

In a joyful voice the Lord greets us this morning with, “Rise and shine!” The light of His grace and forgiveness is shining as brightly as ever. Let's enjoy it and reflect Jesus' light into the lives of everyone around us. He promises, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life” (Jn. 8:12).

## Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions; Jan. 9 - 14, '23

**Mon Matthew 3:13-17** The glory of the Child of Bethlehem was revealed many times throughout His life. Here at the beginning of His ministry He came to John for baptism, not because He needed to repent but because it was the right thing for those He came to represent. The Spirit and the Father testified to His divine glory.

**Tues 2 Corinthians 4:3-6** The apostle Paul also proclaimed the gospel which revealed "the glory of Christ, who is the image of God" (v4). Through the gospel proclamation God has also shined in our hearts, giving us the gift of beholding God's glory in the face of Jesus Christ (v6).

**Wed Isaiah 2:2-5** Isaiah looks forward to the "latter days," when people from all over the world come to worship in spirit and in truth. Truly these are the days of glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill to men. Come, let us walk in the light of the LORD.

**Thurs John 1:35-42** John declares that Jesus is "the Lamb of God," and two disciples of John follow Jesus, not because He looked so glorious, but because they heard John's testimony. Jesus invites them to come with Him, and one of them, Andrew, goes and brings his brother to Jesus also.

**Fri 2 Corinthians 6:14 – 7:1** To come and see Jesus (Jn1:39) is to be with God and to be His people. It is a wonderful thing that the Lord Almighty wants to be a Father to us, and this moves us to behave as His own children and to cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and spirit.

**Sat Psalm 122** "Let us go to the house of the Lord" has a wonderful sound because of whose house it is! He brings people together in thanksgiving and praise. In His house there is peace – peace with God and peace with one another. It is the peace of God that "will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus"(Ph4:7).