

Epiphany of Our Lord



January 5, 2025 | 9:00 a.m.

*Kviteseid Lutheran Church
308 North Third Street
Milan, Minnesota*

ORDER OF SERVICE

Welcome to worship at Kviteseid Lutheran Church... The Magi followed a star to worship Jesus and present him gifts. We too have been guided here by God's light, to worship Jesus and offer him our gifts of love.

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN

“As with Gladness Men of Old”

ELW #302

INTRODUCTION FOR THE DAY

The feast of Epiphany (“manifestation”) concludes the Christmas season with a celebration of God’s glory revealed in the person of Jesus Christ. In Isaiah and Ephesians, that glory is proclaimed for all nations and people. Like the light of the star that guided the magi to Jesus, the light of Christ reveals who we are: children of God who are claimed and washed in the waters of baptism. We are sent out to be beacons of the light of Christ, sharing the good news of God’s love to all people.

EPIPHANY DIALOGUE

P We give thanks on this holy day, adorned with epiphanies:
for the star that led the magi to the manger,

C that the nations may see the light of Christ;

P for the baptism of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Jordan,

C that the Christ would save us all;

P for the water turned to wine at Cana’s wedding,

C that the people taste the goodness of the Lord.

P This is the day that the Lord has made,

C we will rejoice and be glad in it. Alleluia.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
the Maker of heaven and earth, the Word made flesh,
the Lord and giver of life.

C Amen.

P Let us come into the light of Christ, confessing our need for God’s mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P God of peace,

C we confess that we are not at peace—with others or with ourselves.

**We bring to you all that tears us apart:
discord in our families, violence in our world, our own conflicted hearts.
In your mercy, mend us. Reconnect us to one another and to you.
Let peace reign over all the earth, through the Prince of peace,
our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.**

P In the Word who has come to dwell with us, God has given us grace upon grace: forgiveness that is stronger than our sins, love that can heal every broken heart. Hear this word of God's pardon and peace: in the name of † Jesus our Savior, you are free from all your sins. Rise, shine, for your light has come.

C **Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE "O Come, All Ye Faithful" (vs. 1 & 2) ELW #283

GREETING

P God who sent the Light into the world,
God who shone in the Bethlehem manger,
God who spread the Spirit's rays, be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

C **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.**

LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Jerusalem is assured that nations will make a pilgrimage to her because the light of God's presence is in her midst. The bountiful food of the sea and the profits of international trade will come streaming to Jerusalem and thereby declare God's praise.

PSALM 72:1-7, 10-14

L ¹Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the king's son;

C ²**that he may rule your people righteously and the poor with justice;**

L ³that the mountains may bring prosperity to the people,
and the hills, in righteousness.

C ⁴**Let him defend the needy among the people,
rescue the poor, and crush the oppressor.**

L ⁵May he live as long as the sun and moon endure,
from one generation to another.

- C** ⁶**Let him come down like rain upon the mown field,
like showers that water the earth.**
- L** ⁷In his time may the righteous flourish;
and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.
- C** ¹⁰**May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles pay tribute,
and the kings of Sheba and Seba offer gifts.**
- L** ¹¹May all kings bow down before him, and all the nations do him service.
- C** ¹²**For the king delivers the poor who cry out in distress,
the oppressed, and those who have no helper.**
- L** ¹³He has compassion on the lowly and poor, and preserves the lives of the needy.
- C** ¹⁴**From oppression and violence he redeems their lives,
and precious is their blood in his sight.**

LESSON: Ephesians 3:1-12

What had been hidden from previous generations is now made known through the gospel ministry of Paul and others. In Christ both Jews and Gentiles participate in the richness of God's promised salvation.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

- P** The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 2nd chapter.
- C** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL: Matthew 2:1-12

God's promise shines bright in the night as magi follow a star to honor a new king. Strangers from a faraway land, they welcome the long-awaited messiah of Israel.

- P** The Gospel of our Lord.
- C** **Praise to you, O Christ.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY "Bright and Glorious Is the Sky" (vs. 1, 3-5) ELW #301

APOSTLES' CREED page 105

- C** **I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**
- I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilot,
was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,**

**he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Each portion of the prayers ends with these words:

P God of grace,

C **receive our prayer.**

The prayers are concluded with these words:

P We commend these prayers to you, O God, trusting your grace made known to all, through the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

OFFERING

JINGLE OFFERING

OFFERTORY RESPONSE "What Child Is This" (vs. 3) ELW #296

OFFERING PRAYER

P 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 all earth and heaven, we shout for joy at the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

page 154

C **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.**

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

COMMUNION HYMNS	“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”	ELW #270
	“Angels, from the Realms of Glory”	ELW #275
	“The Bells of Christmas”	ELW #298
	“O Little Town of Bethlehem”	ELW #279

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P O Lord, you look upon us in love and refresh our souls through the gifts of bread and wine. Send us out, reflecting the light of your grace, to tell the story of Jesus Christ, our bright morning star.

C **Amen.**

BLESSING

John 1:1, 3-5

P Beloved children of God, what came into being in Christ was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. The light of Christ shine on you with grace and mercy and fill you with joy and peace.

C **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN “We Three Kings of Orient Are” (vs. 1, 3, 5) WOV #646

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace, guided by the light of Christ.

C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Except as noted, the liturgy is reprinted from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, Copyright © 2006 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS012988.

Copyright © 2024 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS012988.