

Epiphany



WISE MEN STILL SEEK HIM

10:00 a.m. ~ Sunday, January 7th

PRELUDE

“From God the Father, Virgin-Born”

arr. John Behnke

Organ

WELCOME & RELATIONSHIPS of PEACE

OPENING HYMN “From God the Father, Virgin-Born”

OPENING LITURGY

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

P: Arise, shine, for your light has come.

C: **We saw His star when it rose and have come to worship Him.**

P: You shall see and be radiant.

C: **They rejoiced exceedingly with great joy.**

P: They shall bring good news, the praises of the LORD.

C: **And they fell down and worshiped Him.**

P: God is light, and in Him is no darkness at all. If we say we have fellowship with Him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth.

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

[Moment of silent confession]

P: Let us confess our sins to God our Father.

C: **Merciful God, we confess that we live surrounded by the darkness of sin. Our lives are spent in the darkness of the fallen world by our own sin in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done as well as the good we have failed to do. Deliver us from this darkness and grant us Your forgiveness by the light of Your Son’s saving death on the cross and the power of His resurrection. Amen.**

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For peace shining down on us from above and for the salvation of all people, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For peace so that the Church of God would more brightly shine the light of the Gospel in the nations of the world, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For all who join us here to thank God for the unsearchable riches of Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen.

RESPONSE “Songs of Thankfulness and Praise”

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Isaiah 60:1-6 [ESV]

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.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 2:1-12 [ESV]

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.

R: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ!**

STATEMENT of FAITH *The Nicene Creed*

RESPONSE “As With Gladness Men of Old”

SERMON “FOLLOWING THE STAR”

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

“From God the Father, Virgin Born”

Organ

arr. Paul

PRAYERS of the CHURCH

THE LORD’S PRAYER

THE PREFACE

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who became flesh and dwelt among us on earth, light in a dark world, so that we might dwell with Him in everlasting life and light. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

SANCTUS

WORDS of INSTITUTION

THE PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

AGNUS DEI

DISTRIBUTION MUSIC

“What Child is This”

arr. Paul Manz

Organ

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

BENEDICTION

NUNC DIMITTIS

POSTLUDE

“Angels From the Realms of Glory”

Organ

arr. Robert Hobby



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