

# Epiphany of Our Lord

January 9, 2022 – 10am

Modern Worship, ELW Setting 4



## Prelude Music

## Announcements

## Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who sends the word with angels, who is made flesh among all peoples, and who breathes peace on all the earth.

**C: Amen.**

P: In Christ, we are bold to name our sin and cry out for peace.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Holy God,

**C: we confess our sin before you. We replace compassion with competition. We seek what is mighty while ignoring the meek. We are quick to anger but slow to forgive. We have not put on love in harmony with you. Wrap us in the grace of your powerful Word. Swaddle our hearts with your peace, that all we do, in word or deed, may reflect your love born among us. Amen.**

P: I bring you good news of great joy for all people: God has come among us in the child born of Mary, Christ the Lord. † In Christ your sins are forgiven and you are clothed in peace.

**C: Amen.**

## Gathering Song:

## Shout for Joy

*(words below)*

Pour out your fervent praise; There's a song to raise like a banner high;  
Lift up your grateful heart to the Morning Star; He's alive and here with us.

Shout for joy, for the Son of God is the Saving One; He's the Saving One;  
Shout for joy, see what love has done; He has come for us; He's the Saving One.

We stood on sinking sand; He reached out His hand, pulled us to his side;  
We turned our hearts away; He was strong to save, now our Savior reigns in us.

Shout for joy, for the Son of God is the Saving One; He's the Saving One;  
Shout for joy, see what love has done; He has come for us; He's the Saving One.

*(interlude) Oh, oh, oh, oh. Oh, oh, oh, oh.*

There is no other God like You; We sing the praises that you're due Jesus, You have saved us, oh, whoa;  
There is no other God who reigns; You are the name above all names; Jesus, You have saved us, whoa, whoa

... and shout for joy, for the Son of God is the Saving One; He's the Saving One;  
Shout for joy, see what love has done; He has come for us; He's the Saving One.

## Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all!

**C: And also with you!**

## Kyrie

A: In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **C: Lord, have mercy.**

A: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord. **C: Lord, have mercy.**

A: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord. **C: Lord have mercy.**

A: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord have mercy.**

A: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. **C: Amen.**

## Prayer of the Day

A: Let us pray together,

**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.**

## Children's Message

### First Reading: 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.*

<sup>1</sup>Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. <sup>2</sup>For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. <sup>3</sup>Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. <sup>4</sup>Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. <sup>5</sup>Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought 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 proclaim the praise of the Lord.

L: The Word of the Lord

**C: Thanks be to God**

### Gospel Acclamation: **Arise, Your Light Has Come!**

**ELW 314**

Arise, your light has come! The Spirit's call obey;  
show forth the glory of your God which shines on you today.

## **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: A reading from... **C: Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup>asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." <sup>3</sup>When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; <sup>4</sup>and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. <sup>5</sup>They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: <sup>6</sup>'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" <sup>7</sup>Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup>Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." <sup>9</sup>When they had heard the king, 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. <sup>10</sup>When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. <sup>11</sup>On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. <sup>12</sup>And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **Sermon – Pastor Paul**

**Song of the Day:**

**We Three Kings of Orient Are**  
*(please see back page for music)*

**WOV 646**

## **Apostles Creed**

**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 Pilate, 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 / Sign of the Peace**

**Offering** *(encouraged for before or after service, using vase only and not ushers)*

## Offering Prayer

A: Let us pray.

C: Gracious God, your Word-made-flesh brings harmony to the earth. As we offer ourselves and these your gifts, prepare us to receive the grace and truth you offer at this table and renew in us the song of your salvation, in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

## Words of Institution

### 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.

## Communion

### Communion Songs:

**As with Gladness Men of Old  
Brightest and Best of the Stars**

*ELW 302*

*ELW 303*

## Final Blessing

P: The God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing, so that we may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit, through Christ Jesus, the Word made flesh.

C: Amen.

### Sending Song:

**This Little Light of Mine**

*ELW 677*

## Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Rejoice in Christ our Savior.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## We Three Kings of Orient Are

646



1 We three kings of O - ri - ent are; bear - ing gifts we tra - verse a -  
 2 Born a king on Beth-le-hem's plain, gold I bring to crown him a -  
 3 Frank-in - cense to of - fer have I; in - cense owns a de - i - ty  
 4 Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a life of gath - er - ing  
 5 Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise, King and God and Sac - ri -



far, field and foun-tain, moor and moun-tain, fol - low-ing yon - der star.  
 gain; king for - ev - er, ceas - ing nev - er, o - ver us all to reign.  
 nigh; prayer and prais-ing, glad - ly rais - ing, wor-ship-ing God Most High.  
 gloom; sor - rowing, sigh - ing, bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the stone-cold tomb.  
 fice; heav'n sings al - le - lu - ia: al - le - lu - ia the earth re - plies.

*Refrain*

Oh, star of won - der, star of night, star with roy - al beau - ty



bright, west-ward lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - fect light!



Text: John Henry Hopkins, Jr., 1820-1891, alt.  
 Music: John Henry Hopkins, Jr., 1820-1891

THREE KINGS OF ORIENT  
 8 8 4 4 6 and refrain



# Bethlehem

LUTHERAN CHURCH

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[www.bethlehemtc.org](http://www.bethlehemtc.org)

January 9, 2022

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

1/10—Patti Friedli  
1/14—Judy Fenton

1/13—Brian Acker  
1/15—Noah Froehlich

#### **A COVID update from Council:**

“For several months, Grand Traverse County has topped the 14-day average 17% Covid positivity threshold set up by Council for our current precautions. At the last Council Meeting, it was voted upon that **if the positivity rate rises to 17.5% that Bethlehem will once again require mandatory masks regardless of vaccination status.** This will ensure that we are doing our part to keep our parishioners and community safe.

Currently, Munson Healthcare has activated Pandemic Response Level Red for the first time in history (<https://www.munsonhealthcare.org/services/community-health/covid19/pandemic-status>), as they are seeing the most Covid cases since last year. At the time of Tuesday's Council vote, the rate was 15%, and **the latest update, as of time of printing, GT County positivity rate is very close to our new threshold, so we ask that ALL worshippers wear masks.** Stay safe, pray for all good things, and see you soon!  
-Your Bethlehem Church Council”

**Please note that the new Building and Office Hours are: 9:00am – 2:30pm, Monday – Thursday.**

**Today's altar flowers are donated by:** *Barbara Wright in memory of Donald Wright.*

**The 2022 Giving envelopes are available in the Narthex.** Please pick your box up at your earliest convenience.

**The January issue of the STAR is ready.** Feel free to check online at [www.bethlehemtc.org](http://www.bethlehemtc.org) < About Us > “The Online Bethlehem Star” or type this URL to get these directly: <http://www.bethlehemtc.org/the-bethlehem-star-newsletter>.

**The Annual Pancake Breakfast & Ski Trip is back and is scheduled for Sunday, January 23rd 8:30AM - 9:30AM! The Ski Trip is scheduled for Sunday, February 20th right after church.**

The Y2A Committee and Christian Education Committee are looking for volunteers both youth and adult alike!

Due to Omicron council has asked us to put a cancellation policy in place. If the Traverse City area is at a 17% positivity rate 2 weeks before our Pancake Breakfast, we will have to cancel the fundraiser but the Ski Trip would still be on.

If you are interested in volunteering there is a sign up sheet out on the old contact tracing table. There is also a virtual sign up sheet so see Annie after church or contact her at [annie.slabaugh@bethlehemtc.org](mailto:annie.slabaugh@bethlehemtc.org) if you need that or have questions!

**Please consider signing up for Altar Flowers for a Sunday service.** You may use the sign-up poster in the Narthex by signing on the date you request. **Then fill out a pink slip with the necessary information and place it and a check for \$40 (payable to Bethlehem Lutheran Church or BLC) in the offering plate on Sunday morning (Preferable) or during the week, in the Administration Assistant's mailbox near the church office entrance.** You may select either "in honor" or "in memory" or "to celebrate". If someone has already signed on the date you would like, feel free to add your name – we welcome more than one on a Sunday. **The 2022 dates are now on the sign-up poster.**

**Celebrate a new child in your life with a rose on the baptismal font!** Cost \$10.00 per rose. Contact Barbara Oster at [beo6475@yahoo.com](mailto:beo6475@yahoo.com) or 231.668.7038.

**The outdoor food pantry is closed until spring to make sure that none of the food is damaged by the cold.** You can still bring in your staples at any time and place it in the teal bin under the table by the mailboxes. One BLC member knew of an apartment complex for low income residents with food needs and delivered 12 overflowing bags of what had been outside to the very grateful recipients. Please keep the residents of the 72 unit Brookside Commons Apartments in your prayers. Watch for the pantry to jump back into full swing in the spring.

**Our blog has been renamed "Paths of Hope".** Check it out on the Bethlehem website: <http://www.bethlehemtc.org/new-blog-paths-of-hope>.

**After two years of cancellations due to COVID-19, Living Water Ministries has decided to make camp a gift freely given for all campers of Stony Lake.** This means that there are no registration fees for any program at Stony Lake for the summer of 2022!! Adult Leaders from Bethlehem are planning on being there for Week 1 (June 19-24) as long as there are youth interested. Please note that the Living Water Ministries Board of Directors made the decision to make full vaccination a requirement for attendance at any Living Water Ministries event, including camp. **If your youth is interested in attending camp this summer, please see Annie after service or reach out to her via email at [annie.slabaugh@bethlehemtc.org](mailto:annie.slabaugh@bethlehemtc.org) no later than Wednesday February 9th.**

**The newest Living Lutheran magazine and the January/February/March Christ in our Home** can be picked up at the welcome table on Sunday mornings, from the Shooting STAR box below the outside mailbox, or during parking lot communion.

**The Wednesday morning bible study of Matthew meets from 9-11am.** All are welcome. Bring your own bible. We read the bible and then talk about what we read. We say a prayer for any needs that are shared. Come. Join a fellowship. Leader is Barbara Graf.

**Quilters need help!** We meet on Tuesdays 9:00am-11:00am. It is not traditional quilting. We tie three layers of fabric together. The "quilts" are sent all over the world when needed by Lutheran World Relief. So if you can tie or even cut, please join us on Tuesday mornings.

**"Zoom Book Study"** gathering via Zoom has returned on Wednesdays at 1:30pm for the new year. Besides the thought-provoking discussions, we also have great conversation and fellowship. For this series, we are discussing the Gospel of Matthew. Please contact Pr. Paul if you are interested in joining.

**Please continue to turn in your Olesons' receipts to Bethlehem. Thanks for your support.**

**Have something important going on at Bethlehem that you'd like others to know about?** Maybe a Small Group? A Club Event? Feature it on the Screen Announcements and on our Facebook Events Page! If there is something you'd like featured or included for either Screen Announcements or Facebook Events please reach out to Annie at [annie.slabaugh@bethlehemtc.org](mailto:annie.slabaugh@bethlehemtc.org).

**Bethlehem sends weekly emails directly to your inbox with important announcements and information!** If you are not getting them for any reason or if you have something you'd like to have added please reach out to Annie at [annie.slabaugh@bethlehemtc.org](mailto:annie.slabaugh@bethlehemtc.org).

## Still time to Pledge...paper-free!

There is still time to pledge, and your stewardship committee is making it easier than ever to take that next step to help our BLC ministry! See [www.bethlehemtc.org/pledge](http://www.bethlehemtc.org/pledge)

**The church calendar has returned below. Please be sure to notify the office ([admin@bethlehemtc.org](mailto:admin@bethlehemtc.org) or 231.947.9880) to be sure that your group is on the calendar.**

### CALENDAR

#### Sunday, January 9

10:00am—Worship Service (S)  
11:00am—Parking Lot Communion  
11:00am—WELCA Meeting (CR)

#### Monday, January 10

4:00pm—Drive My Way (FH)  
5:00pm—Finance Committee (CR)  
6:00pm—Drive My Way (FH)

#### Tuesday, January 11

9:00am—LWR Quilters (FH)  
9:00am—Property Work Group  
10:00am—Staff Meeting (CR)  
12:00pm—Sarah Circle (GS)  
4:00pm—Drive My Way (FH)  
4:30pm—Executive Committee (CR)  
6:00pm—Y2A Meeting (GS)

#### Wednesday, January 12

**Bulletin articles due today**  
9:00am—Bible Study (YR)  
11:30am—Music Rehearsal  
1:30pm—ZOOM Bible Study  
4:00pm—Drive My Way (FH)

#### Thursday, January 13

9:00am—Baby Pantry (FH)  
1:00pm—Rebecca Anna Circle (GS)  
5:30pm—ACOA

#### Saturday, January 15

9:45 – Confirmation Retreat @ FOV

#### Sunday, January 16

10:00am—Worship Service (S)  
11:00am—Parking Lot Communion