

**Our Savior Lutheran Church
Sunday, January 3, 2021
Second Sunday of Christmas
Epiphany of Our Lord**



Thought/Prayer: 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. Amen.

I wonder as I wander this life if I could really “know” the majesty and magnitude of God’s gift of love, much like Mary? Not just how it might change me, but the whole world!

Prelude – Mary Did You Know? (One Voice Children’s Choir)

Our apologies for any ads that pop up – please ‘Skip Ads’ as soon as possible

<https://youtu.be/F1H1-scfD1s>

Call to Worship

L: There’s the star in the sky.

C: We follow the light.

L: There’s the light of the world.

C: We follow the light.

L: We are called to light the world ourselves.

C: We shine in the darkness, and live with the consequences of illumination.

L: The dayspring from on high breaks upon us.

C: Joy comes with the morning. Thanks be to God.

Music – What Star is This? (Jay Althouse)

<https://youtu.be/2ZraxvNfdpw>

Invocation

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

Confession and Absolution

P: God is light, and in him there is no darkness at all.

C: If we say that we have fellowship with God while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true.

P: But if we walk in the light as God himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another,

C: and the blood of Jesus Christ, God's Son, cleanses us from all sin.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P: Almighty God,

C: You dwell in light unapproachable. Unprotected, we perish in your presence, for our hearts are darkened, our minds beclouded; we have loved darkness rather than the light; we call for night to cover our deeds. The darkness of death awaits.

P: Jesus Christ is the light of the world, the light no darkness can overcome.

C: For his sake we beg forgiveness.

P: For his sake God hears your prayer. God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, has shined in your hearts, to give you the light of the glory of God in the face of Christ Jesus, our Lord.

C: We have seen the Lord's glory; we have heard the Lord's voice.

P: Walk, then, as children of light...in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Greeting

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

And also with you.

Kyrie

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

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.

Lord, have mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.
Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
Amen and Amen.

Music of Praise – Angels From the Realms of Glory (FCC Marshfield)

<https://youtu.be/nSK8hek8pvk>

Prayer of the Day

L: You, Eternal Father, are easy to find...
C: ...for you make yourself known, in starlight and Scripture.
L: And you Eternal Father, are eager to be known...
C: ...for you have made yourself known to the nations.
L: Open our eyes...
C: ...to the starlight of your presence.
L: Open our hearts...
C: ...to the closeness of your Word.
L: Let us see your glory. Through the Word, your Son, our Lord.
He lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now...
C: and forever. Amen.

The Word

Old Testament reading - Isaiah 60:1-6

Nations come to the light

60 Arise, shine; for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.
² 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.
³ Nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.
⁴ 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.
⁵ 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.
⁶ 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.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14

All kings shall bow down before him.

- ¹ Give the king your justice, O God,
and your righteousness to a king's son.
- ² **May he judge your people with righteousness,
and your poor with justice.**
- ³ May the mountains yield prosperity for the people,
and the hills, in righteousness.
- ⁴ **May he defend the cause of the poor of the people,
give deliverance to the needy, and crush the oppressor.**
- ⁵ May he live while the sun endures,
and as long as the moon, throughout all generations.
- ⁶ **May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass,
like showers that water the earth.**
- ⁷ In his days may righteousness flourish
and peace abound, until the moon is no more.
- ¹⁰ **May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles
render him tribute, may the kings of Sheba and Seba bring gifts.**
- ¹¹ May all kings fall down before him,
all nations give him service.
- ¹² **For he delivers the needy when they call,
the poor and those who have no helper.**
- ¹³ He has pity on the weak and the needy,
and saves the lives of the needy.
- ¹⁴ **From oppression and violence he redeems their life;
and precious is their blood in his sight.**

Epistle reading – Ephesians 3:1-12

The gospel's promise extends to all

³ This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles— ² for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, ³ and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, ⁴ a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. ⁵ In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and

prophets by the Spirit: ⁶ that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

⁷ Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. ⁸ Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, ⁹ and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; ¹⁰ so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹ This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹² in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel – Matthew 2:1-12

Revelation of Christ to the nations of the earth

<https://youtu.be/zKHLn2U-zmY>

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

2 In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ² 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." ³ When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴ and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵ They told him,

"In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

⁶ '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.'"

⁷ Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸ 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." ⁹ 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. ¹⁰ When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹ 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. ¹² And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Children's Time – Star Light, Star Bright

<https://youtu.be/ZFYdCXw0010>

Homily – Pastor Barnes: “Mary, Did you Know?” “And you?”

<https://youtu.be/3chYMthBxks>

Music – We Three Kings (This Hope)

<https://youtu.be/UuLo7I7daqM>

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 Intercession

P: Joining our voices with the song of the angels, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

L: Glorious God, fill your church with joy. Let your faithful people live as beacons of your redemption. Give wisdom and courage to your church that it may speak with boldness and confidence, even when words of mercy are met with scorn. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: Show us your faithfulness in the rising and setting of the sun. Place wonder into the hearts of those who search the skies and explore the heavens. Curb waste and pollution, that all might have clean air to breathe. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: Bring all nations and rulers to the splendor of your dawn. Raise up advocates who champion the cause of exploited and vulnerable people. Inspire leaders to be generous with abundance, that all people might live in stability and freedom. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: Come quickly with your healing power to all who seek love, support, and restoration. Dispel fears and shadows. Restore broken relationships and mend broken hearts. Bring relief to those who are sick or struggling. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: Send traveling mercies upon all who journey home by other roads. Guard refugees, immigrants, and asylum seekers. Protect families fleeing conflict in their homelands or abuse in their homes. Tend to those who have no place to lay their heads. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: According to the boundless riches of Christ, you draw all your saints, from the least to the greatest, to your heavenly places. As you created all things, make all things new again in the splendor of your glory. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: God of mercy, come quickly to us with grace upon grace as we lift these and all our prayers to you, in the name of Jesus.

C: Amen.

Offering Our Thoughts, Prayers and Gifts to God

Father, we have sought you out as the Magi once searched the skies to know you. We the Magi bowed down to worship your Son. Father, we offer these gifts before you as signs of our seeking. We thank you for the gift of your son and salvation He brings. Amen.

Thoughts of the Bread and Wine We Share

Unable to be together does not diminish the gift given. As you listen to "I Received the Living God," know that Jesus is in you and with you always.

I Received the Living God (Agnes Choo)

<https://youtu.be/4tkcFDNcRaY>

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,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.

Closing Prayer

The gold, the incense, the myrrh – our gift cannot compare to this great gift, O Lord. For you have given of yourself. Teach us, by your example to give of ourselves. For that is true worship. We bless you now and evermore. **Amen.**

Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine upon you, and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give to you His peace.
Amen.

Closing Music – As With Gladness Men of Old (Hymn Channel)

https://youtu.be/sp52sx2_GYs

