

EPIPHANY

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church
January 5, 2025



St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Congregation

Building on the Rock of Jesus and His Word

Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod

1600 S. Main St. Fond du Lac, Wisconsin

stpetersfdl.net ~ 920-922-1160

Church Services: Thursday, 6:30 pm ~ Sunday, 8:00 & 10:30 am

Pastor Peter Lindemann 920-342-6924 (cell) or 922-1160 ext. 305

Pastor Luke Boehringer 920-579-8150 (cell) or 922-1160 ext. 304

St. Peter's Lutheran School, Mr. Courtney Meyer, Principal 922-1160 ext. 302

Winnebago Lutheran Academy, Mr. David Schroeder, Principal 921-4930 ext. 304

WELCOME TO GOD'S HOUSE It's a joy to be able to gather around God's Word and worship Jesus, who is the Light of the World, the Savior of all mankind. May the joy of the Epiphany season fill your heart.

We are glad you are here!

If you have any questions about our service or practice, please feel free to ask one of the ushers or the pastors.

- Tune into KFIZ AM 1450 OR FM 100.7 each Sunday morning at 8:00 to hear the current weekend's sermon.
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HOLY COMMUNION Today we have the privilege of receiving Christ's true body and blood in, with and under the bread and wine of Holy Communion. Through this sacrament the Holy Spirit seals to us the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation for the strengthening of our faith. Scriptures also teach that as we commune together, we are publicly testifying to a complete unity of faith based on a confession of all of God's Word. For this reason, we respectfully request that all of those who are not members **please speak with the pastor before communing** with us. Thank you.

A PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP O Light of Gentile nations, O Savior from above, drawn by your Spirit's leading, we come with joy and love into your holy temple and wait with reverent mind, as Simeon once had waited his God and Lord to find. Let us, O Lord, be faithful like Simeon to the end, so that his prayer exultant may from our

hearts ascend: “O Lord, now let your servant depart in peace, I pray, since I have seen my Savior and here beheld his day.” Amen

SERVICE THEME

The Gift of God is for All People

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Setting One | 154-171

OPENING HYMN

As with Gladness Men of Old | 372

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Lord God, by the leading of a star, you once made known to the nations your one and only Son. Guide us, also, who know him now by faith to come at last to the perfect joy of your heavenly glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

FIRST LESSON

1 Kings 10:1-9

An African queen visits Israel to test the wisdom of King Solomon. The result of her visit: she ends up praising the LORD for his love. The gift of God is for all people.

The Queen of Sheba heard about Solomon’s fame, which was connected with the fame of the LORD, so she came to test him with hard questions. ²She came to Jerusalem with a very great entourage—with camels carrying spices and a large quantity of gold and precious stones. She came to Solomon and told him everything that was on her heart. ³Solomon answered all her questions. There was nothing hidden from the king that he could not explain to her.

⁴The Queen of Sheba saw all the wisdom of Solomon, the house which he built, ⁵and the food on his table. When she saw the council meeting of his officials, the careful attention of his ministers, as well as their attire, his cupbearers, and the whole burnt offerings which he offered at the House of the LORD, it took her breath away.

⁶She said to the king, “The report I heard in my own country about your accomplishments and your wisdom is true. ⁷I did not believe the report until I came and saw it with my own eyes. The truth is, not even half of it was told to me! Your wisdom and wealth surpass the report which I heard. ⁸Blessed are your men, blessed are your servants, who stand before you continually hearing your wisdom! ⁹May the LORD your God be blessed, who was pleased to put you on the throne of Israel. Because the LORD loves Israel forever, he made you king to administer justice and righteousness.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND LESSON

Acts 13:46-49

The focus of St. Paul’s ministry would be to share the gift of eternal life with the Gentiles.

Then Paul and Barnabas responded fearlessly, “It was necessary that God’s word be spoken to you first. But since you reject it and consider yourselves unworthy of eternal life, look: We are now turning to the Gentiles! ⁴⁷For this is what the Lord has instructed us: I have made you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring salvation to the end of the earth.”

⁴⁸When the Gentiles heard this, they were rejoicing and praising the word of the Lord. All who had been appointed for eternal life believed. ⁴⁹And the word of the Lord was being carried through the whole region.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 2:2

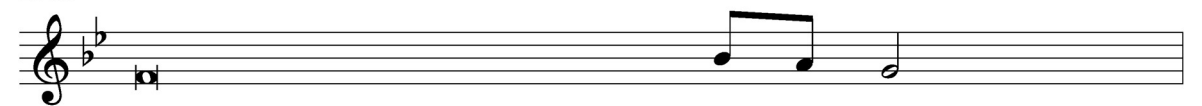


Refrain



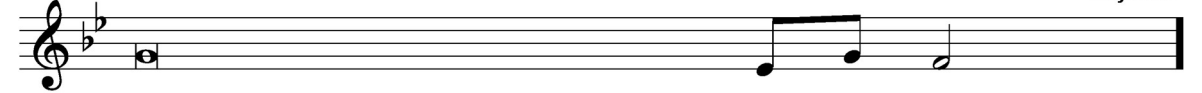
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Tone



Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews?

Refrain



We saw his star when it rose and have come to wor - ship him.

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GOSPEL

Matthew 2:1-12

The LORD miraculously led Magi across many hundreds of miles of difficult terrain, so that they might worship the child who offered the gift of salvation.

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, when Herod was king, Wise Men from the east came to Jerusalem. They asked, ²“Where is he who has been born King of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.” ³When King Herod heard this, he was alarmed, and all Jerusalem with him. ⁴He gathered together all the people’s chief priests and experts in the law. He asked them where the Christ was to be born. ⁵They said to him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, because this was written through the prophet:

**ALL: ‘You, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are certainly not least among the rulers of Judah:
because out of you will come a ruler,
who will shepherd my people, Israel.’**

⁷Then Herod secretly summoned the Wise Men and found out from them exactly when the star had appeared. ⁸He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the child. When you find him, report to me, so that I may also go and worship him.” ⁹After listening to the king, they went on their way. Then the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them, until it stood still over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw the star, they rejoiced with overwhelming joy. ¹¹After they went into the house and saw the child with Mary, his mother, they bowed down and worshipped him.

**ALL: Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts:
gold, frankincense, and myrrh.**

¹²Since they had been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they went back to their own country by another route.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

HYMN OF THE DAY (next page)

**Old melody CW 92*

Brightest and Best

1 Bright - est and best of the stars of the morn - ing,
2 Cold on his cra - dle the dew - drops are shin - ing;
3 Shall we not yield him in cost - ly de - vo - tion
4 Vain - ly we bring him the fin - est of of - f’rings,
5 Bright - est and best of the stars of the morn - ing,

Dawn on our dark - ness and lend us your aid.
Low lies his head with the beasts of the stall.
Rar - est of fra - gran - ces, tri - bute di - vine,
Vain - ly with gifts would his fa - vor se - cure.
Dawn on our dark - ness and lend us your aid.

Star of the East, the ho - ri - zon a - dorn - ing,
An - gels a - dore him in slum - ber re - clin - ing,
Gems of the moun - tain and pearls of the o - cean,
Rich - er by far is the praise that the heart brings;
Star of the East, the ho - ri - zon a - dorn - ing,

Guide where our in - fant Re - deem - er is laid.
Mak - er and mon - arch and Sav - ior of all.
Myrrh from the for - est and gold from the mine?
Dear - er to God are the prayers of the poor.
Guide where our in - fant Re - deem - er is laid.

Sermon

“Gifts That Go Down”

Pastor Boehringer

NICENE CREED & PRAYER

pages 162-163

GATHERING OF OUR OFFERING

THE SACRAMENT

pages 165-170

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

How Lovely Shines the Morning Star | 370

THANKSGIVING & BLESSING

page 170

CLOSING HYMN

Rise Up and Shine | 376

ORGANIST: Brent Nolte

GREETERS: 8:00 ~ Warren & Mary Demmon

10:30 ~ Scott & Sherry Georg

