



Risen Christ Lutheran Church
2nd Sunday in Christmas and
Epiphany Observed
January 5, 2025

**REMEMBER, YOU ARE IN GOD'S SANCTUARY. AS YOU ENTER
HIS SANCTURARY, PLEASE SIT QUIETLY, PRAY, AND READ
THROUGH THIS WORSHIP FOLDER
TO PREPARE FOR WORSHIP.**



Risen Christ Lutheran Church
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734.453.5252 www.risenchrist.info

ABOUT HOLY COMMUNION – (2nd & 4th Sundays) We believe that the Lord’s Supper is not symbolic. We believe what Jesus Himself said: that His body and blood are truly present in this, His meal that He instituted for forgiveness and spiritual strength, that God desires our sincere confession, continuous seeking and giving forgiveness and, that being genuine in taking Communion so that we not harm ourselves by taking it in an unworthy manner. If you believe the above and you are a baptized believer who trusts in the death and resurrection of Jesus for the forgiveness of sins, and you have examined yourself, you are welcome to commune with us. Please talk to the Pastor if you have any questions. The bread is offered before the “individual” and “common” cups of wine. (Note: White Grape Juice is in the center of the tray.)

OFFERING – Through the offerings of His faithful people, our Lord provides for the ongoing work of His Church. If you are a visitor, we are glad that you came to be served by the Lord this day. If you choose to contribute to the ongoing work of the Gospel, we give thanks that God has moved you to contribute toward the work of sharing the Gospel here in Plymouth and around the world through your here! You can also take advantage of Online Giving by visiting www.RisenChrist.info

A WORD TO OUR MEMBERS AND GUESTS – Welcome and thank you for coming. Everyone please complete a Worship Card and place it in the offering plate. For Guests, Pastor will send you a welcome card and please indicate that you “desire” a call for any further contact.

Large Print Bulletins – Available from an usher.

Listening Assistance Devices – Available at the Sound Booth.

Parent Room – A row of seating and plenty of area for standing or walking is available in the Welcome Area/Lobby (“Narthex”)

For Children – Children’s Book Cart for Worship: Available in the Welcome Area.

As We Gather

Have you ever received a surprise present, one that was out of your own price range to get? That, in a nutshell, describes **Epiphany**. The Wise Men came to give presents, and instead received one their wealth could not have bought. We are included in this. We are baptized for the forgiveness of sins by His blood on the cross that covers our sins, once for all. That water and blood give us the greatest—and most expensive—gift in the world. Here we see Jesus revealed, manifested, in a star, in the coming of the Magi and the gifts they bring.

Welcome and Announcements

LADIES EPIPHANY TEA – Saturday January 11th – Invite someone! Doors open at 3:45pm.
All ladies welcome regardless of church affiliation!

Invocation and Opening Sentences

Colossians 1:15–20

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation.

C For by Him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through Him and for Him.

P And He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together.

C And He is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything He might be preeminent.

P For in Him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,

C and through Him to reconcile to Himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of His cross.

O Come, All Ye Faithful



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, Joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O
2 High - est, most ho - ly, Light of Light e - ter - nal,
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, Sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
4 Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, Born this hap - py morn - ing;



come ye, O come— ye to Beth - le - hem;
Born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal He comes;
Sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!
Je - sus, to Thee— be— glo - ry giv'n!



Come and be - hold Him Born the king of an - gels:
Son of the Fa - ther Now in flesh ap - pear - ing!
Glo - ry to God— In— the— high - est:
Word of the Fa - ther Now in flesh ap - pear - ing!

Refrain



O come, let us a - dore Him, O come, let us a - dore Him,



O come, let us a - dore Him, Christ the Lord!

Confession and Absolution

P Let us confess our sins to God our Father.

C Most merciful God, I confess that I am by nature sinful and unclean. I have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed.

P Do you recognize the truth—that you have not loved God with your whole heart nor loved your neighbor as yourself?

C **I confess that I have failed to keep the two great commandments by what I have done and what we have failed to do. Heavenly Father, I don't deserve Your forgiveness, but ask for it because of the greatest love shown at the cross.**

P Hear the great news: God has used two common earthly elements—water and blood—to forgive your sins and make you His very own. Through the cross of Christ and the blood of Jesus shed there, and because you have been baptized, you are forgiven of all of your sins, in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Thank You, Lord, for revealing Your mercy and grace to me on this great day of Epiphany.**

P Lord Jesus, thank You for shedding Your blood and giving us the waters of Holy Baptism,

C **by which You sacrificed Your life for ours and made us a part of Your family forever. Amen.**

Introit

Psalm 45:6–8a; antiphon: v. 17

P I will cause Your name to be remembered in all generations; therefore nations will praise You forever and ever.

C **Your throne, O God, is forever and ever. The scepter of Your kingdom is a scepter of uprightness;**

P You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness.

C **Therefore God, Your God, has anointed You with the oil of gladness beyond Your companions; Your robes are all fragrant with myrrh and aloes and cassia. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

P I will cause Your name to be remembered in all generations;

C **therefore nations will praise You forever and ever.**

Salutation and Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you. **C** **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, our great High Priest,

C **cleanse us by the power of Your redeeming blood that in purity and peace we may worship and adore Your holy name;**

P for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit,

C **one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 60:1–6

¹Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

²For 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.

³And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising.

⁴Lift 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.

⁵Then 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.

⁶A 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.

L This is the Word of the Lord. **C** **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

Psalm 72:1–15; antiphon: v. 18

L Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, **C** **who alone does wondrous things.**

L Give the king Your justice, O God, and Your righteousness to the royal son!

C **May He judge Your people with righteousness, and Your poor with justice!**

L Let the mountains bear prosperity for the people, and the hills, in righteousness!

C **May He defend the cause of the poor of the people, give deliverance to the children of the needy, and crush the oppressor!**

L May they fear You while the sun endures, and as long as the moon, throughout all generations!

C **May He be like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth!**

L In His days may the righteous flourish, and peace abound, till the moon be no more!

C **May He have dominion from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth!**

L May desert tribes bow down before Him and His enemies lick the dust!

C **May the kings of Tarshish and of the coastlands render Him tribute; may the kings of Sheba and Seba bring gifts! May all kings fall down before Him, all nations serve Him!**

L For He delivers the needy when he calls, the poor and him who has no helper.

C **He has pity on the weak and the needy, and saves the lives of the needy.**

L From oppression and violence He redeems their life, and precious is their blood in His sight.

C **Long may He live; may gold of Sheba be given to Him! May prayer be made for Him continually, and blessings invoked for Him all the day!**

L Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, **C** **who alone does wondrous things.**

Epistle

Ephesians 3:1–12

¹For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles— ²assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God’s grace that was given to me for you, ³how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. ⁴When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, ⁵which was not made known to the sons of men in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit. ⁶This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

⁷Of this gospel I was made a minister according to the gift of God’s grace, which was given me by the working of his power. ⁸To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, ⁹and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things, ¹⁰so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹²in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him.

L This is the Word of the Lord. **C** **Thanks be to God.**

As with Gladness Men of Old



1 As with glad-ness men of old Did the guid-ing star be-hold;
2 As with joy-ful steps they sped, Sav-ior, to Thy low-ly bed,
3 As they of-fered gifts most rare At Thy cra-dle, rude and bare,
4 Ho-ly Je-sus, ev-'ry day Keep us in the nar-row way;
5 In the heav'n-ly coun-try bright Need they no cre-at-ed light;



As with joy they hailed its light, Lead-ing on-ward, beam-ing bright;
There to bend the knee be-fore Thee, whom heav'n and earth a-dore;
So may we with ho-ly joy, Pure and free from sin's al-loy,
And when earth-ly things are past, Bring our ran-somed souls at last
Thou its light, its joy, its crown, Thou its sun which goes not down;



So, most gra-cious Lord, may we Ev-er-more be led by Thee.
So may we with will-ing feet Ev-er seek Thy mer-cy seat.
All our cost-liest trea-sures bring, Christ, to Thee, our heav'n-ly King.
Where they need no star to guide, Where no clouds Thy glo-ry hide.
There for-ev-er may we sing Al-le-lu-ias to our King.

Verse

Matthew 2:2b

P Alleluia. Where is He who has been born king of the Jews?

C For we saw His star when it rose and have come to worship Him. Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 2:1–12

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the second chapter. **C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, ²saying, "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." ³When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. ⁵They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:

⁶"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."

⁷Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. ⁸And 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." ⁹After 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. ¹⁰When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. ¹¹And 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. ¹²And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord. **C** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Sermon – “Consider Where and to Whom You Belong”

Apostles' Creed (*Words on screens*)

Offering – ONLINE GIVING available at www.RisenChrist.info – Whether you are a visitor or a member, please turn in a **Worship Card** so we may know whom the Lord has served with His Word.

Prayer of the Church

- P** Let us pray for the whole people of God and for all people according to their needs.
Almighty God, You revealed Your Son to Gentiles on the day of Epiphany.
- C** **Use us, we pray, to bring light and peace where there is none right now.**
- P** Lord Jesus, You were willing to shed Your blood on the cross for our forgiveness and have given us the hope of salvation.
- C** **Thank You for shedding Your blood and giving us the waters of Holy Baptism to make us Your own sons and daughters through faith in You.**
- P** As You cared for the sick and still do, we remember before Your throne those among us who are sick and in need of Your care, [*especially...*].
- C** **As You did in Your earthly ministry, continue to love, care, touch, and heal them according to Your will.**
- P** For Your kingdom, invisible to human eyes yet so very real, we lift up our voices in prayer.
- C** **We pray that You would use us by the working of Your Holy Spirit to open hearts and eyes to Your love and see Your kingdom.**
- P** Merciful Father in heaven, You hold all authority and power in Your hands. Use those whom You have installed as rulers over us for our good and not our harm.
- C** **Use them to bring about blessing to those who are bringing justice and peace to our lands and to stop evildoers in their tracks.**
- P** We also remember those who are persecuted for Your name.
- C** **For those who have to endure torture and persecution, give them the hope of their eternal reward.**
- P** Almighty God, You are the fountain of all wisdom. You know what we need before we ever ask, even when we do not know what to ask or even how to ask.
- C** **We are but mortal men and women, but You are immortal, invisible, and wise. Look upon us with compassion, care for us, and meet our needs.**
- P** These things we ask, almighty God, in Your name, trusting that in Your mercy and according to Your will, You will not only hear our prayers but answer them. **C** **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

- 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.**

Songs of Thankfulness and Praise



1 Songs of thank - ful - ness and praise, Je - sus, Lord, to Thee we raise,
2 Man - i - fest at Jor-dan's stream, Proph-et, Priest, and King su-preme;
3 Man - i - fest in mak-ing whole Pal - sied limbs and faint - ing soul;
4 Sun and moon shall dark-ened be, Stars shall fall, the heav'ns shall flee;
5 Grant us grace to see Thee, Lord, Pres - ent in Thy ho - ly Word—



Man - i - fest - ed by the star To the sa - ges from a - far,
And at Ca - na wed - ding guest In Thy God-head man - i - fest;
Man - i - fest in val - iant fight, Quell - ing all the dev - il's might;
Christ will then like light - ning shine, All will see His glo - rious sign;
Grace to im - i - tate Thee now And be pure, as pure art Thou;



Branch of roy - al Da - vid's stem In Thy birth at Beth - le - hem:
Man - i - fest in pow'r di - vine, Chang - ing wa - ter in - to wine;
Man - i - fest in gra - cious will, Ev - er bring - ing good from ill;
All will then the trum - pet hear, All will see the Judge ap - pear;
That we might be - come like Thee At Thy great e - piph - a - ny



An - thems be to Thee ad - dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.
An - thems be to Thee ad - dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.
An - thems be to Thee ad - dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.
Thou by all wilt be con - fessed, God in man made man - i - fest.
And may praise Thee, ev - er blest, God in man made man - i - fest.

Benedicamus and Benediction

P Let us bless the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

C **Amen.**

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series C, Quarter 1.
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