



WELCOME TO  
ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH!

Where is He who has been born King of the Jews?  
For we have seen His star in the East  
and have come to worship Him. *Mt. 2:2b*

## The Epiphany of Our Lord

January 11, 2015

### A Service of the Word

Setting adapted from TLH p.5 – the Order of Morning Service

VISITORS: TLH (hymns 1-660) is the RED book, WS (hymns 701-800) is the TAN book  
(If you have difficulty standing, please feel free to remain seated as needed)

Preservice Devotion: Psalm 72, forepart of TLH p.138

#### OPENING HYMN

**WS 718**

*O Jesus, King of Glory*

#### INVOCATION

*Matthew 28:19*

Minister (M) In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.



**Congreg. (C) A - - men**

M Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God, our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. Our help is in the name of the Lord.



**C Who made heaven and earth.**

*Psalm 124:8*

M I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.



**C And Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin.**

*Psalm 32:5*

M Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto Thee that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against Thee by thought, word, and deed. Therefore we flee for refuge to Thine infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Thy grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**C O most merciful God, who hast given Thine only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Thy Holy Spirit increase in us**

**true knowledge of Thee and of Thy will, and true obedience to Thy Word, to the end that by Thy grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

M Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on His name He gives power to become the sons of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He who believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all. *Mark 16:16; John 1:12*



C            A        -        -        -        men

### INTROIT

Ps 45:6-8,17

M Your throne, O God, is forever and ever;

**C A scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Your kingdom.**

M You love righteousness and hate wickedness;

**C Therefore God, Your God, has anointed You**

M With the oil of gladness

**C more than Your companions.**

M All Your garments are scented with myrrh and aloes and cassia,

**C Out of the ivory palaces, by which they have made You glad.**

M I will make Your name to be remembered in all generations;

**C Therefore the people shall praise You forever and ever.**

M Glory be to God...

### GLORIA PATRI ~ Glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther    and to the Son    and to the Ho - ly Ghost;  
as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

KYRIE ~ Lord Have Mercy

Mark 10:47

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS ~ Glory to God in the Highest Luke 2:14; John 1:29

Glory be to God on high: and on earth peace, good - will toward men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory. O Lord God, heav'n - ly King, God the Fa - ther Al - mighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up - on us. Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re - ceive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up - on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord. Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

M The Lord be with you.

Luke 1:28

C **And also with you.**

COLLECT OF THE DAY

M Let us pray ... one God, now and forever,

FIRST LESSON

**Isaiah 60:1–6**

Arise, shine;  
For your light has come!  
And the glory of the Lord is risen upon you.  
<sup>2</sup> For behold, the darkness shall cover the earth,  
And deep darkness the people;  
But the Lord will arise over you,  
And His glory will be seen upon you.  
<sup>3</sup> The Gentiles shall come to your light,  
And kings to the brightness of your rising.  
<sup>4</sup> “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 nursed at *your* side.  
<sup>5</sup> Then you shall see and become radiant,  
And your heart shall swell with joy;  
Because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you,  
The wealth of the Gentiles shall come to you.  
<sup>6</sup> The multitude of camels shall cover your *land*,  
The dromedaries of Midian and Ephah;  
All those from Sheba shall come;  
They shall bring gold and incense,  
And they shall proclaim the praises of the Lord.

SECOND LESSON

**Ephesians 3:1–12**

For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for you Gentiles—  
<sup>2</sup> if indeed you have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God  
which was given to me for you, <sup>3</sup> how that by revelation He made known  
to me the mystery (as I have briefly written already, <sup>4</sup> by which, when  
you read, you may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ),  
<sup>5</sup> which in other ages was not made known to the sons of men, as it has  
now been revealed by the Spirit to His holy apostles and prophets: <sup>6</sup> that  
the Gentiles should be fellow heirs, of the same body, and partakers of  
His promise in Christ through the gospel, <sup>7</sup> of which I became a  
minister according to the gift of the grace of God given to me by the  
effective working of His power.

<sup>8</sup> To me, who am less than the least of all the saints, this grace was  
given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches  
of Christ, <sup>9</sup> and to make all see what *is* the fellowship of the mystery,  
which from the beginning of the ages has been hidden in God who

created all things through Jesus Christ; <sup>10</sup> to the intent that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers in the heavenly *places*, <sup>11</sup> according to the eternal purpose which He accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord, <sup>12</sup> in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through faith in Him.

## GRADUAL

Ps. 117:1-2a; 96:8

Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles! Laud Him, all you peoples! For His merciful kindness is great toward us, And the truth of the Lord endures forever. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Give to the Lord the glory due His name; Bring an offering, and come into His courts. Hallelujah!



**C Halle - lu - jah! Halle-lu-jah! Halle-lu - - jah!**

## GOSPEL LESSON (rise)

**M** And this is eternal life, that we know the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom He has sent.



**C Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord!**

### **Matthew 2:1-12**

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, <sup>2</sup> saying, “Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him.”

<sup>3</sup> When Herod the king heard *this*, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. <sup>4</sup> And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born.

<sup>5</sup> So they said to him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it is written by the prophet:

<sup>6</sup> *‘But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
Are not the least among the rulers of Judah;  
For out of you shall come a Ruler  
Who will shepherd My people Israel.’*”

<sup>7</sup> Then Herod, when he had secretly called the wise men, determined from them what time the star appeared. <sup>8</sup> And he sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the young Child, and when you have found *Him*, bring back word to me, that I may come and worship Him also.”

<sup>9</sup>When they heard the king, they departed; and behold, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came and stood over where the young Child was. <sup>10</sup>When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceedingly great joy. <sup>11</sup>And when they had come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary His mother, and fell down and worshiped Him. And when they had opened their treasures, they presented gifts to Him: gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

<sup>12</sup>Then, being divinely warned in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed for their own country another way.

M These words are written that we may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing, we may have life in His name.



C Praise be to Thee, O Christ!

CREED ~ The Apostles' Creed

C **I believe in God the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.  
The third day He rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of God  
the Father almighty.  
From there He will come to judge  
the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

HYMN

TLH 129

*Hail, Thou Source of Every Blessing*

SERMON ~ based on the Gospel lesson of the day

Matthew 2:1–12

## A Magi Miracle Is Manipulated In Our Lives

1. Not by scheming and lying
2. Not by wisdom or worthiness
3. But according to His own gracious will,  
God reveals the Christ when and where  
and to whom He will.

M The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

*Philippians 4:7*

### OFFERTORY

*Psalm 51:10-12*



C Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right



spir-it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from Thy presence;



and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the



joy of Thy salvation; and uphold me with Thy free Spir-it. A-men.

### HYMN

WS 717

*Bright and Glorious Is the Sky*

### GATHERING OF OUR THANK OFFERING

### PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Let us pray for the Church of God and for all people according to their needs.

For the revelation of God's Son made known to Israel in the appearance of the Child in Bethlehem that we too would behold with joy and awe the manifestation of Jesus Christ for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord, **Lord have mercy.**

For the Church of God which proclaims the living Word that the light of the gospel would rise upon her and draw all nations to her dawning through the washing of holy baptism, let us pray to the Lord, **Lord have mercy.**

For ministers of the Gospel, including our pastors, teachers, and missionaries, that they would make no exceptions in the preaching of condemnation and put no restrictions on the preaching of salvation so that Christ would be known as Savior to all, let us pray to the Lord, **Lord have mercy.**

