

Epiphany Sunday

Saturday, January 9, 2021 5:30 p.m.

Sunday, January 10, 2021 8:45 a.m.

Prelude

Announcements *Vicar Jason Christ, Director of Attract & Middle School Ministries*

Welcome *Rev. Dr. Charles E. Whited, Jr.*

(Stand)

Opening Hymn

Arise and Shine in Splendor *LSB Hymnal 396, verses 1-4*



1 A - rise and shine in splen - dor; Let night to day sur -
2 See earth in dark - ness ly - ing, The hea - then na - tions
3 The world's re - mot - est rac - es, Up - on whose wea - ry
4 Lift up your eyes in won - der— See, na - tions gath - er



ren - der. Your light is draw - ing near. A - bove, the
dy - ing In hope - less gloom and night. To you the
fac - es The sun looks from the sky, Shall run with
yon - der From sin to be set free. The world has



day is beam - ing, In match - less beau - ty
Lord of heav - en— Your life, your hope— has
zeal un - tir - ing, With joy Your light de -
heard Your sto - ry; Her sons come to Your



gleam - ing; The glo - ry of the Lord is here.
giv - en Great glo - ry, hon - or, and de - light.
sir - ing That breaks up - on them from on high.
glo - ry; Her daugh - ters haste Your light to see.

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Invocation

Leader In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People Amen.

Leader Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, asking Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. *Hebrews 10:22*

Leader Our help is in the name of the Lord,

People Who made heaven and earth. *Psalms 124:8*

Leader I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

People And You forgave the iniquity of my sin. *Psalms 32:5*

Confession and Absolution

Leader Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

People **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.** *(Silence for personal confession)*

Leader In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. *John 1:12, Philippians 1:6*

People Amen.

Hymn of Praise *Arise and Shine in Splendor* LSB Hymnal 396 verse 5

5 Your heart will leap for glad - ness When from the realms of
sad - ness They come from near and far. Your eyes will
wake from slum - ber As peo - ple with - out
num - ber Re - jice to see the Morn - ing Star.

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Scripture Reading *(Sit)*

Reader God speaks to us through the Old Testament: Isaiah 60:1–6
Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For 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. And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. 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 carried on the hip. Then 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. 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 bring good news, the praises of the Lord.

Reader God speaks to us through the New Testament: Ephesians 1:3–14
For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles— assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God’s grace that was given to me for you, how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, which 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. This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. Of 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. To 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, and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things, so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him.

(Stand)

Leader In many and various ways, God spoke to His people of old by the prophets.

People **But now in these last days, He has spoken to us by His Son.** *Hebrews 1:1-2a*

Reader God speaks to us through the Gospel: 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, saying, “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.” When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet: “‘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.’” Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. And 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.” After 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. When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. And 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. And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

Reader This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to You, O Christ.** *(Sit)*

Children’s Message *Sue Steege, Director of Transformation Ministries*

(Stand)

Message Hymn *O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright* LSB Hymnal 395 verses 1, 4-6



1 O Morn-ing Star, how fair and bright! You shine with God's
4 Al - might - y Fa - ther, in Your Son You loved us when
5 O let the harps break forth in sound! Our joy be all
6 What joy to know, when life is past, The Lord we love



own truth and light, A - glow with grace and mer - cy!
not yet be - gun Was this old earth's foun - da - tion!
with mu - sicrowned, Our voic - es glad - ly blend - ing!
is first and last, The end and the be - gin - ning!



Of Ja - cob's race, King Da - vid's son, Our Lord and mas -
Your Son has ran - somed us in love To live in Him
For Christ goes with us all the way— To - day, to - mor -
He will one day, oh, glo - rious grace, Trans - port us to



ter, You have won Our hearts to serve You on - ly!
here and a - bove: This is Your great sal - va - tion.
row, ev - 'ry day! His love is nev - er end - ing!
that hap - py place Be - yond all tears and sin - ning!



Low - ly, ho - ly! Great and glo - rious, All vic - to - rious,
Al - le - lu - ia! Christ the liv - ing, To us giv - ing
Sing out! Ring out! Ju - bi - la - tion! Ex - ul - ta - tion!
A - men! A - men! Come, Lord Je - sus! Crown of glad - ness!



Rich in bless - ing! Rule and might o'er all pos - sess - ing!
Life for - ev - er, Keeps us Yours and fails us nev - er!
Tell the sto - ry! Great is He, the King of Glo - ry!
We are yearn - ing For the day of Your re - turn - ing!

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Message *Pretenders to the Throne* Rev. Dr. Charles E. Whited, Jr.

Apostles' Creed (Stand)

People I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence 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. (Sit)

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As with Gladness Men of Old LSB LSB Hymnal 397 verses 1-3



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,



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,



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.

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The Lord's Prayer

People 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. 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.

Closing Hymn O Christ, Our True and Only Light LSB Hymnal 839, verses 1-3 and 5

(Tune LSB 344, On Jordan's Bank the Baptist Cry)

1 O Christ, our true and only light,
Enlighten those who sit in night;
Let those afar now hear Your voice
And in Your fold with us rejoice.

2 Fill with the radiance of Your grace
The souls now lost in error's maze;
Enlighten those whose inmost minds
Some dark delusion haunts and blinds.

3 O gently call those gone astray
That they may find the saving way!
Let ev'ry conscience sore oppressed
In You find peace and heav'nly rest.

5 That they with us may evermore
Such grace with wond'ring thanks adore
And endless praise to You be giv'n
By all Your Church in earth and heav'n.

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Silent Prayer and Postlude

Unless noted otherwise, scripture passage came from the English Standard Version.

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Special thanks to our cantor.

Altar Flowers presented to the Glory of God in memory of Rich Gaffney

By Phil & Sue DePlato and Cheryl Lenihan.