

CHRIST



LUTHERAN
CHURCH

SUNDAY JANUARY 7TH, 2024

EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD



OUR MISSION: God calls us to live and share the amazing love and grace of Jesus Christ with all people.

Welcome to Christ Lutheran Church. Christ Lutheran Church is a *Reconciling in Christ* congregation that welcomes all. May God bless us in Word and Sacrament, music and community in our worship today. The service is complete in this bulletin. The spoken responses are **bolded text**. During your time at church today we recommend that you please wear a mask and practice social distancing, even if you have been vaccinated. Hand sanitizer and masks are available for all who wish to use them.

We acknowledge that our building of worship is built upon the territory of xučyun (Huichin), the unceded land stewarded by the Ohlone people who speak to their Creator and loved ones in the language of Chochenyo.

INTRODUCTION

The feast of Epiphany (“manifestation”) concludes the Christmas season with a celebration of God’s glory revealed in the person of Jesus Christ. In Isaiah and Ephesians, that glory is proclaimed for all nations and people. Like the light of the star that guided the magi to Jesus, the light of Christ reveals who we are: children of God who are claimed and washed in the waters of baptism. We are sent out to be beacons of the light of Christ, sharing the good news of God’s love to all people.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
the Word made flesh,
our life and our salvation.

Amen.

Trusting the goodness and lovingkindness of
God our Savior,
let us confess our sin.

God of life,

**you promise good news of great joy for all
people,**

**and call us to be messengers of your
peace.**

**We confess that too often we hoard our
joy,**

our resources, and our security.

We nurture conflict and build barriers.

**We neglect the needs of our neighbors
and ignore the groaning of creation.**

Have mercy on us.

**Where we are self-centered, open our
hearts.**

Where we are reluctant, give us courage.

Where we are cynical, restore our trust.

Renew us with your grace

**and give us again the hope of eternal life
in you.**

Amen.

Hear the good news:

We are children of God and heirs of God’s
promises

through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

In + Jesus we are forgiven and redeemed.

Sing with joy, for all the ends of the earth
shall know the salvation of God.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN — LBW 90: *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 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;
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:
that we might be - come like thee at thy great e - piph - a - ny,



an - thems be to thee ad - dressed,
an - thems be to thee ad - dressed, God in flesh made man - i - fest.
an - thems be to thee ad - dressed,
and may praise thee, ev - er blest,

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

Lord, have mercy
Christ, have mercy
Hear our cry and heal our land
Let kindness lead us to repentance
Bring us back again

For Your name is great and Your heart is grace
Kyrie Eleison
Over all You reign You alone can save
Kyrie Eleison
Lord have mercy,
Christ have mercy on us now

GLORIA (on insert)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

WORD

FIRST READING—ISAIAH 60: 1-6

- ¹Arise, shine; for your light has come,
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.
- ²For darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples;
but the LORD will arise upon you,
and his glory will appear over you.
- ³Nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.
- ⁴Lift 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.
- ⁵Then 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.
- 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 proclaim the praise of the LORD.
- Word of God, Word of Life.” **Thanks to be God.**

PSALM 72:1-7, 10-14

- ¹Give the king your justice, O God,
and your righteousness to the king's son;
- ²**that he may rule your people righteously
and the poor with justice;**
- ³that the mountains may bring prosperity to the people,
and the hills, in righteousness.
- ⁴**Let him defend the needy among the people,
rescue the poor, and crush the oppressor.**
- ⁵May he live as long as the sun and moon endure,
from one generation to another.
- ⁶**Let him come down like rain upon the mown field,
like showers that water the earth.**

⁷In his time may the ¹righteous flourish;
and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall ¹be no more.

¹⁰**May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles pay tribute,
and the kings of Sheba and Seba offer gifts.**

¹¹May all kings bow down before him,
and all the nations do him service.

¹²**For the king delivers the poor who cry out in distress,
the oppressed, and those who have no helper.**

¹³He has compassion on the lowly and poor,
and preserves the lives of the needy.

¹⁴**From oppression and violence he redeems their lives,
and precious is their blood in his sight.**

SECOND READING— EPHESIANS 3:1-12

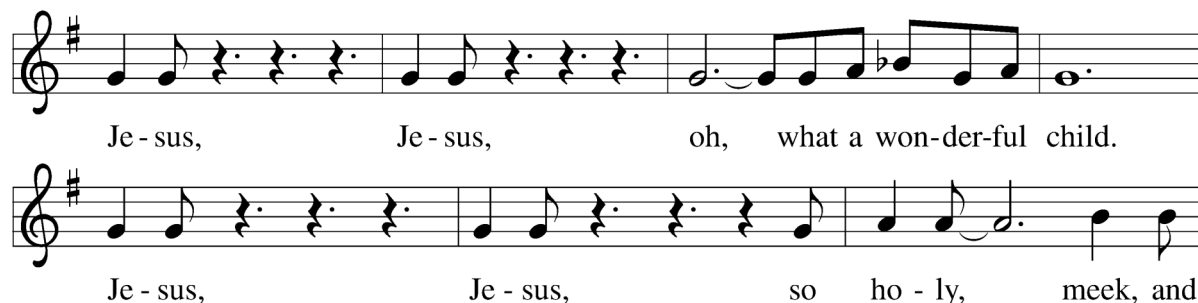
¹This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles—²for surely you have already heard of the commission of God’s grace that was given me for you, ³and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, ⁴a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. ⁵In 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: ⁶that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

⁷Of 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. ⁸Although 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, ⁹and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; ¹⁰so 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. ¹¹This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹²in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

Amen.

Word of God, Word of Life.” **Thanks to be God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Je - sus, Je - sus, oh, what a won - der - ful child.

Je - sus, Je - sus, so ho - ly, meek, and

mild; new life, new hope the child will bring.
Lis-ten to the an-gels sing: "Glo-ry, glo-ry,
glo-ry," let the heav-ens ring!

GOSPEL—MATTHEW 2:1-12

The Gospel According to... **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ²asking, "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." ³When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They 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.' "

⁷Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then 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." ⁹When 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. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On 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. ¹²And 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.**

Some tra-veled north, some tra-veled south to see this won-der-ful Child.
Some tra-veled east, some tra-veled west to see this won-der-ful Child.
Glo-ry! Glo-ry! Glo-ry! Let the heav-ens ring!

SERMON—PR. DEE EMMERT

HYMN OF THE DAY— ACS 915: *When a Star is Shining*



1 When a star is shin-ing o - ver east - ern hills,
2 Where the world is wait-ing for an un - known day,
3 Lead us on, O Day - star, in the qui - et night;



when the air is si - lent, and the clam - or stills,
where a voice for - got - ten cries, "Pre - pare the way!"
guide us through the shad - ow with your gen - tle light;



when the night is wait - ing, and the old hopes rise,
Where an earth - ly pow - er makes the heart turn cold,
show us in a man - ger our re - demp - tion's sign;



then the time has rip - ened and the heart grows wise.
there the gifts are of - fered— in - cense, myrrh, and gold.
bring us to a morn - ing where the prom - ise shines.



Refrain
Lead us on, lead us on, to a morn - ing where the



prom - ise shines. Lead us on, lead us on,



to a morn - ing where the prom - ise shines.

THE 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

Trusting in God's good news of great joy for all people, we offer our prayers for ourselves, our neighbors, and the world God loves.

Humble the hearts of your faithful people, that we seek to be servants of your gospel and witnesses to your mysteries. Give us boldness in faith, that we make the good news of Christ's birth known to all people. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Establish justice on earth for all its inhabitants. Lead us to protect fragile ecosystems and endangered species. Empower the work of all who research, engineer, and make accessible alternative and renewable sources of energy. Make us careful stewards of your creation. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Nations shall come to your light and kings to your dawning. Remove corruption and fear from the hearts of leaders and authorities. Lead governments to expand policies and resources that care for refugees and all migrants. Strengthen the work of resettlement agencies including Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Defend the cause of all who are in need, all facing poverty, and all who are oppressed. Come quickly to those who feel that their lives and livelihoods are fragile. Give them strength and lead them forth with hope. We pray especially for Karen, Julie, Sandy, Fred, Cindy and George F., Scott and Carol, Marty, George G., Mary Ann, Michael H, the family and friends of Dan Lubkeman, and Evie Dolven. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

As the magi offered gifts to the Christ child, empower us to give generously. Prosper the work of ministry partnerships in our community especially GRIP, the Food Bank, the Senior Center, and Good Table. Together, help us share what we have to ensure that our neighbors have enough food, resources, and opportunities. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

What else do the people of God pray for?

You have redeemed the lives of your faithful departed. Through the love of Christ, gather us into one body with them, and reveal to us the mystery hidden for ages in the One who created all things. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Abide with us, O God of mercy, and receive our prayers according to your abundant grace. **Amen.**

PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

MEAL

*Those worshipping online who wish to join in communion are invited to prepare elements at this time.
For those in person—The white juice in the center rim is non-alcoholic, the red on the outside is wine.*

Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY MUSIC— ELW 309: *The Only Son from Heaven*



1 The on - ly Son from heav - en, fore - told by an - cient seers,
2 Oh, time of God ap - point - ed, oh, bright and ho - ly morn!
3 A - wak - en, Lord, our spir - it to know and love you more,
4 O Fa - ther, here be - fore you with God the Ho - ly Ghost,



by God the Fa - ther giv - en, in hu - man form ap - pears.
He comes, the king a - noint - ed, the Christ, the vir - gin - born,
in faith to stand un - shak - en, in spir - it to a - dore,
and Je - sus, we a - dore you, O pride of an - gel - host:



No sphere his light con - fin - ing, no star so bright - ly
grim death to van - quish for us, to o - pen heav'n be -
that we, through this world mov - ing, each glimpse of heav - en
be - fore you mor - tals low - ly cry, "Ho - ly, ho - ly,



shin - ing as he, our Morn - ing Star.
fore us and bring us life a - gain.
prov - ing, may reap its full - ness there.
ho - ly, O bless - ed Trin - i - ty!"

OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of abundance, receive and bless these gifts we have offered. Join our hearts with the song of the angels, and gather us at your table of celebration. Strengthen us to share with all the world the abundance of your grace upon grace, poured out in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

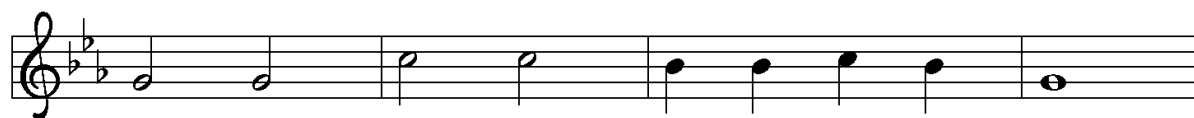
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy... We praise your name and join in their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



San - to, san - to, san - to, es el Se - ñor,



Dios del u - ni - ver - so; san - to, es el Se - ñor.



San - to, san - to, san - to, san - to, es el Se - ñor,



Dios del u - ni - ver - so; san - to, es el Se - ñor.



Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na here on



earth. Blest is he who comes in the



name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the



high - est, ho - san - na here on earth.



Blest is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER/ WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

...We look with hope for his coming. **Come, Lord Jesus.**

...Bring the gift of peace on earth. **Come, Holy Spirit.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Glory to God in the highest! Come to the table of peace.

COMMUNION HYMN— *Happy Birthday Dear Jesus.* Words and Music by Randy Mayer

Now it's Christmas Season
You can feel it in the air
Colored lights and decorations
Christmas music everywhere

We've been celebrating
Your birthday long ago
Lying in a manger
Your love has changed us so

CHORUS

Happy birthday dear Jesus
Happy birthday to you
We're so glad you came to us
The world needed you
Happy birthday dear Jesus

Happy birthday to you
We're so glad you came to us
Live forever in us too

An angel told the shepherds
Of the city where you lay
A bright star high above you
Would show everyone the way

Three wise men would be bringing
Frankincense, gold, and myrrh
A drummer boy drumming
Would help to spread the word

CHORUS

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God our redeemer, you have fed us at this table with gifts of grace, truth, and life. As you have gathered us in joy, send us forth as messengers of your peace. Make us shine with the good news of your glory, born to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

SENDING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Community Announcements

BLESSING

God bless you and keep you, ✚ Jesus grant you grace and truth, and the Spirit send peace upon your hearts, now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN— *Brightest and Best*

1. Hail, the blest morn, see the great Gi-tche Ma-ni-tou,
2. Cold on his cra-dle the dew-drops are shi-ning;
3. Say, shall we yield him, in cost-ly de-vo-tion,
down from the re-gion of glo-ry de-scend!
Low lies his bed, with the beasts of the stall;
o-dours of E-den, and off-rings di-vine,
She-pherds, go wor-ship the babe in the man-ger,
An-gels a-dore him in slum-bers re-cli-ning,
gems from the moun-tain and pearls from the o-cean,
Lo for his guard the bright an-gels at-tend.
wise men and she-pherds be-fore him do fall.
myrhh from the fo- rest and gold from the mine?
Bright-est and best of the stars of the mor-ning!
Dawn on our dark-ness, and lend us thine aid;
Star in the east, the ho-ri-zon a-dorn-ning,
guide where our in-fant Re-deem-er was laid.

DISMISSAL

Christ the Savior is born! Go in peace. Proclaim this good news. **Thanks be to God.**

WORSHIP FROM HOME!

Join us and invite friends and neighbors to our Sunday worship service!

Facebook Livestream: Every Sunday morning there will be a video livestream of worship available on our church [Facebook page](#).

Online Bulletins: Bulletins for each worship service are available online every week. To download a copy, go to the church website and visit our [Bulletins page](#).

And Don't Forget Your Offering: Thank you for your continued financial support of Christ Lutheran. It is very much appreciated. Options for giving include bringing offerings in person, mailing checks, or giving electronically with Tithely. For the latter, simply click the "Giving" tab on the church website. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Amy Tiekou at 510-290-2125

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jan 28th— CLC Annual Meeting

HAPPENING THIS WEEK AT CLC

Today: 10:00AM CLC Worship

12:00 PM UCC Worship

7:00 PM AI-Anon

Monday: Senior Center Closed

6:00-9:00 PM Irma's De Chico

Tuesday: 7:00 PM Lady AA Meeting

Thursday: 7:00-8:00 PM Handbell Practice

Saturday: 6:00PM AA Meeting

PARTICIPATING IN WORSHIP TODAY

The Ministers: The Congregation

Presiding/Preaching: Pr. Dee Emmert

Minister of Music: Daniel Alley

Guitarists: George Fosselius & Randy Mayer

Lector:

Coffee Hour:

Usher:

Communion Set-up/Clean-up:

Worship Assistant:

Flowers: Jia Ma

PLEASE REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR:

Julie D., Mike and Liz S., Chad B., TJ Baar, The Vale Community, Robin & Wendy, Sandy Z., Carolina S., Orlando G., Karen H., Laurie P, Fred, Marty S., Molly B., Scott & Carol F., Mark M., Ted & Jacque E., George G, Philip Y, Mary Ann H., Michael H., The friends and family of Dan L., Heidi, Jan, Roz, Pat, Duwayne, Joan, Pastor Doris Ng, Evie D.

Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service is a non-profit organization that welcomes and supports [refugees](#) and [migrants](#) entering the United States. It is one of nine refugee resettlement agencies working with the [Office of Refugee Resettlement](#)^[2] and one of only two that serves [unaccompanied refugee minors](#).^[3] LIRS also advocates for just policies and practices relating to [immigration](#) and [detention](#).^{[4][5]}

As an organization, LIRS originates from the response of American Lutherans in 1939 to the needs of Europeans displaced because of [World War II](#),^[6] but the roots of the organization reach back to the 1860s when the [New York Ministerium](#) and the [Pennsylvania Ministerium](#) joined together to help and protect Lutheran immigrants in the US.^[7] Since then the organization's scope has expanded to include any refugees entering the US, support for [asylum seekers](#)^[8] and migrants,^{[9][10]} and services to unaccompanied children (UACs).

LIRS continues to be a [faith-based organization](#) and celebrates strong collaborative relationships with the [Evangelical Lutheran Church in America](#), the [Latvian Evangelical Lutheran Church in America](#), and the [Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod](#).^[11]

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