

Epiphany (Observed), January 3rd 2020
Zoom Service 10:30 AM
Immanuel Lutheran Church

Prelude O Morning Star How Fair and Bright, ELW 308



1 O Morn - ing Star, how fair and bright! You shine with
2 Come, pre - cious dia - mond, light di - vine, and deep with -
3 Lord, when you look on us in love, at once there
4 Al - might - y Fa - ther, in your Son you loved us,



God's own truth and light, a - glow with grace and mer - cy!
in our hearts now shine; there light a flame un - dy - ing!
falls from God a - bove a ray of pur - est plea - sure.
when not yet be - gun was this old earth's foun - da - tion!



Of Ja - cob's line, King Da - vid's son, our Lord and Sav - ior,
In your one bod - y let us be as liv - ing branch - es
Your word and Spir - it, flesh and blood re - fresh our souls with
Your Son has ran - somed us in love to live in him here



you have won our hearts to serve you on - ly! Low - ly,
of a tree, your life our lives sup - ply - ing. Now, though
heav'n - ly food. You are our dear - est trea - sure! Let your
and a - bove: this is your great sal - va - tion. Al - le -



ho - ly! Great and glo - rious, all vic - to - rious, rich
dai - ly earth's deep sad - ness may per - plex us and
mer - cy warm and cheer us! Oh, draw near us! For
lu - ia! Christ the liv - ing, to us giv - ing life



in bless - ing! Rule and might o'er all pos - sess - ing!
dis - tress us, yet with heav'n - ly joy you bless us.
you teach us God's own love through you has reached us.
for - ev - er, keeps us yours and fails us nev - er!

(two verses on following page)

- 5 Oh, let the harps break forth in sound!
 Our joy be all with music crowned,
 our voices gaily blending!
 For Christ goes with us all the way—
 today, tomorrow, ev'ry day!
 His love is never ending!
 Sing out! Ring out!
 Jubilation!
 Exultation!
 Tell the story!
 Praise to Christ, who reigns in glory!
- 6 What joy to know, when life is past,
 the Lord we love is first and last,
 the end and the beginning!
 He will one day, oh, glorious grace,
 transport us to that happy place
 beyond all tears and sinning!
 Amen! Amen!
 Come, Lord Jesus!
 Crown of gladness!
 We are yearning
 for the day of your returning.

Text: Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
 Music: WIE SCHÖN LEUCHTET, Philipp Nicolai
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Announcements

Epiphany Dialogue

We have seen for ourselves Jesus, the Bright Morning Star!

Arise! Shine!

God's light has come to reveal The Way in this New Year.

Arise! Shine!

The glory of the Lord has risen upon us.

Arise! Shine!

God's light breaks through the gloom that covers the world.

Arise! Shine!

Nations shall come to God's light and kings to the brightness of God's dawn.

Arise! Shine! For the Glory of the Lord has risen upon us. Come, let us worship him!

Greeting

P Christ the Lord has come to dwell with us! Alleluia! Alleluia! The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

A And also with you!

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and ever-living God, you revealed the incarnation of your Son by the brilliant shining of a star. Shine the light of your justice always in our hearts and over all lands, and accept our lives as the treasure we offer in your praise and for your service, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

A Amen.

Reading from the Old Testament, 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.

PSALM: Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14



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¹Give the king your jus- | tice, 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 a- | mong 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.

**⁶Let him come down like rain upon | the mown field,
like showers that wa- | ter the earth.**

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

**¹⁰May 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.

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

¹³He has compassion on the low- | ly and poor,
and preserves the lives | of the needy.

**¹⁴From oppression and violence he re- | deems their lives,
and precious is their blood | in his sight.**

GOSPEL: Matthew 2:1-12

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.

Sermon

HYMN: As With Gladness Men of Old, ELW 302



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 - a - ted 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.



Text: William C. Dix, 1837–1898, alt.
Music: DIX, Conrad Kocher, 1786–1872

Prayers of the People

Joining our voices with the song of the angels, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need, responding to each petition muted or un-muted with the words 'Your mercy is great'.

Glorious God, fill your church with joy. Let us live as beacons of your redemption. Give wisdom and courage to your church that it may speak with boldness and confidence. We pray for our

bishops Elizabeth and Yehiel, pastor Kim, our president Scott, our council, call committee, and reopening team. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Show us your faithfulness in the rising and setting of the sun. Place wonder into the hearts of those who search the skies, and explore the heavens. Curb waste and pollution, that all might have clear skies to behold, and clean air to breathe. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Bring nations and rulers to the splendor of your dawn. Raise up advocates who champion the cause of exploited and vulnerable people. Inspire leaders to be generous with abundance, that all people might live in stability and freedom. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Show us your light and path in the gloom of the Covid pandemic. Bring meaningful work to those furloughed. Guide and watch over all first responders and essential workers. Surround with your presence family and friends who are anxious for those on the front lines of crisis. Inspire healthcare workers and medical researchers as we rejoice in the arrival of vaccines. Be a powerful presence with those in quarantine, those who feel isolated, and with all students, teachers and staff in academic communities and on break. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Come quickly with healing power to all who seek love, support, and restoration. Dispel fears and shadows. Restore broken relationships and mend broken hearts. Bring relief to those who are sick or struggling, especially Steve Andes, Maren Baylaender, Rebecca Bernstein, Serena Bernstein, Babs Deacon, Laura Burdick, Mid Carlson, Lucas Forzley, Bob Fried, Kim Gann, Jennifer Grethe, Joe Harrington, Jim Jung, John and Nancy, Judith Kratochvil, Gordon Larson, Ernie LeVon, Kevin McDaniel, Elaine Nelson, Veronica Repasz, Darryl Simchak, Alyssa Steinberg, George Stewart, Leslie Thais, Scott Weidler, and those whose names we call out to you here, muted or un-muted: . . . *A brief silence.* Reveal your power to heal and to save. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Send traveling mercies upon all who journey home by other roads. Guard refugees, immigrants, and asylum seekers. Protect families fleeing conflict in their homelands or abuse in their homes. Tend to those who have no place to lay their heads. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

And now, siblings, for what else shall we pray, silent or spoken aloud? *A longer period of silence.* Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

According to the boundless riches of Christ, you draw all your saints, from the least to the greatest, to your heavenly places. As you created all things, make all things new again in the splendor of your glory. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of mercy, come quickly to us with grace upon grace as we lift these and all our prayers to you, in the name of Jesus.

Amen.

Peace

Offertory Anthem: Kings in Glory by Martin Shaw

We worship God with our offerings. We give thanks for those who support Immanuel's life and mission. [We invite you to do that online](#) or by mail, and with your presence, prayer, and talents.

Offertory Prayer

And now, as we unmute ourselves for the Great Thanksgiving we pray together:

Come Lord Jesus, be our guest and let these gifts to all be blessed.

Feed us with your living bread, that all the world be clothed and fed. 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.

Prayer at the Table

Blessed are you, O holy God:

 you are the Life and Light of all.

By your powerful word you created all things.

Through the prophets you called your people to be a light to the nations.

Blessed are you for Jesus, your Son.

He is your Light, shining in our night,

 revealing to us your mercy and power.

In the night in which he was betrayed,

 our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;

 broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

 Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

 Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,

and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore,
his preaching and healing,
his dying and rising,
and his promise to come again,
we await that day when all the universe
will rejoice in your holy and life-giving light.
And for this we pray: **Come, Lord Jesus!**

By your Spirit bless us and this meal,
that, refreshed with this heavenly food,
we may be light for the world,
revealing the brilliance of your Son.
And for this we pray: **Come, Holy Spirit!**

Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church,
both now and forever.

Amen

P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

A 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.

Communion

Come for all things are now ready; the gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

This is the body of Christ, given for you.

All communing may receive their bit of bread from God's hand, and may share with others in their household also using these words.

This is the blood of Christ, shed for you.

All communing may drink of the cup they have prepared, and may share with others in their household also using these words.

For those fasting, receive this prayer of blessing in God's presence:

May God who loves you be truly present with the Spirit of grace, mercy and joy, uplifting and blessing you in the promise of your baptism.

Table Dismissal

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you, and keep you in God's grace.
Amen.

Benediction

Almighty God,
who sent the Holy Spirit to Mary,
proclaimed joy through the angels,
sent the shepherds with good news,
and led the magi by a star,
bless you this day ☩ through the Word made flesh.

Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Coffee hour/Announcements

THIS WEEK AT IMMANUEL

Midweek Gathering

7 pm Wednesday on zoom

We will be using our regular upcoming lectionary format and looking at readings for Baptism of Our Lord. If you would prefer a worship service for this feast day, please see Community Opportunities for some options. Note: No Midweek Gathering on January 13th, so we can attend the LCMNU Anti-Racism Event.

Coffee and Connections Check in!

9:30 am Thursday on zoom Look for link on the Midweek Gathering email

Start this day with a cup of coffee or tea and settle in for a check-in and conversation space hosted by Linda Edlund and Pastor Kim.

Quilters and Knitters at Immanuel

10:30 am Thursday on zoom

NEXT SUNDAY AT IMMANUEL

Baptism of Our Lord, and Epiphany Chalking of our Doors

On January 10th, we'll begin worship with a house blessing and chalking of our doors, or portals to worship. This may involve chalk if you have it, or alternatives if you don't! How might you "chalk" our worship space in our zoom environment? Playfulness and imagination invited, but not necessary!

Agenda Sunday! Please be in touch with Scott Romans or Lisa Larson if you have any items for our council agenda.

LOOKING AHEAD

Congregational Annual Meeting

Sunday, January 31 following worship

COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES

For Epiphany (January 6):

**THE
EPIPHANY**
OF OUR
LORD



*A Worship service led by the
ELCA bishops elected in 2019*

Wednesday, January 6, 2021

8pm Eastern | 7pm Central

**LIVE on synodical Facebook pages
and websites across the ELCA**

OR: Lessons and Carols for the Feast of the Epiphany, hosted by Christ Lutheran and First Presbyterian Churches, both of Allentown. The service on Wednesday, January 6, 2021 begins at 6:30 pm Central

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/107650768?pwd=MXYrcIVsQUVWMTUxcTZwOGdjVVN0Zz09>

Upcoming Anti-Racism Event at LCMNU – REGISTER BY JANUARY 11

Note: we will be suspending Midweek Gathering on January 13 so all might attend

DISMANTLING WHITE SUPREMACY IN THE CHURCH: A CONVERSATION WITH REV. LENNY DUNCAN

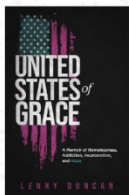
WED, JAN 13, 2021

7 PM - 8 PM CST ON ZOOM

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Register by 1/11 at bit.ly/lcmduncan

WRITER. WITNESS. AGITATOR.



Lenny is the author of "United States of Grace" & "Dear Church". Born on 62nd and Race in West Philly, he now lives in the Pacific Northwest. Lenny is a nationally recognized writer, speaker, preacher, thinker, and agitator who has centered most of his theological work in the task of dismantling White Supremacy in Christian community. Lenny is just another Black queer writer trying to survive America. He loves hip hop, tattoos, Jesus, liberation, and most likely you.

Upcoming Events for Interfaith Action of Evanston

1) Walk for warmth (on wheels) on Jan. 18, 2021

IAE had a very successful walk for warmth that Bert Mount and I were able to make last winter. Can you make it with us on wheels this year? Each team sets a goal for funds to be solicited from faith or work communities, family, and friends.

- When: January 18, Martin Luther King Jr. Day, 11:00am-12:00pm
- Where: Evanston, starting location TBA
- What: Drive in a "parade" the 2-mile circuit of IAE overnight shelters.
- Who: Families, folks, and youth of all ages can show compassion and creativity by decorating their car and driving all or part of the route.
- Why: On MLK's National Day of Service, January 18, Walk for Warmth on Wheels will raise funds for operating the Emergency Overnight Shelters and heighten community awareness of people in Evanston who are homeless.



GoFundMe page for Swedish Covenant Meals through Prairie Grass Café is still open. Now more than ever we give thanks for our front line medical workers. God's work, our hands!