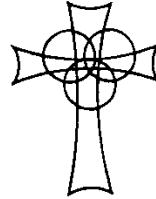


On entering the house,  
they saw the child with  
Mary his mother;  
and they knelt  
down and paid  
him homage.

Matthew 2:11,  
NRSV



**Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
30<sup>th</sup> Street and Bunker Hill Road  
Mount Rainier, Maryland 20712



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Church Web Site: [www.tlcmr.org](http://www.tlcmr.org)

*A Member Congregation of  
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod*

The  
 **EPIPHANY**  
of our Lord

*Observed*  
**January 3, 2021**

***WELCOME TO WORSHIP!!!***

In the Name of Jesus Christ, Welcome! We are pleased that you have come to worship our loving Lord with us today. Even though, to the world, Christmas is over, we still take the time to unpack and rejoice over the great Gift that God has given—His only Son, Jesus Christ. We hope that you will celebrate with us the gift of life and love that Jesus came to bring as He still comes among us even now in His holy Word and Sacraments.

***A PRAYER AS WE GATHER***

Everlasting God, the Radiance of all faithful people, You brought the nations to the brightness of Your rising. Fill the world with Your glory, and show Yourself to all the world through Him who is the true Light and the bright Morning Star, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.



**THE DIVINE SERVICE  
OF WORD AND SACRAMENT  
ON THE FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD**

✠ *In the Name of Jesus Christ* ✠

✠ **The Preparation** ✠

The Christmas Music for Meditation

The Prelude

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

The Words of Welcome

*The Congregation rises.*

The Opening Hymn

*Lutheran Service Book Hymn # 379*

*with additional stanzas from The New English Hymnal*

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

**1 O come, all ye faithful, Joyful and triumphant!  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;  
Come and behold Him Born the king of angels: *Refrain***

***Refrain* O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
Christ the Lord!**

**2 Highest, most holy, Light of Light eternal,  
Born of a virgin, a mortal He comes;  
Son of the Father Now in flesh appearing! *Refrain***

**3 Child, for us sinners Poor and in the manger,  
We would embrace Thee, with love and awe;  
Who would not love Thee, Loving us so dearly? *Refrain***

**4 Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation,  
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!  
Glory to God In the Highest: *Refrain***

**5 Lo! Star-led chieftains, Magi, Christ adoring,  
Offer Him incense, gold, and myrrh;  
We to the Christ Child Bring our heart's oblations: *Refrain***

*Text: Public domain*

The Invocation and Opening Versicles:

**P** In the Name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** Arise, and shine, for Your light has come,

**C** and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

*Isaiah 60:1*

**P** The Word became flesh and dwelt among us,

**C** And we have seen His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

*John 1:14*

The Confession of Sins and Absolution:

**P** As we kneel with the Magi in worship before the Christ Child, let us open our hearts to our Lord in penitence and faith.

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**C** But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Silence is kept for a time of reflection on God's Word and for self-examination*

**P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**C** 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.

**P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the Name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

✠ The Service of the Word ✠

The Hymn of Praise

*Lutheran Service Book Hymn # 368*

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

**1** Angels we have heard on high,  
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
And the mountains in reply,  
Echoing their joyous strains. *Refrain*

*Refrain* Gloria in excelsis Deo.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

*The Hymn continues on the next page...*

**2** **Shepherds, why this jubilee?**  
**Why your joyous strains prolong?**  
**What the gladsome tidings be**  
**Which inspire your heav'nly song? Refrain**

*Refrain* **Gloria in excelsis Deo.**  
**Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

**3** **Come to Bethlehem and see**  
**Him whose birth the angels sing;**  
**Come, adore on bended knee**  
**Christ the Lord, the newborn King. Refrain**

*Text: Public domain*

The Salutation and Collect of the Day:

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray.

O God, by the leading of a star You made known Your only-begotten Son to the Gentiles. Lead us, who know You by faith, to enjoy in heaven the fullness of Your divine presence; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

*The Congregation is seated*

The Old Testament Reading

*Isaiah 60:1-6*

<sup>1</sup>Arise, shine, for your light has come,  
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.  
<sup>2</sup>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.  
<sup>3</sup>And nations 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 carried on the hip.  
<sup>5</sup>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.

<sup>6</sup>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.

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

The Epistle

*Ephesians 3:1-12*

<sup>1</sup>For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles—  
<sup>2</sup>assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for  
you, <sup>3</sup>how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly.  
<sup>4</sup>When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, <sup>5</sup>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. <sup>6</sup>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.

<sup>7</sup>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. <sup>8</sup>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,  
<sup>9</sup>and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God  
who created all things, <sup>10</sup>so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might  
now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. <sup>11</sup>This was  
according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, <sup>12</sup>in 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.**

*The Congregation rises*

The Gradual and Verse:

*Psalms 117:1-2a; 96:8; Matthew 2:2b*

- P** Praise the LORD, all nations!  
Extol him, all peoples!  
**C** **For great is his steadfast love toward us,  
and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever.**

- P** Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;  
**C** **bring an offering, and come into his courts!**

- 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.**

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the second chapter.

**C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>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 saw his star when it rose 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 assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. <sup>5</sup>They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:

<sup>6</sup>“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.”

<sup>7</sup>Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup>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.” <sup>9</sup>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. <sup>10</sup>When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. <sup>11</sup>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. <sup>12</sup>And 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.**

*The Congregation is seated*

The Hymn of the Day

“We Three Kings of Orient Are”

**1 We three kings of Orient are,  
Bearing gifts we traverse afar,  
Field and fountain, moor and mountain,  
Following yonder star. Refrain**

**Refrain O star of wonder, star of night,  
Star with royal beauty bright;  
Westward leading, still proceeding,  
Guide us to thy perfect light!**

*The Hymn continues on the next page...*

**2 Born a King on Bethlehem's plain,  
Gold I bring to crown Him again,  
King forever, ceasing never  
over us all to reign. *Refrain***

***Refrain* O star of wonder, star of night,  
Star with royal beauty bright;  
Westward leading, still proceeding,  
Guide us to thy perfect light!**

**3 Frankincense to offer have I:  
Incense owns a Deity nigh;  
Prayer and praising, gladly raising,  
Worship Him, God Most High. *Refrain.***

**4 Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume  
Breathes a life of gathering gloom;  
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,  
Sealed in the stone cold tomb. *Refrain.***

**5 Glorious now behold Him arise,  
King and God and Sacrifice;  
Alleluia, Alleluia  
Earth to the heav'ns replies. *Refrain***

*Text: Public domain*

The Sermon

Star of Wonder  
*Text: Numbers 24:15-17*

*The Congregation rises*

The Nicene Creed

**☩ I believe in one God,  
the Father Almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth  
and of all things visible and invisible.  
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father,  
by whom all things were made;**

who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary  
and was made man;

and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered and was buried.

And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures  
and ascended into heaven

and sits at the right hand of the Father.

And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,  
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Lord and Giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,

who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,

I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,

and I look for the resurrection of the dead

and the life  $\dagger$  of the world to come. Amen.

#### The Prayer of the Church

- P** Let us pray that the radiance of Christ will illumine the Church, the nations, and all in the world who seek the Light.
- P** O Light of Light, You have come into our dark world to lead us in the way of eternal peace. We praise You, O God, for sending Your Son to become man and for revealing to us Your desire to deliver all people from eternal death. Make Your Church the light of the world that many may be led to You and rejoice in Your kingdom. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** O eternal Lord, as You accepted the gifts of the Magi, receive our humble gifts that spring forth by the Holy Spirit's work. Use the mouths and minds of all pastors, missionaries, teachers, and ministers, that they may be faithful beacons leading to You, the Way, the Truth, and the Life. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** O King of all kings, the wise men knelt in awe before the Child upon His mother's lap and offered to Him their gifts. Help all of the Baptized people of God, especially in our congregation and the Mekane Yesus congregation, to join them in their worship and to offer up all we have in service to our Lord. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**



**P** O Brightness of the Father's face, You enlightened the wise men that they might rightly confess You as God and King. By Your Word of truth, enlighten the students and teachers at the schools of Your church, including the colleges and the seminaries of our Synod, that they may know true wisdom in You and may be prepared for useful service to others. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** O Lord of the nations, remember in Your kindness all those entrusted with earthly government, especially all of those who make, administer, and judge our laws. Give them wisdom to exercise their authority for the good of those they serve and to the hindrance and punishment of evil. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** O great Physician, according to Your will, heal the sick among us (especially \_\_\_\_\_). Comfort them in their time of affliction, give them patience in their infirmities, and point them to the hope of the endless glory to come. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** O Heavenly Father, You call Your children to dwell forever with You. Comfort those who mourn (especially \_\_\_\_\_), reminding them of the open path to heaven given to all who believe and are baptized in Christ. Teach us all to number our days and to rejoice in the eternal life already given to us in the heavenly washing of Baptism. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** O Provider of all good gifts, You abundantly bless Your people with all that is necessary for life on earth, as well as giving us that which gladdens our hearts. With those who rejoice we also rejoice, especially remembering, \_\_\_\_\_. May we ever give You all thanks and praise for every blessing that You continue to shower on us. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** O Lover of souls, You look with compassion and love upon all of Your children. To Your fatherly care we commend all those who have asked for our prayers. Especially we remember before you (\_\_\_\_\_ and) all the other people and concerns we name in the silence of our hearts... Hear their prayers, we beseech You, and grant them all that they need according to Your good and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** O God in human flesh, bless those who commune this day that they may do so in repentance and faith, and with hearts that see Your Body and Blood hidden under bread and wine for their forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** O Immortal King of the Ages, through Your Son You have destroyed death and brought life and immortality to light. We praise You for those whom You have led through death to heaven's peace. Receive our thanks for the victory over death and the grave that He has promised to all who fall asleep in faith in Him. And by Your Holy Spirit, keep us in fellowship with all who are with You in heaven and with all who wait for You on earth. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** All these things, Holy Father, and whatever else You know that we need, grant us for the sake of Him who brought an everlasting light into this world that has forever shattered the darkness, and who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and ever.

**C** **Amen.**

The Sharing of the Peace

**P** Our Savior Christ is the Prince of Peace. Of the increase of His government and of peace there shall be no end.

The Peace of the Lord be with you always!

**C** **And also with you.**

*The Congregation is seated*

✠ **The Service of the Sacrament** ✠

The Hymn of Preparation

“The First Noel”

**1** **The first Noel the angel did say  
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;  
In fields where they lay, keeping their sheep,  
On a cold winter's night that was so deep. *Refrain***

*Refrain* **Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel!  
Born is the King of Israel.**

**2** **They looked up and saw a star  
Shining in the east beyond them far;  
And to the earth it gave great light,  
And so it continued both day and night. *Refrain***

**3** **And by the light of that same star  
Three Wise Men came from country far;  
To seek for a king was their intent,  
And to follow the star wherever it went. *Refrain***

*The Hymn continues on the next page...*

**4 This star drew near to the northwest,  
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest;  
And there it did both stop and stay  
Right over the place where Jesus lay. *Refrain***

***Refrain* Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel!  
Born is the King of Israel.**

**5 Then entered in those Wise Men three,  
Full, rev'rently upon their knee,  
And offered there in His presence  
Their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense. *Refrain***

**6 Then let us all with one accord  
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord  
That hath made heav'n and earth of naught,  
And with His blood our life hath bought. *Refrain***

*Text: Public domain*

*The Congregation rises*

The Preface Dialogue and *Sanctus*:

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

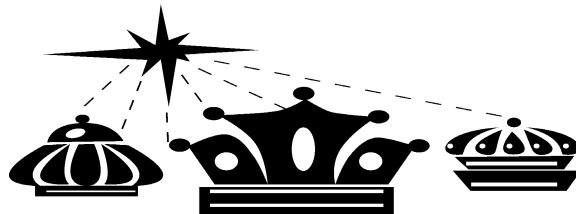
**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** **We lift them to the Lord.**

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C** **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



**C** *sung to the tune of "Angels We Have Heard on High"*  
**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of hosts, all praise be giv'n!  
All Your glory fills the earth,  
All Your power fills the heav'ns!  
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!**

**Blessed is the King who came,  
Bringing love and light divine!  
Blessed is the King who comes  
In the Bread and in the Wine!  
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!**

#### The Prayer of Thanksgiving

**P** Thanks be to You, O Lord, because in these last days You did send to us Your beloved Servant, Jesus Christ, to be our Savior and our Redeemer and the Messenger of Your will; Who is Your Word inseparable from You; through whom You made all things and with whom You were well-pleased; whom You did send from heaven into the womb of the Virgin, and who, having been conceived within her, became flesh, and was manifested as Your Son, being born of the Holy Spirit and a virgin.

Who, when He was betrayed to His voluntary suffering, in order that He might abolish death, break the bonds of the adversary, tread hell underfoot, give light to the righteous, establish a memorial, and manifest the resurrection, took bread, gave thanks to You, and said: "Take eat, this is My ✠ Body, which is broken for you." Likewise also the cup, saying: "This is My ✠ Blood which is poured out for you. As often as you do this, you shall do it in remembrance of Me."

Therefore, having in remembrance His death and resurrection, we give thanks to You, because You have counted us worthy to stand before You and to serve you. Gather into one, we pray You, all Your holy people who partake hereof; fill them with Your Holy Spirit for the confirmation of their faith in the truth; and grant that we may praise and glorify You through Your Servant, Jesus Christ; through whom all honor and glory belongs to You, the Father and the Son with the Holy Spirit, in Your holy Church, both now and forever.

**C Amen.**

#### The Lord's Prayer

**P** Commanded by Christ's saving precepts and informed by His divine instruction, we are bold to say:

**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.**

The *Pax Domini*:

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**C** Amen.

The *Agnus Dei*

*Sung to the Tune of "Once in Royal David's City"*

- C** Lamb of God, the world's Redeemer,  
Mercy to Your people give.  
Lamb of God, the world's Redeemer,  
May we in Your mercy live.  
Lamb of God, we all implore:  
Grant us peace forevermore.

*The Congregation is seated*

The Distribution of Holy Communion:

*Lutherans believe that in this Sacrament the very Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ are present in, with, and under the physical elements of bread and wine. And this Sacrament is distributed to the Baptized of the Church who believe in the Presence of Christ in the Sacrament, sincerely repent of their sins, and desire to receive God's forgiveness in this Holy Meal. Those who are present at this celebration who are baptized, have been instructed in the meaning of this Supper, and believe likewise are welcome to commune with us at this Altar today.*

*Holy Communion is distributed to the congregation in a continuous manner in front of the altar. Please follow the direction of the ushers to make your way to the Altar. The Sacrament is distributed in the following way...Please extend your hand to the Pastor to receive the Body of Christ. Christ's Blood is then received from individual cups from the assistant (wine and white grape juice are available). After receiving, please place your empty cup into the tray at the end of the communion rail and return to your seat by way of the side aisle. Children and those not wishing to receive the Sacrament are welcome to come forward to receive a blessing from the Pastor.*

Music at the Distribution: "The First Noel"  
"We Three Kings"

*After all have communed, the Pastor continues:*

The Eucharistic Blessing:

- P** The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.  
**C** Amen.

*The Congregation rises.*

- C** Lord, now in Your mercy Your servants release  
As Your word has promised. Oh, grant us Your peace.  
Our eyes Your salvation and mercy behold,  
Prepared for the nations, as prophets foretold,  
  
A Light to the Gentiles, by whom they now see  
The glory of Israel, the Promised One He  
Who lives now and ever, the heaven's bright Sun,  
With Father and Spirit eternally One.

The Thanksgiving and Post-Communion Prayer:

- P** Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good.  
**C** And His mercy endures forever.  
  
**P** Let us pray.  
We give You thanks, almighty and merciful God, that You have refreshed us with  
Your Holy Sacrament, and we beseech You to make us partakers of Your divine life  
through the Incarnation of Your beloved Son, with whose Body and Blood You  
have now nourished us; for the sake of the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives  
and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
**C** Amen.

The *Benedicamus* and Blessing:

- P** The Lord be with you.  
**C** And also with you.  
  
**P** Let us bless the Lord.  
**C** Thanks be to God!  
  
**P** May Christ, the Son of God, be manifest in you, that your lives may be a light to the  
world; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the † Son, and the Holy  
Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always.  
**C** Amen.

The Hymn to Depart

*Lutheran Service Book Hymn # 397*

“As with Gladness Men of Old”

- 1** As with gladness men of old  
Did the guiding star behold;  
As with joy they hailed its light,  
Leading onward, beaming bright;  
So, most gracious Lord, may we  
Evermore be led by Thee.

*The Hymn continues on the next page...*

- 2 As with joyful steps they sped,  
 Savior, to Thy lowly bed,  
 There to bend the knee before  
 Thee, whom heav'n and earth adore;  
 So may we with willing feet  
 Ever seek Thy mercy seat.
- 3 As they offered gifts most rare  
 At Thy cradle, rude and bare,  
 So may we with holy joy,  
 Pure and free from sin's alloy,  
 All our costliest treasures bring,  
 Christ, to Thee, our heav'nly King.
- 4 Holy Jesus, ev'ry day  
 Keep us in the narrow way;  
 And when earthly things are past,  
 Bring our ransomed souls at last  
 Where they need no star to guide,  
 Where no clouds Thy glory hide.
- 5 In the heav'nly country bright  
 Need they no created light;  
 Thou its light, its joy, its crown,  
 Thou its sun which goes not down;  
 There forever may we sing  
 Alleluias to our King.

*Text: Public domain*

The Silent Worship

The Parish Announcements

The Postlude

“As with Gladness Men of Old”

✠ *To God All Praise and Glory!* ✠

### Acknowledgments

Divine Service from Lutheran Service Book

The texts of the *Sanctus*, *Agnus Dei*, and *Nunc Dimittis* Hymns are from *Creative Worship Resources* by Creative Communications for the Parish.

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## NOTES AND NEWS

*2021 OFFERING ENVELOPES* ... have arrived! This annual aid to stewardship is available for you to pick up on the literature table in the rear of the nave. If you do not see a set prepared for you and would like to have one for your use, please speak with Pastor and he will be sure that a set is ready to be given to you. The envelope in the front of the box marked Initial Offering is to be used to help offset the cost of the envelopes for the church. A suggested offering is \$12.00.

*PORTALS OF PRAYER*...The January – March 2021 Portals of Prayer are available in the narthex. The Large Print editions have finally arrived for those who need them. Thanks for your patience.

*PERSONAL SCRIPTURE STUDY* ... Even though we are not able to hold our Sunday Morning Bible Class at this time doesn't mean that you can't continue to be "in the Word" on your own. Pastor has provided parts of our Bible Study guide, "A Longer Look at the Lessons", for your use during the Advent and Christmas Seasons. These materials are posted on the church website, and can be found at: <http://tlcmr.org/our-ministries/christian-education/online-bible-study-materials/> (The link can also be accessed off of our church website home page.)

*MIDWEEK DEVOTIONS AND BIBLE STUDY* ... We will resume Devotions and Bible Study this Wednesday, January 6<sup>th</sup>. We hope that you will join us for these times of the Word and prayer as we enter into this new year.

*THE LUTHERAN HOUR*... When you open yourself up to hearing the backstory behind the apparent contradiction, you may encounter what the Bible is all about. Listen to the Lutheran Hour next Sunday January 10, 2021, for this message by Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler, "The Backstory Behind a Bible 'Contradiction'", on WMZQ 98.7 FM at 7:00 AM or on Sundays at 1:30 PM and 6:30 PM on WFAX 1220 AM. If you are out of the radio station's range you may listen on line to WFAX worldwide at WFAX.com.

*LOST PHONE* ... A cell phone was recently found in the church kitchen, for which we do not know whose it is. If it might be yours, please speak with Pastor so we can get it back to you.

*OUR PRAYER LIST* ... The weekly "O Christ, Hear Us" page in the bulletin is a listing of those we remember in prayer during worship at Trinity and for whom you are invited to pray for in your own personal prayers during the week. In the version of the weekly bulletin that is published online, we only list the persons we are praying for by their first names because of privacy concerns and laws, while we continue to lift them up by full name in our spoken prayers. Pastor continues to keep the list current and invites you to send him by email any new prayer requests, or to let him know of any changes or deletions which need to be made. The "full text" version of the Prayer List, as it would ordinarily be found in the bulletin, can be made available to Trinity members who request one by sending an email to Pastor.



*FROM YOUR CHURCH'S PUBLISHER ...* Concordia Publishing House is assisting congregations and their members with materials to help sustain us spiritually during this time of quarantine that many find ourselves in. Please visit [www.cph.org](http://www.cph.org) and check out the new and free content available on their homepage which contains many free resources for devotion, learning, and worship.

*ALTAR FLOWERS ...* If you had scheduled a Sunday to donate Altar Flowers during the time when we were away from our church building, and have already paid for them in advance, we would like to still honor your gift by purchasing those flowers for a Sunday service now that we've returned. Please let the church office know which Sunday you would like to sponsor. We also welcome other donors for other available Sundays as well. If you have any questions, please contact Rona by calling the church office or by email ([trinity-elc-office@verizon.net](mailto:trinity-elc-office@verizon.net)).

The flower chart for 2021 is now available for you to reserve your Sundays for this new year.

*COMPASSION CENTER NEWS...* Our Compassion Center is open and is once again serving members of our community with their needs for food and clothing. Please see the full page announcement in the bulletin for more information. If you are able to volunteer during the Center's open hours, please contact Elma. Thank you all for your continued help and support and prayers.

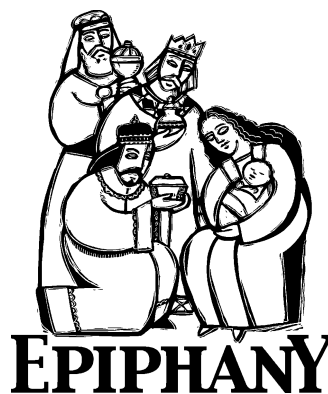
In an effort to keep the cupboards full at the Compassion Center during this time of great need in our community we will continue to need your generous donations of food. All non-perishable foods are welcome, and especially needed items include:

Peanut Butter; Pasta; Pasta Sauce; Macaroni & Cheese; Canned Tuna and Chicken;  
Canned Fruit; Soup.

There is also a need for diapers, especially sizes 4, 5, and 6.

Donations can be dropped off at the Center during Center hours. And you can also leave your donations at church, and we will make sure that it is delivered to the Compassion Center. Thank you for your loving and generous support.

Elma Pervaiz, Coordinator, LMS Compassion Center, Hyattsville, MD



FROM THE



Dear Trinity Family,

On behalf of Rona and myself, we would like to take the opportunity to say “Thank you” to all those who remembered us this Christmas with your loving and generous gifts to us as those who serve you here at Trinity. We are thankful for your generosity, yet even more thankful for your kindness.

On a personal note, I know that this has been the year that many of us will want to forget, but will still always remember. As your Pastor, it has always been an honor and a privilege to serve such a dear congregation, but perhaps even more this year as we have all banded together to keep both Trinity and our faith afloat in these trying days. Your love, prayers, and concern have been felt by me, and have been a source of strength which has encouraged me and “kept me going”. I pray that as we enter into this new year that things will “get better”, but that we will also continue as we have—strong in faith, hope, and love and standing firm in and with the Lord.

God’s blessings be with us always!

In Christ’s Love,  
*Pastor and Rona*  
Your Church Staff



*PREPARING FOR NEXT SUNDAY ...*

The Baptism of Our Lord: The First Sunday after the Epiphany, January 10, 2021  
Scripture Readings: Genesis 1:1-5; Romans 6:1-11; Mark 1:4-11



## **Trinity Stay-Safe Rules**

- ❖ If you are sick, PLEASE STAY HOME, and please get under a doctor's care.
- ❖ If you are over 65 or immunocompromised, please be careful, follow the rules here at church, or feel free to stay home with God's blessing and ours. (We'll be here when you are ready to come back to worship.)
- ❖ While in the church building, please wear a mask as much as possible for the sake of your neighbors.
- ❖ Please spread out in church in order to do the recommended distancing (six feet). In addition to the pews in the nave, you may also be seated in the balcony or church overflow. Of course, families who reside together may sit together.
- ❖ Wash your hands often. 20 seconds with soap and water. Hand sanitizer is available for you to use as well. Try not to touch your face.
- ❖ Cough and sneeze into a tissue or into your elbow.
- ❖ Please, no handshaking. Use an elbow bump or wave for now.
- ❖ Limit your socializing indoors after the service; or better yet, use distanced visiting with one another outside.
- ❖ All Worship materials are printed for each service. As we will not be reusing them, please take them home with you to recycle.
- ❖ Offerings will not be collected during the service. Please place your offering in the basket on the table in the rear of the nave, or continue to mail in your offering to the church office.
- ❖ Holy Communion will be distributed in a continuous fashion using individual wafers and cups. Please follow the direction of the usher to go forward and receive the Sacrament, and please keep a distance in line between persons.



## **Hyattsville Compassion Center**

*A shared ministry of  
Redeemer & Trinity Congregations  
and the Lutheran Mission Society*

**Ms. Elma Pervaiz, Center Coordinator**  
**Center Phone Number: 301-277-2302, ext. 23**

***We are happy to announce that our Compassion Center has reopened!***

Our operating hours will be:

**Monday: 10 AM – 4 PM**

**Tuesday: 10 AM – 4 PM**

**Wednesday: 10 AM – 2 PM**

Food and Clothing Ministry is available by appointment  
during the center's open hours.

Please call Elma to make arrangements for us to assist you.

The thrift center will be open during our operating hours  
with the following safety guidelines:

- Masks must be worn at all times
- Please observe social distancing
- Number of persons in the center at a time will be limited

In-Kind Donations for the thrift center are limited at this time  
owing to reduced staffing at the center.

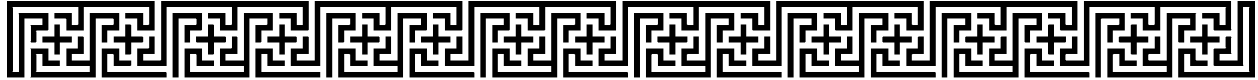
If you have donations, please contact Elma at the center  
before bringing your items during center hours.

**PARISH CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 3 – 10**  
*May Be Subject to Change*

<b>Today</b>	<i>The Feast of the Epiphany of Our Lord (Observed)</i>	
	9:30 AM	Worship Service with Holy Communion (at church in person and via Facebook Live)
<b>Monday</b>	10:00 AM – 4:00 PM	Compassion Center Open
<b>Tuesday</b>	9 AM—Noon	Church Office Open
	10:00 AM – 4:00 PM	Compassion Center Open
<b>Wednesday</b>	10:00 AM – 2:00 PM	Compassion Center Open
<b>Thursday</b>	9 AM—Noon	Church Office Open
<b>Next Sunday</b>	<i>The Baptism of Our Lord: The First Sunday after the Epiphany</i>	
	9:30 AM	Worship Service with Holy Communion (at church in person and via Facebook Live)

**CHURCH STATISTICS**

Thursday, December 24, 2020	Worship Attendance: 14; Communed: 13
Friday, December 25, 2020	Worship Attendance: 10; Communed: 10
Sunday, December 27, 2020	Worship Attendance: 20; Communed: 20.



✠ O Christ, Hear Us! ✠

**Intercessions for the Week of January 3, 2021**

**Prayers for Continued Healing and Help**

*For Members of Our Trinity Family:*

John, Diane, Julie & Kenny, Elizabeth, Joseph, Diane, Evelyn, Waymond, Alan, August, Clara, David, Ernie, Paul, Sylvia, Angela, Priscilla, and David, Sr.

*For Those Who Have Asked of Our Prayers:*

Luke, grandson of Charlie & Jean; John, relative of Pastor; Dina, niece of Sylvia; Betty, mother of Helen; Susan, relative of Gus & Betty; Joe, friend of Cullen; Britnany, niece of Lynda; Juliet, mother of Ras-I; Kristie, co-worker of Joyce; Giovanna, co-worker of Joyce; Linda, daughter of Gus & Betty; Sue, co-worker of Joyce; Rosemary, sister-in-law of Sylvia; Nicole & daughter, Anya, co-worker of Joyce; Eric, homeless; Mary, cousin of Pastor; Alan, cousin of Kim; Danielle, neighbor of Kim; Shirley, aunt of Kim; Lisa, neighbor of Peter & Kim; Dennis & Caron, former Concordia Teachers; Tasha, and her son Layton, friends of Kristina; Bill, brother of Peter; Robin, friend of Kristina; Zoila, mother of David; Richard, son of Art, Jeff, husband of Mary; Jeannette, mother-in-law of John; Ty & Clare, friends of David & Joyce; Roger & Family, friends of Vincent & Tracy

All those affected by or who are in fear of the Coronavirus Outbreak.

For our Medical Community, First Responders, and other Workers who aid us in this time.

**Thanksgivings and Blessings**

Delores Donald, Peter Schiebel, Olivia Sahadeo, Kristie Maddox, who celebrate their birthdays this week.

**We Keep In Our Prayers**

- ✠ Our Trinity family, our ministries, and our mission.
- ✠ For Pastor Gugssa Biru and the people of the Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus in Maryland
- ✠ For the Lord to continue to move the hearts of our Trinity members to a deeper realization of our part in His mission to the world and to be *Ablaze!* with a desire to tell the Good News about Jesus with those whom we come into contact in our lives.
- ✠ For Elma Pervaiz, our Center Coordinator, and for the work of our Compassion Center.
- ✠ Our government leaders, and for the members of our armed forces.
- ✠ For peace and justice among the residents of our nation's cities and towns where there is unrest from fear and distrust.
- ✠ For all those still affected and recovering from the effects of natural disasters.
- ✠ For our brothers and sisters in Christ who suffer persecution for the faith and Name of Jesus, even to the point of the shedding of their blood.
- ✠ Prayers for peace in our world, especially in those places that are affected by war, oppression, or by acts of terror, and for those who find themselves in harm's way in the war on terrorism.
- ✠ All those we know who are sick, who grieve, and who are in any need of prayer.