

# FOR OUR 10:45 A.M. DIVINE WORSHIP

The Epiphany of our Lord

1/8/2023

## PRAYER

*(Please turn off cell phones in preparation for Divine Worship)*

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## PRELUDE

## PASTORAL GREETING

## OPENING HYMN

TLH 123

*Our God, Our Help in Ages Past*

1. Our God, our Help in ages past,  
Our Hope for years to come,  
Our Shelter from the stormy blast,  
And our eternal Home!
2. Under the shadow of Thy throne  
Thy saints have dwelt secure;  
Sufficient is Thine arm alone,  
And our defense is sure.
3. Before the hills in order stood  
Or earth received her frame,  
From everlasting Thou art God,  
To endless years the same.
4. A thousand ages in Thy sight  
Are like an evening gone,  
Short as the watch that ends the night  
Before the rising sun.
5. Thy word commands our flesh to dust:  
"Return, ye son of men!"

All nations rose from earth at first  
And turn to earth again.

6. Time, like an ever-rolling stream,  
Bears all its sons away;  
They fly forgotten, as a dream  
Dies at the opening day.
7. Like flowery fields the nations stand,  
Pleased with the morning light;  
The flowers beneath the mower's hand  
Lie withering ere 'tis night.
8. O God, our Help in ages past,  
Our Hope for years to come,  
Be Thou our Guard while life shall last  
And our eternal Home!

## THE ORDER OF HOLY COMMUNION

### INVOCATION

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

**C:** Amen.

### CONFESSION OF SIN AND ABSOLUTION

**P:** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God, our Father, beseeching Him in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

**P:** Our help is in the Name of the Lord.

**C:** Who made heaven and earth.

**P:** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.

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

**A:** O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto Thee all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended Thee and justly deserved Thy temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray Thee of Thy boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Thy beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

**P:** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost.

**C:** Amen.

#### THE INTROIT

**P:** I will cause your name to be remembered in all generations; therefore nations will praise you forever and ever. Your throne, O God, is forever and ever. The scepter of your kingdom is a scepter of uprightness; you have loved righteousness and hated wickedness. Therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions; your robes are all fragrant with myrrh and aloes and cassia.

#### GLORIA PATRI

**C:** Glory to be the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

#### THE KYRIE

**A:** Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

#### THE GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

**C:** Glory be to God on high:

**C:** And on earth, peace, good will toward men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory. O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty. O Lord God, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, That takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer. Thou sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord. Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

### **SALUTATION**

**P:** The Lord be with you.

**C:** And with thy spirit.

### **COLLECT**

**P:** 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.

### **LESSONS**

#### **OLD TESTAMENT**

##### ***Isaiah 60:1-6***

Arise, shine; For your light has come! And the glory of the Lord is risen upon you. For behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, And deep darkness the people; But the Lord will arise over you, And His glory will be seen upon you. The Gentiles 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 nursed at your side. Then you shall see and become radiant, And your heart shall swell with joy; Because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you, The wealth of the Gentiles shall come to you. The multitude of camels shall cover your land, The

dromedaries of Midian and Ephah; All those from Sheba shall come; They shall bring gold and incense, And they shall proclaim the praises of the Lord.

## **EPISTLE**

### ***Ephesians 3:1-12***

For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for you Gentiles—if indeed you have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which was given to me for you, how that by revelation He made known to me the mystery (as I have briefly written already, by which, when you read, you may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ), which in other ages was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to His holy apostles and prophets: that the Gentiles should be fellow heirs, of the same body, and partakers of His promise in Christ through the gospel, of which I became a minister according to the gift of the grace of God given to me by the effective working of His power. To me, who am less than the least of all the saints, this grace was given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, and to make all see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the ages has been hidden in God who created all things through Jesus Christ; to the intent that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers in the heavenly places, according to the eternal purpose which He accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through faith in Him.

**L:** Here ends the Epistle.

**C:** Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

## **HOLY GOSPEL**

**P:** The Holy Gospel is written in the 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter of St. Matthew, beginning at the 1<sup>st</sup> verse.

**C:** Glory be to Thee, O Lord!

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

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, saying, "Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him." When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. So they said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it is written by the prophet: 'But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, Are not the least among the rulers of Judah; For out of you shall come a Ruler Who will shepherd My people Israel.' " Then Herod, when he had secretly called the wise men, determined from them what time the star appeared. And he sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the young Child, and when you have found Him, bring back word to me, that I may come and worship Him also." When they heard the king, they departed; and behold, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came and stood over where the young Child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceedingly great joy. And when they had come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary His mother, and fell down and worshiped Him. And when they had opened their treasures, they presented gifts to Him: gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Then, being divinely warned in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed for their own country another way.

**P:** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C:** Praise be to Thee, O Christ!

## **THE NICENE CREED** (*In Unison*)

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 Ghost 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 sitteth on the right hand of the Father; And He shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead; Whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost, The Lord and Giver of Life, Who proceedeth 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 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 of the world to come. Amen.

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

**LSB 896**

*Now Greet the Swiftly Changing Year*

- 1 Now greet the swiftly changing year  
With joy and penitence sincere.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! With thanks embrace  
Another year of grace.
- 2 Remember now the Son of God  
And how He shed His infant blood.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! With thanks embrace  
Another year of grace.
- 3 This Jesus came to end sin's war;  
This Name of names for us He bore.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! With thanks embrace  
Another year of grace.
- 4 His love abundant far exceeds  
The volume of a whole year's needs.

Rejoice! Rejoice! With thanks embrace  
Another year of grace.

5 With Him as Lord to lead our way  
In want and in prosperity,  
What need we fear in earth or space  
In this new year of grace!

6 “All glory be to God on high,  
And peace on earth!” the angels cry.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! With thanks embrace  
Another year of grace.

7 God, Father, Son, and Spirit, hear!  
To all our pleas incline Your ear;  
Upon our lives rich blessing trace  
In this new year of grace.

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**SERMON                      “The Mystery Revealed!”                      Ephesians 3:1-12**

**OFFERTORY**

**A: Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence; and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation; and uphold me with Thy free spirit.**

**THE GIVING OF OUR TITHES and SACRIFICIAL GIFTS**

**OFFERING PRAYER** (*Pastor*)

**THE PRAYERS**

**LORD’S PRAYER**

**THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**THE PAX DOMINI**

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always!

**C** Amen.

**THE AGNUS DEI**

**C O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.**

## **THE DISTRIBUTION**

### **HYMN**

**TLH 304**

*An Awe-full Mystery Is Here*

1. An awe-full mystery is here  
To challenge faith and waken fear;  
The Savior comes as food divine,  
Concealed in earthly bread and wine.
2. This world is loveless--but above,  
What wondrous boundlessness of love!  
The King of Glory stoops to me  
My spirit's life and strength to be.
3. In consecrated wine and bread  
No eye perceives the myst'ry dread;  
But Jesus' word is strong and clear:  
"My body and My blood are here."
4. How dull are all the pow'rs of sense  
Employed on proofs of love immense!  
The richest food remains unseen,  
And highest gifts appear--how mean!
5. But here we have no boon of earth,  
And faith alone discerns its worth.  
The Word, not sense, must be our guide,  
And faith assure since sight's denied.

6. Lord, show us still that Thou art good  
And grant us evermore this food.  
Give faith to every wavering soul  
And make each wounded spirit whole.

### THE NUNC DIMITTIS

**C** Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word, For mine eyes have seen Thy Salvation: which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a Light to lighten the Gentiles and the Glory of Thy people Israel. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

### FIRST ANTIPHON AND COLLECT

**P** Oh, give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good.

**C** And His mercy endureth forever.

**P** We give thanks to Thee, Almighty God, that Thou hast refreshed us through this salutary gift; and we beseech Thee that of Thy mercy Thou wouldst strengthen us through the same in faith toward Thee and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end.

**C** Amen.

### CLOSING HYMN

TLH 127

*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 glorious Lord, may we  
Evermore be led by Thee!

2. As with joyful steps they sped  
Savior, to Thy lowly bed,  
There to bend the knee before  
Him 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, every 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 heavenly 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!

**BENEDICTION**

**ALL: "Amen, Amen, Amen."**

**SILENT PRAYER**

**RECESSIONAL**

**POSTLUDE**

Officiant: Rev. Dr. David Stechholz

Lector: Jean Azar

Music Director: Bruce Sininger

**\*[ ] Denotes scriptural references pertinent to the various parts of our Liturgy Christ the King Lutheran Church, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI, 2020 Acknowledgments** Divine Service, Setting Two from Lutheran Service Book © 2006 Concordia Publishing House. Reprinted with permission. Unless otherwise indicated, all scripture quotations are from *The Holy Bible, English Standard Version*, copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2006 Concordia Publishing House. RomanScripture taken from the New King James Version®. Copyright © 1982 by Thomas Nelson. Used by permission. All rights reserved.



## SUNDAY, JANUARY 8<sup>TH</sup>

### **Remember in Your Prayers:**

**Sharon Geffert, Jean, Kathy and Jim Geffert-** at the sudden death of Paul Geffert of Naples, FL on January 2 in hospice care.

Paul Geffert was the youngest son of Pastor Walther and Ann Geffert our organizing Pastor.

**Kathy Geffert-** hospitalized at Ascension Oakland in Madison Heights with breathing difficulties.

**Ingrid Stuhldreer-** who has returned home after being hospitalized last week.

**Genny Liebert-** who remains home under the care of the Lord and her family.

**Jane Parke-** recovering at home from a broken arm.

**Sheila Rice**- recovering from recent surgery.

**Pastor Jim Elsher**- who continues his recovery from injuries sustained in a serious fall.

**Tom Bommarito**- friend of Robert Wickes- who is recovering from a serious infection.

**Those in care facilities:** Clifford Popp and Judy Piche

**Those treated for cancer:** Tom Harms, Roy Koepe, Lisa Zimmermann, Keith Josefiak, Eric Hingst, Sharon Selby

**Those serving their country:** Justin Kelley, Matthew Dailey, Maddy Rice, Gavin Rice.

**Due to production problems** with our giving envelope printing company, the giving envelopes for 2023 are not available yet. While the supplier works to get our order to us, we ask that you continue giving by either 1) using your leftover 2022 envelopes; or 2) use envelopes from the pew (marking them with your assigned envelope number and designating on the envelope, "Weekly Offering").

**Level I and II Confirmation Classes** begin Tuesday, January 10, 2023, at 5: 30 P.M.

## Life Quotes

"When an abortion is performed, we proclaim that we know better than God. We disregard His wisdom, for He taught us that we should never kill innocent human beings. We proclaim that we do not want or need a gift from God. And in doing so, we seek to make ourselves more powerful than God. We seek to make ourselves God." *Archbishop Samuel Aquila – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org)*

## Altar Guild

Serving with the Altar Guild for the month are Beverly Zimmermann, Tina Burns, and Julie Shanley

## One Week Ago Today:

10:45 Service: 44

Communion: 40

## Altar Flowers

The new signup sheet is now out in the lobby. If you are able, please sign up for one or both vases. The cost is \$18 for one vase, \$36 for both. You can let Shane, our office administrator, know the sentiment to be published in the Sunday bulletin, for those flowers. They can also be picked up, if you choose, after the 10:45 am service. If you have any questions, or if you have a special request (i.e. type of flower, larger bouquet) please feel free to contact Pam Zimmer, 586-578-9464. Payment should be placed in the offering plate in an envelope marked "Altar Flowers".

**Wednesday Bible Class** resumes January 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Sunday Bible Class**- will be taught by Pastor David Stechholz on January 8<sup>th</sup> and Pastor Arnold Brammeier on January 15<sup>th</sup>. Both classes begin at 9:30.

**Pastor Boelter** will return to the office after January 20<sup>th</sup>. If you have need for pastoral assistance, please contact the church office or one of our Elders. A pastor will be contacted to assist you in case of an emergency.

**We were saddened** to hear of the death of Paul Geffert, who died in the Lord on January 2 in Naples, FL. Paul was the youngest son of Pastor Walter and Ann Geffert. He grew up here in Grosse Pointe and lived in the Kalamazoo area until he and Sharon moved to Florida. In Naples, FL, Paul worked as a Real Estate Agent for many years. Paul and Sharon were founding members of Faith Lutheran Church, English District, in Naples. He served there in several capacities, including as an elder. In his later years, Paul was devoting his time to caring for his wife Sharon, who is now entering assisted living. We keep Sharon in our prayers, as well as their extended family here in Michigan: Jean, Kathy and Jim Geffert.

It has pleased the Lord of life to summon out of this world and unto Himself in heaven the soul of our brother in Christ, **Robert Michael Mullinger**, who was born on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of January in the year of our Lord 1956, the son of Herbert Hugo Mullinger and his wife Vera nee' Davidson Mullinger. Mike was received into God's Kingdom of Grace through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism as an infant. He confirmed his baptismal faith on April 10, 1966. He

grew up in Grosse Pointe Woods and attended Monteith Elementary School, Brownell Middle School, and he graduated from Grosse Pointe North High School. Mike attended Michigan State and Wayne State College, graduating with a degree in Business. He was joined in Holy Matrimony with Amy Kacklee at St James Lutheran Church in Grosse Pointe Farms, MI. Their marriage was blessed with the gift of 4 children: Megan, Michael, Robert and Jenna. The Mullingers worshiped at St James Lutheran Church and transferred their membership to Christ the King Lutheran Church in 2002. Mike worked in business and finance, and later left that line of work for his true passion: owning and operating his own landscape business. Mike served the Lord at Christ the King as an usher, as a member of the Senior Choir, and by generously giving of his time and talents for the upkeep of the church grounds. He enjoyed cribbage, crossword puzzles, and reading. His favorite pastime was: "Here, let me teach you something!" In the past several years, as Mike began to experience some memory loss, he enjoyed spending his time at home with his family, who lovingly and faithfully cared for him. He was always found at worship on the Lord's Day, hearing God's Word and receiving the Sacrament of the Lord with his fellow believers. Experiencing a life-threatening infection, he was hospitalized at Grosse Pointe Beaumont Hospital, where he remained for approximately two weeks. He died in hospice care on Thursday, December 29, 2022, his family at his side. Mourning his death with the hope of the resurrection are his wife of 43 years Amy; his daughters Megan (Adam) Cloe, and Jenna (Steven) Bell; and his two sons Michael Mullinger (Brooke) and Robert Mullinger (Julia Bayer). His memory is cherished by his three grandchildren: Grace Bell, Aiden and Owen Mullinger. He is also remembered by his two sisters: Susan Mullinger and Robyn Mullinger (David Dyle). Also grateful for Mike's life are his mother in law Betty Kackley, his sister in laws Beth (Tom) Kostenko and Sandra (Leo) Szalma, as well as cousins, nieces and nephews, neighbors, friends and fellow believers at Christ the King Lutheran Church.

Mike's mortal remains were cremated, and will be interred at a later time, where they will await the Second Coming of our Lord Jesus Christ in power and in glory. A Memorial service was held for Mike on Tuesday January 3<sup>rd</sup>. For Mike's baptismal faith in Jesus, bless God and declare: "To God be immortal glory, for great things the LORD has done!"