FOR OUR 9:30 A.M. DIVINE WORSHIP

Observed as The Epiphany of our Lord **January 7, 2024**

(Please turn off cell phones in preparation for Divine Service)

✞ ✞ ✞ **INI** ✞ ✞ ✞

PRELUDE

PASTORAL GREETING

INVOCATION

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

C: **Amen.**

PRAYER

God of love, who would like to see the salvation of all, keep us steadfast in the faith and use us to proclaim Jesus to all—in this way let people find salvation for their souls, and then let them, lighted with Christ's light, glorify You; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who with You and the Holy Spirit are one God with dominion over us forever. Amen.

OPENING HYMN **LSB 395**

O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright

1 O Morning Star, how fair and bright!
You shine with God's own truth and light,
Aglow with grace and mercy!
Of Jacob's race, King David's son,
Our Lord and master, You have won
Our hearts to serve You only!
Lowly, holy!
Great and glorious,
All victorious, Rich in blessing!
Rule and might o'er all possessing!

2 Come, heav'nly Bridegroom, Light divine,
And deep within our hearts now shine;
There light a flame undying!
In Your one body let us be
As living branches of a tree,
Your life our lives supplying.
Now, though daily
Earth's deep sadness
May perplex us and distress us,
Yet with heav'nly joy You bless us.

4 Almighty Father, in Your Son
You loved us when not yet begun
Was this old earth's foundation!
Your Son has ransomed us in love
To live in Him here and above:
This is Your great salvation.
Alleluia!
Christ the living,
To us giving life forever,
Keeps us Yours and fails us never!

5 O let the harps break forth in sound!
Our joy be all with music crowned,
Our voices gladly 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!
Great is He, the King of Glory!

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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.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

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: This is the Word of the Lord.
C: **Alleluia! Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

HOLY GOSPEL
Matthew 2:1–12
Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, saying, "Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we 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 to You, O Christ.**

P: The Lord be with you.
C: **And also with you.**

COLLECT *(In Unison)*
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. Amen

HYMN OF THE DAY **TLH 512**
O Christ, Our True and Only Light

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

3 Oh, gently call those gone astray
That they may find the saving way!
Let ev'ry conscience sore opprest
In Thee find peace and heav'nly rest.

5 Shine on the darkened and the cold,
Recall the wanderers to Thy fold.
Unite all those who walk apart,
Confirm the weak and doubting heart,

6 So they with us may evermore
Such grace with wondering thanks adore
And endless praise to Thee be given
By all Thy Church in earth and heaven.

CHOIR ANTHEM - "Carol of the State" – D. Moore

SERMON **"Our Lamps of Gold"** **Exodus 25:31, 37**

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 spake 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.

THE GIVING OF OUR TITHES and SACRIFICIAL GIFTS

OFFERING **OFFERING PRAYER** *(Pastor)*

THE PRAYERS
SPECIAL INTERCESSIONS *(Pastor)*

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(Spoken in Unison)*
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.

CONFESSION OF SIN AND ABSOLUTION

P: Let us confess our sins to God our Father.

A: 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 the Word I therefore forgive you all your sins in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen!

THE HOLY COMMUNION
THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PAX DOMINI

P: The peace of the Lord be with you.
C: **And also with you.**
A: **Amen!**

THE DISTRIBUTION
THE GENERAL DISMISSAL OF COMMUNICANTS
THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER *(In Unison)*

We give You thanks merciful Father that You have kept Your Word and have fed us, Your unworthy servants, with the precious body and blood of Your dear Son Jesus Christ. We pray that by His grace we may walk worthy of our holy calling and learn to adorn the teaching of God our Savior by our words and deeds, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN **TLH 106**

The People That in Darkness Sat

1 The people that in darkness sat
A glorious light have seen;
The light has shined on them who long
In shades of death have been,
In shades of death have been.

4 To us a Child of hope is born,
To us a Son is given,
And on His shoulder ever rests

All power in earth and heaven,
All power in earth and heaven.

5 His name shall be the Prince of Peace,
The Everlasting Lord,
The Wonderful, the Counselor.
The God by all adored,
The God by all adored.

6 His righteous government and power
Shall over all extend;
On judgment and on justice based,
His reign shall have no end,
His reign shall have no end.

7 Lord Jesus, reign in us, we pray,
And make us Thine alone,
Who with the Father ever art
And Holy Spirit, one,
And Holy Spirit, one.

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

DOXOLOGY *(In Unison)*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

SILENT PRAYER
RECESSIONAL
POSTLUDE

Officiant: Pastor Randy Boelter
Lector: Jean Azar
Organist: 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. Roman Scripture taken from the New King James Version®. Copyright © 1982 by Thomas Nelson. Used by permission. All rights reserved.