

# The Epiphany of Our Lord

**Immanuel Lutheran Church & School**  
*Embrace ~ Educate ~ Engage*

**January 4, 2026**  
**9:00am Traditional Divine Service Four**  
*Lutheran Service Book – Page 203*

**Ringing of the Bell**

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Greeting of the Saints**

**Prelude-Processional**

“Dix”

Conrad Kocher

## Opening Hymn

## "As with Gladness Men of Old"

Hymn 397 sts. 1, 3-5



1 As with glad-ness men of old Did the guid-ing star be-hold;  
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 - at - ed light;



As with joy they hailed its light, Lead - ing on - ward, beam-ing bright;  
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.  
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, 1837-98, alt. Tune: Conrad Kocher, 1786-1872. Text and tune: Public domain

## Confession and Absolution

LSB 203

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

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

P: If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

**C: But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

P: Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

**C: Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. 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 <sup>†</sup> Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

### Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

### Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 204



C 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;  
2 To You, O sole-be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;  
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro- claimed at Je-sus' birth!  
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.  
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor-shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,  
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King.  
Where You in pow'r are seat-ed At God's right hand on high—  
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

### Salutation and Collect of the Day

LSB 205

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray together.

C: 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.

*Please be seated*

## **Old Testament Reading**

Isaiah 60:1-6

Arise, shine, for your light has come,  
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.  
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.  
And nations 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 carried on the hip.  
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.  
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.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## Epistle Reading

Ephesians 3:1-12

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

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. 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, and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things, so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

R: Please stand for the reading of the Gospel.

## Alleluia and Verse

LSB 205

**C** Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

**C** These things are writ-ten that you may be - lieve that Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

**C** Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

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

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

**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 saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.” When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:

“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.””

Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. 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.” 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. When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. 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. 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.**

*Please be seated*

**Children's Message**

*Please stand*

## Hymn of the Day

“Songs of Thankfulness and Praise”

Hymn 394 sts. 1,2,4,5



1 Songs of thank - ful - ness and praise, Je - sus, Lord, to Thee we raise,  
2 Man - i - fest at Jor-dan's stream, Proph-et, Priest, and King su-preme;  
4 Sun and moon shall dark-enèd be, Stars shall fall, the heav'ns shall flee;  
5 Grant us grace to see Thee, Lord, Pres - ent in Thy ho - ly Word—



Man - i - fest-ed by the star To the sa - ges from a - far,  
And at Ca - na wed - ding guest In Thy God-head man - i - fest;  
Christ will then like light - ning shine, All will see His glo-rious sign;  
Grace to im - i - tate Thee now And be pure, as pure art Thou;



Branch of roy - al Da - vid's stem In Thy birth at Beth - le - hem:  
Man - i - fest in pow'r di - vine, Chang - ing wa - ter in - to wine;  
All will then the trum - pet hear, All will see the Judge ap - pear;  
That we might be - come like Thee At Thy great e - piph - a - ny



An - them be to Thee ad-dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.  
An - them be to Thee ad-dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.  
Thou by all wilt be con-fessed, God in man made man - i - fest.  
And may praise Thee, ev - er blest, God in man made man - i - fest.

Text: Christopher Wordsworth, 1807–85, alt. Tune: George J. Elvey, 1816–93. Text and tune: Public domain

## Sermon

*Rev. Benjamin Braun*

*Please stand*

### **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.**

## **Prayer of the Church**

A: In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

A: For a right knowledge of Christ, that we would abandon the darkness of this world and embrace the joy of His heavenly light, let us pray to the Lord:

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

A: For families, that our Father in heaven would bless our households with grace and protection; and that we might remember Him in both joy and trouble and worship before Him forever, let us pray to the Lord:

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

A: For those who are afflicted and in need of deliverance, especially Bernice, Angela, Carrie Ann, Earl, and Rita, that their prayers would be heard by the almighty God who has made us fellow heirs of the unsearchable riches of Christ; and that they would be preserved in the faith until that day when their eternal healing is fully revealed, let us pray to the Lord:

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

A: For the Holy Christian Church, that God's Word would richly abide in her and that many would be led to Christ through her witness, let us pray to the Lord:

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

A: All these needs, gracious Father, and whatever else You know that we need, grant for the sake of Him who shattered this world's darkness with everlasting light, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

*Please be seated*

**Offering** (*Please place completed Attendance Register in the offering plate*)

“A Great and Mighty Wonder”

Carl Schalk

*Please stand*

**Tithes & Offerings Brought Forward**

**C: Thank you, Lord, for blessing us so that we may be a blessing to others.**

## Service of the Sacrament

LSB 208

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, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

## Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

P: Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

### The Lord's Prayer

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 Words of Our Lord

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My  $\text{\tfrac{1}{2}}$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new covenant in My  $\text{\tfrac{1}{2}}$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

### Pax Domini

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

### Agnus Dei

LSB 210

1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
You take the sin of the world away;  
You take the sin of the world away;  
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God, O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
Have mercy on us, O Lord, we pray.  
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

*Please be seated*

### **Silent Prayer before Communing**

*Dear Savior, at Your gracious invitation I come to Your table to eat and drink Your holy body and blood. Let me find favor in Your eyes to receive this holy Sacrament in faith for the salvation of my soul and to the glory of Your holy name; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

### **Communion Hymns**

“Arise and Shine in Splendor”

Hymn 396



1 A - rise and shine in splen - dor; Let night to day sur -  
2 See earth in dark - ness ly - ing, The hea - then na - tions  
3 The world's re - mot - est rac - es, Up - on whose wea - ry  
4 Lift up your eyes in won - der— See, na - tions gath - er  
5 Your heart will leap for glad - ness When from the realms of

ren - der. Your light is draw - ing near. A - bove, the  
dy - ing In hope - less gloom and night. To you the  
fac - es The sun looks from the sky, Shall run with  
yon - der From sin to be set free. The world has  
sad - ness They come from near and far. Your eyes will

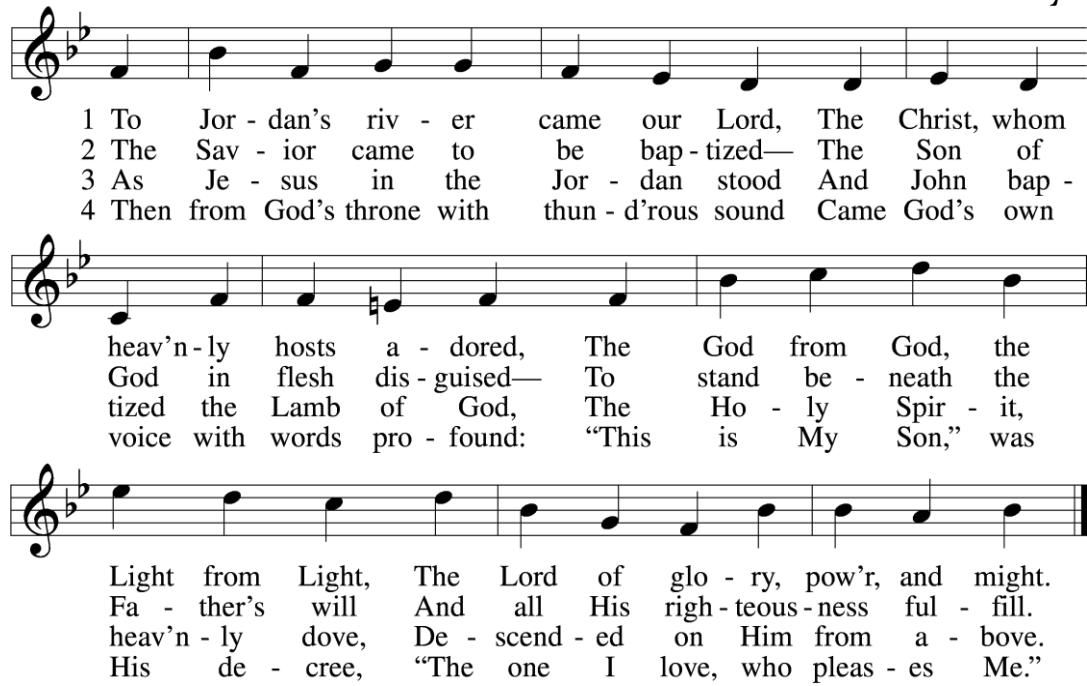
day is beam - ing, In match - less beau - ty  
Lord of heav - en— Your life, your hope— has  
zeal un - tir - ing, With joy Your light de -  
heard Your sto - ry; Her sons come to Your  
wake from slum - ber As peo - ple with - out

gleam - ing; The glo - ry of the Lord is here.  
giv - en Great glo - ry, hon - or, and de - light.  
sir - ing That breaks up - on them from on high.  
glo - ry; Her daugh - ters haste Your light to see.  
num - ber Re - joice to see the Morn - ing Star.

Text: Martin Opitz, 1597–1639; tr. Gerhard Gieschen, 1899–1987, alt. Tune: Heinrich Isaac, c. 1450–1517.  
Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004553. Tune: Public domain

## "To Jordan's River Came Our Lord"

Hymn 405



1 To Jor - dan's riv - er came our Lord, The Christ, whom  
2 The Sav - ior came to be bap - tized— The Son of  
3 As Je - sus in the Jor - dan stood And John bap -  
4 Then from God's throne with thun - d'rous sound Came God's own

heav'n - ly hosts a - dored, The God from God, the  
God in flesh dis - guised— To stand be - neath the  
tized the Lamb of God, The Ho - ly Spir - it,  
voice with words pro - found: "This is My Son," was

Light from Light, The Lord of glo - ry, pow'r, and might.  
Fa - ther's will And all His righ - teous - ness ful - fill.  
heav'n - ly dove, De - scend - ed on Him from a - bove.  
His de - cree, "The one I love, who pleas - es Me."

**5 The Father's word, the Spirit's flight  
Anointed Christ in glorious sight  
As God's own choice, from Adam's fall  
To save the world and free us all.**

**6 Now rise, faint hearts, be resolute;  
This man is Christ, our substitute!  
He was baptized in Jordan's stream,  
Proclaimed Redeemer, Lord supreme.**

Text: James P. Tiefel, 1949, alt. Tune: Musicalisch Hand-Buch der Geistlichen Melodien, 1690, Hamburg, alt.  
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“Beautiful Savior”

Hymn 537

1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion, Son of  
 2 Fair are the mead - ows, Fair are the wood - lands, Robed in  
 3 Fair is the sun - shine, Fair is the moon - light, Bright the  
 4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions, Son of

God and Son of Man! Tru - ly I'd love Thee, Tru - ly I'd  
 flow'rs of bloom - ing spring; Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is  
 spar - kling stars on high; Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines  
 God and Son of Man! Glo - ry and hon - or, Praise, ad - o -

serve Thee, Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.  
 pur - er, He makes our sor - r'wing spir - it sing.  
 pur - er Than all the an - gels in the sky.  
 ra - tion Now and for - ev - er - more be Thine!

Text: Münsterisch Gesangbuch, 1677, Münster; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823–1904. Tune: Silesian, 19th cent. Text and tune: Public domain

*Please stand*

**Communion Dismissal**

LSB 210

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart  $\text{†}$  in peace.

C: Amen.

## Nunc Dimittis

## LSB 211

1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -  
 2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All

part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the the  
 glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the the

glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:  
 Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;

A light to lead the be - Gen - tiles Un -  
 For as in the be - gin - ning, Un Is

to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your  
 now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -

peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.  
 sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

## **Benedicamus and Benediction**

LSB 212

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and **†** give you peace.

C: Amen.

## Closing Hymn

“Brightest and Best of the Stars of the Morning”

Hymn 400 sts. 1,2,3,5

1 Bright - est and best of the stars of the morn - ing,  
2 Cold on His cra - dle the dew - drops are shin - ing;  
3 Shall we not yield Him, in cost - ly de - vo - tion,  
5 Bright - est and best of the stars of the morn - ing,  
  
Dawn on our dark - ness and lend us thine aid;  
Low lies His head with the beasts of the stall;  
Fra - grance of E - dom and of - f'rings di - vine,  
Dawn on our dark - ness and lend us thine aid;  
  
Star of the East, the ho - ri - zon a - dorm - ing,  
An - gels a - dore Him in slum - ber re - clin - ing,  
Gems of the moun - tain and pearls of the o - cean,  
Star of the East, the ho - ri - zon a - dorm - ing,  
  
Guide where our in - fant Re - deem - er is laid.  
Mak - er and Mon - arch and Sav - ior of all.  
Myrrh from the for - est and gold from the mine?  
Guide where our in - fant Re - deem - er is laid.

Text: Reginald Heber, 1783–1826, alt. Tune: James P. Harding, 1850–1911, adapt. Text and tune: Public domain

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

## Postlude-Recessional

“A Multitude Comes from the East and the West”

Ken Kosche