

**The Epiphany  
January 7, 2024  
Heritage Lutheran Church  
Apple Valley, MN  
8:00 & 10:30 a.m.**



The Order of Service: Rite 1 with Communion ELH page 41

**1. Welcome**

**2. Opening Prayer**

**Pastor** O Lord, our Maker, Redeemer, and Comforter, we are assembled in Your presence to hear Your holy Word. We pray You to open our hearts by Your Holy Spirit, that through the preaching of Your Word we may be taught to repent of our sins, to believe on Jesus in life and death, and to grow day by day in grace and holiness. Hear us for Christ's sake. Amen.

**3. Opening Hymn #169 "Brightest And Best"**

*Please stand at the last verse*

1 Brightest and best of the stars of the morning,  
Dawn on our darkness and lend us thine aid.  
Star of the East, the horizon adorning,  
Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.

2 Cold on His cradle the dewdrops are shining;  
Low lies His head with the beasts of the stall;  
Angels adore Him in slumber reclining,  
Maker and Monarch and Savior of all.

3 Shall we not yield Him, in costly devotion  
Fragrance of Edom and off'rings divine,  
Gems of the mountain and pearls of the ocean,  
Myrrh from the forest and gold from the mine?

4 Vainly we offer each ample oblation,  
Vainly with gifts would His favor secure.  
Richer by far is the heart's adoration;  
Dearer to God are the prayers of the poor.

5 Brightest and best of the sons of the morning,  
Dawn on our darkness and lend us thine aid.  
Star of the East, the horizon adorning,  
Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.

#### 4. Confession of Sins

**Pastor** Let us bow before the Lord and confess our sins:

Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean, and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Therefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace, for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Congregation** O most merciful God, You have given Your only-begotten Son to die for us; have mercy upon us, and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit, increase in us a true knowledge of You, and of Your will, and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

#### 5. The Kyrie Eleison

♪ **Congregation** O God the Father in heaven, have mercy upon us. O God, the Son, Redeemer of the world, have mercy upon us. O God, the Holy Ghost, true Comforter, have mercy upon us.

#### 6. The Absolution

**Pastor** Lift up your hearts unto God! Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us, and has given His only Son to die for us, and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To all who believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God, and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He who believes and is baptized will be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all. Amen.

#### 7. The Gloria in Excelsis Deo (*Glory to God in the highest*) page 44

**Pastor** Glory be to God in the highest

♪ **Congregation** And on earth peace, good will toward men. All glory be to God on high Who hath our race befriended! To us no harm shall now come nigh, The strife at last is ended; God showeth His good will to men, And peace shall dwell on earth again; O thank Him for His goodness!

#### 8. The Salutation

**Pastor** The Lord be with you.

♪ **Congregation** And with your spirit.

#### 9. The Collect

**Pastor** Let us pray: O God, by the leading of a star You manifested Your only-begotten Son to the Gentiles: Mercifully grant that we, who know You now by faith, may after this life enjoy the fulness of Your glorious Godhead; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever.

♪ **Congregation** Amen.

#### 10. The Lesson – *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.

### **11. The Epistle – *Ephesians 3:2-12***

<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.

### **12. Psalm 72:1-14 (read responsively by whole verse)**

<sup>1</sup> Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the royal son!  
<sup>2</sup> May he judge your people with righteousness, and your poor with justice!  
<sup>3</sup> Let the mountains bear prosperity for the people, and the hills, in righteousness!  
<sup>4</sup> May he defend the cause of the poor of the people, give deliverance to the children of the needy, and crush the oppressor!  
<sup>5</sup> May they fear you while the sun endures, and as long as the moon, throughout all generations!  
<sup>6</sup> May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth!  
<sup>7</sup> In his days may the righteous flourish, and peace abound, till the moon be no more!  
<sup>8</sup> May he have dominion from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth!  
<sup>9</sup> May desert tribes bow down before him, and his enemies lick the dust!  
<sup>10</sup> May the kings of Tarshish and of the coastlands render him tribute; may the kings of Sheba and Seba bring gifts!  
<sup>11</sup> May all kings fall down before him, all nations serve him!  
<sup>12</sup> For he delivers the needy when he calls, the poor and him who has no helper.  
<sup>13</sup> He has pity on the weak and the needy, and saves the lives of the needy.  
<sup>14</sup> From oppression and violence he redeems their life, and precious is their blood in his sight.  
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, forevermore. Amen.

### **13. The Holy Gospel – *Matthew 2:1-12***

<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.

**Pastor** This is the Holy Gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

♪ **Congregation** God be praised for His glad tidings.

#### 14. The Nicene Creed

**Congregation** 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 is seated at the right hand of the Father; And He shall come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead; Whose kingdom shall 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 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.

♪ **Congregation** Amen.

#### 15. Chief Hymn #170 “O God Of God, O Light Of Light”

1 O God of God, O Light of Light, Thou Prince of Peace, Thou King of kings!  
To Thee where angels know no night The song of praise forever rings.  
To Him who sits upon the throne, The Lamb once slain for sinful men,  
Be honor, might, all by Him won, Glory and praise! Amen, Amen.

2 Deep in the prophets' sacred page, Grand in the poets' winged word,  
Slowly, in type, from age to age, Nations beheld their coming Lord,  
Till through the deep Judean night Rang out the song "Good will to men!"  
Hymned by the first-born sons of light, Reeched now, "Good will!" Amen.

3 That life of truth, those deeds of love, That death of pain, mid hate and scorn--  
These all are past, and now above He reigns, our King, once crowned with thorn.  
Lift up your heads, ye heav'nly gates! So sang His hosts, unheard by men,  
Lift up your heads, for you He waits. We lift them up. Amen, Amen.

4 Nations afar, in ign'rance deep, Isles of the sea, where darkness lay,  
These hear His voice, they wake from sleep, And throng with joy the upward way.  
They cry with us, "Send forth Thy light, O Lamb, once slain for sinful men!  
Burst Satan's bonds, O God of might; Set all men free!" Amen, Amen.

5 Sing to the Lord a glorious song; Sing to His name, His love forthtell!  
Sing on, heav'n's host, His praise prolong; Sing, ye who now on earth do dwell!  
Worthy the Lamb for sinners slain! From angels praise and thanks from men!  
Worthy the Lamb, enthroned to reign, Glory and pow'r! Amen, Amen.

#### 16. Sermon “Arise, Shine, For Your Light Has Come” *Isaiah 60:1*

#### 17. The Prayers and The Apostolic Benediction

**Pastor** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

#### 18. The Offering

### ***The Service Of Holy Communion***

*Heritage Lutheran Church practices Close Communion. We ask that only members of the ELS and WELS partake of the Lord's Supper today. Visitors, please speak with Pastor Anderson about receiving the Sacrament in the future.*

#### **19. The Preface** (Introduction to the Holy Communion)

**Pastor** The Lord be with you.

♪ **Congregation** And with your spirit.

**Pastor** Lift up your hearts unto the Lord.

♪ **Congregation** We lift up our hearts unto the Lord.

**Pastor** Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.

♪ **Congregation** It is good and right so to do.

**Pastor** 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, therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

#### **20. The Sanctus** (Latin, "Holy")

♪ **Congregation** Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth; Heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

#### **21. The Lord's Prayer** (*sung by all*)

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.

#### **22. The Words of Institution**

**Pastor** Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples saying: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying: "Drink of it all of you; this cup is the New Testament in My blood which is shed for you and for many, for the remission of sins. This do as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

#### **23. The Agnus Dei** (Latin, "Lamb of God")

♪ **Congregation** O Christ the Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ the Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ, the Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world, grant us Your peace. Amen.

#### **24. The Distribution**

#### **25. The Collect**

**Pastor** We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through these salutary gifts, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through them in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever.

♪ **Congregation** Amen.

**26. Hymn of Thanksgiving #67 "Praise, My Soul, The King Of Heaven"**

1 Praise, my soul, the King of heaven,  
To His feet thy tribute bring;  
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,  
Evermore His praises sing!  
Praise Him, praise Him, praise Him, praise Him,  
Praise the Everlasting King.

2 Praise Him for His grace and favor  
To His people in distress;  
Praise Him, still the same forever,  
Slow to chide and swift to bless.  
Praise Him, praise Him, praise Him, praise Him,  
Glorious in His faithfulness.

3 Father-like, He tends and spares us;  
Well our feeble frame He knows;  
In His hands He gently bears us,  
Rescues us from all our foes.  
Praise Him, praise Him, praise Him, praise Him,  
Widely as His mercy flows.

4 Frail as summer's flow'r we flourish,  
Blows the wind and it is gone;  
But while mortals rise and perish  
God endures unchanging on.  
Praise Him, Praise Him, praise Him, praise Him,  
Praise the High Eternal One.

5 Angels, help us to adore Him:  
Ye behold Him face to face;  
Saints triumphant, bow before Him;  
Gathered in from ev'ry race.  
Praise Him, praise Him, praise Him, praise Him,  
Praise with us the God of grace.

**27. The Benediction**

**Pastor** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

♪ **Congregation** Amen, Amen, Amen.

**28. Closing Hymn #168 "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.

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!

## **29. The Closing Prayer**

**Pastor** O Lord, we render unto You our heartfelt thanks that You have taught us what You would have us believe and do. Help us, O God, by Your Holy Spirit, for the sake of Jesus Christ, to keep Your Word in pure hearts, that we thereby may be strengthened in faith, perfected in holiness, and comforted in life and death. Amen.

## **Announcements**

**Church Council** – The Church Council will meet on Tuesday, January 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.

**Women's Bible Study** – The Monday Evening Bible Class is studying Ecclesiastes. They meet at church at 6:30 pm. Contact Ruth Braun if you would like more information.

**Men's Bible Study** – Men's Bible study meets on Thursdays at 9:00 a.m. Please note the new time. We will be studying I Kings.

**Fellowship** - Volunteers are always needed to provide fellowship food every Sunday. Please sign up on the volunteer board.

**Choir** – The choir meets on Wednesday evenings at 7:00. New members are always welcome!

**Heritage School Call Extended** - At the recent call meeting, the voters of Heritage extended a Divine Call to Miss Nicole Roper to teach in our new K-2 classroom. She is currently serving as preschool director and teacher at Cross of Christ in Coon Rapids. Please pray for her as she deliberates her new call to Heritage as well as her current call at Cross of Christ. May the Lord guide her to what is best for his Kingdom.

**2024 Offering Envelopes** – Please pick up your 2024 offering envelopes from the table in the narthex.

## Before

## After

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