

St. Johns Lutheran Church



And nations shall come
to your light

AS WE GATHER

Israel's fate seemed dark in Isaiah's day, but he provided a vision of the future: God would shed on them His glory and light, bright enough to attract other nations with their wealth and treasures. Likewise, until it dawned on Saul/Paul, God had sent the Messiah only to Israel. But Paul's ministry was to bring to light for everyone the mystery of Christ, that the Gentiles be partakers in the Gospel. The Magi saw a physical light in a certain portion of the sky and realized they should find the King it announced. And now our light has come, the light of God's love in Christ shining in our hearts. Today is a day to celebrate that God has left no one out of the Gospel message. We thank God and tell one another and all we meet, "Your light has come."

RINGING OF THE BELLS

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME GUESTS

We're glad you are here! Make it a point to introduce yourself to the pastor. Please take time to fill out an attendance card and drop it in the basket during the offering. Our service today includes the celebration of God's presence, as He comes in the true body and blood of Christ in the Sacrament of Holy Communion. **Any who are not yet instructed or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, are asked to refrain** from receiving the sacrament until they have spoken with the pastor. Please consider liking us on Facebook (St. Johns Lutheran Church – St. Louis City) and checking out our website (<https://stjohnslutheranstlouis.org/>).

PREPARATION

HYMN

Arise and Shine in Splendor

LSB 396

**Arise and shine in splendor;
Let night to day surrender.
Your light is drawing near.**

**Above, the day is beaming,
In matchless beauty gleaming;
The glory of the Lord is here.**

**See earth in darkness lying,
The heathen nations dying
In hopeless gloom and night.
To you the Lord of heaven
Your life, your hope has given
Great glory, honor, and delight.**

**The world's remotest races,
Upon whose weary faces
The sun looks from the sky,
Shall run with zeal untiring,
With joy Your light desiring
That breaks upon them from on high.**

**Lift up your eyes in wonder
See, nations gather yonder
From sin to be set free.
The world has heard Your story;
Her sons come to Your glory;
Her daughters haste Your light to see.**

**Your heart will leap for gladness
When from the realms of sadness
They come from near and far.
Your eyes will wake from slumber
As people without number
Rejoice to see the Morning Star.**

INVOCATION

In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES *Isaiah 60:1, 5–6; Matthew 2:2, 10–11*

Arise, shine, for your light has come.

We saw His star when it rose and have come to worship Him.

They shall bring good news, the praises of the LORD.

And they fell down and worshiped Him.

You shall see and be radiant.

They rejoiced exceedingly with great joy.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *Psalm 124:8; 130:3, adapt.;*
Ephesians 3:11–12

Our help is in the name of the LORD,

who made heaven and earth.

If YOU, O LORD, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

Although God has graciously showered the light of His love on us, we have not responded in lives of total devotion. But because He has graciously promised to forgive, let us go to Him in the name of “Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in Him.”

Gracious heavenly Father, we confess that we have let the distractions of this world turn our eyes from seeing the true Light.

We have not loved You with our whole hearts. Forgive us and renew in us hearts to see, follow, and worship You alone.

KYRIE *LSB 204*

Lord, have mercy;

Christ, have mercy;

Lord, have mercy

In the mercy of almighty God, our heavenly Father sent His Son to take to His cross all our sins, and His Holy Spirit has graciously shined the light of faith in Christ into our hearts. I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

WORD

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS... Glory to God in the Highest

LSB 204

To God on high be glory
And peace to all the earth;
Good-will from God in heaven
Proclaimed at Jesus' birth!

We praise and bless You, Father;
Your holy name, we sing-
Our thanks for Your great glory,
Lord God, our heavenly King.

To You, O sole begotten,
The Father's Son, we pray;
O Lamb of God, our Savior,
You take our sins away.
Have mercy on us , Jesus;
Receive our heart-felt cry,
Where You in pow'r are seated
At God's right hand on high.

For you alone are holy;
You only are the Lord,
For-ever and for-ever,
Be worshiped and adored;
You with the Holy Spirit
Alone are Lord Most High,
In God the Father's glory.
"Amen!" our glad re-ply.

SALUTATION

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

Amen.

MEMORIZED WORD

Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. Isaiah 7:14

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Isaiah 60:1–6*

¹Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. ²For 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. ³And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. ⁴Lift 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. ⁵Then 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. ⁶A 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.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL *Shine, Jesus*

Lord, the light of your love is shining, in the midst of the darkness, shining: Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us; set us free by the truth you now bring us shine on me, shine on me.

Chorus:

Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this land with the Father's glory; blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire. Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy; send forth your word, Lord, and let there be light!

Lord, I come to your awesome presence, from the shadows into your radiance; by your blood I may enter your brightness: search me, try me, consume all my darkness shine on me, shine on me. (*Chorus*)

As we gaze on your kingly brightness so our faces display your likeness, ever changing from glory to glory: mirrored here, may our lives tell your story shine on me, shine on me. (*Chorus*)

EPISTLE *Ephesians 3:1–12*

¹For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles— ²assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for you, ³how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. ⁴When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, ⁵which 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. ⁶This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. ⁷Of 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. ⁸To 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, ⁹and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things, ¹⁰so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹²in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

VERSE

Matthew 2:2b

Alleluia. 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.

Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 2:1–12

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

Glory to You, O Lord.

¹Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, ²saying, “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.” ³When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. ⁵They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet: ⁶“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.”” ⁷Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. ⁸And 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.” ⁹After 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. ¹⁰When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. ¹¹And 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. ¹²And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

**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!**

**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, through daily
Earth's deep sadness
May perplex us
And distress us,
Yet with heav'nly joy You bless us.**

**Lord, when You look on us in love,
At once there falls from God above
A ray of purest pleasure.
Your Word and Spirit, flesh and blood
Refresh our souls with heav'nly food.
You are our dearest Treasure!
Let Your mercy
Warm and Cheer us!
O draw near us!
For You teach us**

God's own love through You has reached us.

**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!**

**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!**

**What joy to know, when life is past,
The Lord we love is first and last,
The end and the beginning!
He will one day, oh, glorious grace,
Transport us to that happy place
Beyond all tears and Sinning!
Amen! Amen!
Come, Lord Jesus!
Crown of Gladness!
We are yearning
For the day of Your returning!**

SERMON

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 of the world to come. Amen.

OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH *Ephesians 3:6–7, 10*

Let us pray

We thank you God, heavenly Father, that as a congregation and in our individual lives for revealing to us that we are all “partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel light,” let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all who minister “according to the gift of God’s grace” that has been given to them, that they serve those under their care in safety and with wisdom, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all for whom the mystery of Christ is still hidden, that through the Church here and around the world “the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known” to them, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those near and dear to us, [*including . . .*], that they boldly bring their petitions to God in faith and that we open ourselves to be part of the answers that God so graciously provides, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those who have gone before us in faith—the Magi, the writers of the Scriptures, patriarchs, prophets, saints, martyrs, and those who brought the Good News to us, let us give thanks to the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

These and any other things You would have us ask of You, heavenly Father, grant to us for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, in whose name we pray.

Amen.

SACRAMENT

PREFACE

LSB 208

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

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, who became flesh and dwelt among us on earth, light in a dark world, so that we might dwell with Him in everlasting life and light. 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

**Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;
Heaven and earth with full acclaim
shout the glory of Your Name.
Sing Hosanna in the highest,
Sing hosanna to the Lord;
Truly blest is He who comes
In the name of the Lord!**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for having mercy on us and sending Your only-begotten Son into our history to die as one of us. Because of Your gift of faith, we see Him as our Savior and seek to follow His ways. Gathered now in joyous worship to partake of His body and blood, we ask that You graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

LORD’S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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

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 ✠ 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 testament in My ✠ 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 (The Peace of the Lord)
The peace of the Lord be with you always.
Amen.

AGNUS DEI (Lamb of God) *LSB 210*

**O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world away;
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.**

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

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

As with Gladness Men of Old	<i>LSB 397</i>
Songs of Thankfulness and Praise	<i>LSB 394</i>

NUNC DIMITTIS (Song of Simeon) *LSB 211*

**O Lord, now let Your servant
Depart in heav’nly peace,
For I have seen the glory
Of Your redeeming grace;
A light to lead the Gentiles
Unto Your holy hill,
The glory of Your people,
Your chosen Israel.**

**All glory to the Father,
All glory to the Son,
All glory to the Spirit,
Forever Three in One;**

**For as in the beginning,
Is now, shall ever be,
God's triune name resounding
Through all eternity.**

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

My soul, give thanks to the Lord; all my being, bless His holy name.

My soul, give thanks to the Lord, and never forget all His blessings.

It is He who forgives all your guilt, who heals every one of your ills, who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with love and compassion, who fills your life with good things, renewing your youth like an eagle's. Give thanks to the Lord, all His works, in every place where He rules.

My soul, give thanks to the Lord! Give praise to the Father Almighty; to His Son, Jesus Christ, the Lord; to the Spirit who dwells in our hearts, both now and forever. Amen.

BENEDICTION

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.

Amen.

HYMN The Star Proclaims the King Is Here *LSB 399*

**The star proclaims the King is here;
But, Herod, why this senseless fear?
For He who offers heav'nly birth
Seeks not the kingdoms of this earth.**

**The eastern sages saw from far
And followed on His guiding star;
And, led by light, to light they trod
And by their gifts confessed their God.**

**Within the Jordan's sacred flood
The heav'nly Lamb in meekness stood**

**That He, of whom no sin was known,
Might cleanse His people from their own.**

**And oh, what miracle divine,
When water reddened into wine!
He spoke the word, and forth it flowed
In streams that nature ne'er bestowed.**

Stand

**For this Thy glad epiphany
All glory, Jesus, be to Thee,
Whom with the Father we adore,
And Holy Spirit evermore.**

Preacher	Pastor Michael Tanney
Liturgist	Pastor Michael Tanney
Elders	Al Bohannon & Earl Welch
Organist	Suzanne Manelli
Ushers	William Gebhart and Roger Schmidt
Children's Message	Pastor Michael Tanney
Acolytes	Tra-Mi and Thao-Vy
Greeter	Roger Schmidt
Worship Screen	Tra-Mi and Thao-Vy
Bible Class	Pastor Michael Tanney

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Announcements

Saved to Share Called to Care

Our Response to God's Love Last Week

Attendance Sunday: 33

Nepalese: 32

Offering: \$2,076.00

WORD OF LIFE FUNDRAISER WOL will be having a fundraiser at Noodles & Co (64 Hampton Village Plaza) on January 18th, All Day. You can order online or on the Noodles APP and enter code GIVING30 at checkout. You can also bring the flyer to the cashier when ordering. Flyers are available to pick up.

CONCORDIA SEMINARY AFTER CHAPEL CONCERT SERIES The After Chapel Concerts are mini concerts featuring musicians from within and beyond the Seminary community. Concerts are held in the Chapel of St. Timothy and St. Titus directly following morning chapel services from 9:55 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. Concerts are typically held in the chapel balcony. These concerts also will be streamed at csl.edu/live. Check out their website for a full schedule and details! The next concert is on Tuesday, January 11th featuring a Student Musician.

YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY for young adults between the ages of 18-30. The Bible Study will run from 5:30pm-7:30pm, and will include a pizza dinner (provided by St. Johns). Our next date being January 22nd. If interested, please RSVP to stjohnslcstl@gmail.com or call 314-773-0126 and let us know what your preferred pizza topping is.

TRIVIA NIGHT FOR TROOP 181 will be held on Saturday, February 12th. Doors open at 6pm and the trivia will start at 6:30pm. The address is Lemay VFW Post #4223, 215 Military Rd., St. Louis, MO 63125. The cost is \$15/person tables of 8. For reservations, you can contact Lynette (314-973-6541 or kazbanklan@att.net), Eunice (314-306-0763), or Ruth (314-306-5887). Cash, credit, and checks (made out to "Boy Scout Troop 181") are accepted.

2021 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS are available to be picked up on the table in the Narthex. Please take yours.

THANK YOU Pastor would like to thank all those who sent cards and gifts to him and his wife during Christmas.

THE ROCK SHIFTING SANDS CONFERENCE Pastor will be attending this conference, making disciples for life (Jan 10th-12th @ the LCMS International Center).

Prayers

Special Prayer Petitions –For those infected by the corona virus for quick healing and recovery; **Maureen Rehmer** as she continues to recover at home; **Dennis Solomon** for healing from bed sores; **Dennis Schwab** as he was just diagnosed with cancer of the esophagus and brain; **Irene Hurst** who is in the hospital due to a stroke; **Field-workers** and **Vicars**; **Nepali & African Congregation** blessings; **EAGLE schools & Compass** as they make decisions due to the outbreak of covid.

Shut Ins – Bobbie Kepford, Dennis Solomon, Jerry Schmaltz, Carol Carr, Steve Bain, Maureen Rehmer, Eileen Wehrheim, Don Osiek

Opportunities to Love and Serve Christ this Week

January 9-January 16

Sunday	9:00am Worship w/ Communion 10:30am Bible Study/Nepalese Worship 12:30pm African Worship
Monday	8am-2pm Office Open (Pastor gone on conference) NO Compass 6pm Ladies Exercise Class
Tuesday	8am-2pm Office Open (Pastor gone on conference) NO Compass 6pm Seminary Students
Wednesday	8am-2pm Office Open (Pastor gone on conference) NO Compass NO Compass Chapel 6:30pm ESL
Thursday	8am-2pm Office Open 2pm Ridgewood Bible Study NO Compass
Friday	8am-1pm Office Open 8am Bible Study NO Compass
Saturday	8:30am-10:30am Food Pantry 1pm Vicar Meeting
Next Sunday	9:00am Worship 10:30am Bible Study/ Nepalese Worship 12:30pm African Worship