

St. Johns Lutheran Church

Arise, shine, for your light has come



and shall bring good news!

AS WE GATHER

The mystery of the Magi is not who they were or where they came from but that God welcomed them as His own through Jesus Christ. None of us is worthy of His love or His redemption, but God has chosen to rescue us from sin and its darkness by the incarnation, suffering, death, and resurrection of His Son. The star still shines upon us with the light of Christ and fills our hearts with faith. This is the true unity that transcends every division and even reaches through space and time to make us His children. In response, we offer Christ the worship of our hearts, the tithes and offerings we bring in our hands, and the service of love to our neighbors in need.

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. Please consider liking us on Facebook (St. Johns Lutheran Church – St. Louis City) and checking out our website (<https://stjohnslutheranstlouis.org/>). **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.**

PREPARATION

HYMN “O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright” *LSB 395 v. 1,2,5,6*

**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.**

**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!**

INVOCATION

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

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

**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. Our help is in the name of the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.**

**I Said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

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

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

KYRIE - II (LORD, HAVE MERCY) LSB 944

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

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 Spirit.

Amen.

WORD

HYMN OF PRAISE “All Glory Be to God Alone” *LSB 948 v.1,4*

**All glory be to God alone, Forever more the highest one,
Who did our sinful race befriend And grace and peace to us extend.
Among us may His gracious will
All hearts with deep thanksgiving fill.**

**You take the whole world's sin away;
Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.
You take the whole world's sin away;
O Lord, receive our prayer this day.
From God' right hand Your mercy send,
To all the world Your grace extend.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. Almighty God, You shined the light of Christ into our world of darkness, division, and death. Grant that we may know Christ, the light of the world, walk in His light all the days of our lives and, by Your grace, be delivered as one people into the place of eternal light and life at the end of all days; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

MEMORIZED WORD

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. ² Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, ³ though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling. Psalm 46:1-3

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON *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.

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.

HYMN To Jordan Came the Christ, Our Lord *LSB 407 v.1-4*

**To Jordan came the Christ, our Lord,
To do His Father's pleasure;
Baptized by John, the Father's Word
Was given us to treasure.
This heav'nly washing now shall be
A cleansing from transgression
And by His blood and agony
Release from death's oppression.
A new life now awaits us.**

**O hear and mark the message well,
For God Himself has spoken.
Let faith, not doubt, among us dwell
And so receive this token.**

**Our Lord here with His Word endows
Pure water, freely flowing.
God's Holy Spirit here avows
Our kinship while bestowing
The Baptism of His blessing.**

**These truths on Jordan's banks were shown
By mighty word and wonder.
The Father's voice from heav'n came down,
Which we do well to ponder:
"This man is My beloved Son,
In whom My heart has pleasure.
Him you must hear, and Him alone,
And trust in fullest measure
The word that He has spoken"**

**There stood the Son of God in love,
His grace to us extending;
The Holy Spirit like a dove
Upon the scene descending;
The triune God assuring us,
With promises compelling,
That in our Baptism He will thus
Among us find a dwelling
To comfort and sustain us.**

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.

CREED (WE ALL BELIEVE IN ONE TRUE GOD) LSB 953

**We all believe in one true God,
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
Ever-present help in need,
Praised by all the heav'nly host;
All He made His love enfolds,
All creation He upholds.**

**We all believe in Jesus Christ,
Son of God and Mary's son,
Who descended from His throne
And for us salvation won;
By whose cross and death are we
Rescued from all misery.**

**We all confess the Holy Ghost,
Who from both in truth proceeds,
Who sustains and comforts us
In all trials, fears, and needs.
Blessed, holy Trinity,
Praise forever be to Thee!**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

OFFERING *O Savior of Our Fallen Race LSB 403 sung by the Choir*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Let us pray, O Light of light, shine with the brightness of the one true light, that those who live in darkness may be granted the light of life.

Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

O Lord of power and might, shine Your light into the nations and give to all peoples wise and faithful servants to govern with integrity and mercy.

Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

O Lord of grace, You made Your Church from many to be one people. Give unity of faith and doctrine to Your Church and able servants who will preach and teach faithfully the Good News of Christ, our Savior.

Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

O Lord of mercy, You forgave us in Christ and still forgive us of all our sins. Give to us hearts of repentance, and fill us with faith that we who know Christ may walk worthy of Him who is our righteousness and be kept blameless and holy until He comes again. Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

O Lord of love, You sought us out when we had nothing to commend us. Continue to seek out and comfort the sick and those who grieve, the dying in their final hours, and those troubled in mind, [*especially . . .*]. Give them grace sufficient for their need and faith to sustain them in their trials. Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Grant to us all things needful and keep from us all things harmful, O Lord, for we trust in Your goodness and in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

SACRAMENT

PREFACE

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.

It is our good and pleasant duty and our greatest delight to sing Your praise, O Lord, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, who was made flesh and manifest to all people as Savior and Lord. He has rescued us from the darkness of sin and death and united us as one people that we may live to the praise of His glory, now and forevermore. With saints and angels, prophets and patriarchs, apostles and evangelists, and all the company of heaven, we praise Your name and join in their unending hymn:

SANCTUS *Isaiah, Mighty Seer in Days of Old* *LSB 960*

“Holy is God, the Lord of Sabaoth!

Holy is God, the Lord of Sabaoth!

Holy is God, the Lord of Sabaoth!’

His glory fills the heavens and the earth!”

The beams and lintels trembled at the cry,

And clouds of smoke enwrapped the throne on high.

Isaiah, mighty seer in days of old,

The Lord of all in spirit did behold

High on a lofty throne, in splendor bright,

With robes that filled the temple courts with light.

Above the throne were flaming seraphim;

Six wings had they, these messengers of Him.

With two they veiled their faces as was right,

With two they humbly hid their feet from sight,

And with the other two a loft they soared;

One to the other called and praised the Lord:

“Holy is God, the Lord of Sabaoth!

Holy is God, the Lord of Sabaoth!

Holy is God, the Lord of Sabaoth!’

His glory fills the heavens and the earth!”

The beams and lintels trembled at the cry,

And clouds of smoke enwrapped the throne on high.

PAX DOMINI

The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

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.

In the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, at His command, and with His own words, we receive His Testament:

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."

AGNUS DEI *Lamb of God, Pure and Holy* *LSB 434; verse 1*

**Lamb of God, pure and holy,
Who on the cross didst suffer,
Ever patient and lowly,
Thyself to scorn didst offer.
All sins Thou borest for us,
Else had despair reigned o'er us:
Have mercy on us, O Jesus! O, Jesus!**

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

To Jordan's River Came Our Lord *LSB 405*

As with Gladness Men of Old *LSB 397*

**In peace and joy I now depart
Since God so wills it.
Serene and confident my heart;
Stillness fills it.
For the Lord has promised me
That death is but a slumber.**

**Christ Jesus brought this gift to me,
My faithful Savior,
Whom You have made my eyes to see
By Your favor.
Now I know He is my life,
My friend when I am dying.**

**Christ is the hope and saving light
Of those in blindness;
He guides and comforts those in night
By His kindness.
For Your people Israel
In Him find joy and glory.**

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Let us pray. In Your light, O Lord, do we see light. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may see clearly Jesus Christ and trust in Him only. Bring us with those of every generation and tongue from darkness into Christ's light, that in common confession we may walk together as the children of the light; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.

BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24–26*

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 v.1-3,5

**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.**

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	Cameron Hampel, John Benwell, Patrick Benwell, Jayvon Evers, Joan Potvin, William Gebhart, and Roger Schmidt
Children's Message	Pastor Michael Tanney
Acolytes/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: 42

Offering: \$2,571.80

BIG BAND SWING The Lutheran South bands will host *Big Band Swing* on Friday, January 13 from 6:00 - 10:00 p.m. The night will feature the local professional big band "The Ambassadors of Swing." Tickets are available for \$30 each and include beer, wine, and hors d'oeuvres. Free swing dance lessons will be offered at 6:30 p.m. It is sure to be a fun evening as we raise money for the band to go on tour this spring! Register at LSlancers.org/events

FRIDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY will now be going over the book of Galatians at 8am on Fridays.

2022 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS are available to be picked up in the Narthex.

MUSIC FOR THE NEW YEAR On January 14th @ 4pm, Timothy Lutheran Church is hosting a Violin and Piano Concert from two world classed musicians as they tour the United States.

SAVE THE DATE! Word of Life will be hosting their auction on Friday, May 12th. More information to come soon!

LONG TERM SUB NEEDED One of Word of Life's preschool teachers will be taking maternity leave from the end of March through the end of the school year. They are looking for a long term substitute teacher for that time period. If you are interested or know someone who may be, please contact Principal Melissa Bergholt at mbergholt@wordoflifeschool.net or 314-832-1244.

2023 MEETING DATES

EC: January 29th, March 26th, May 28th, August 27th, October 29th

Voters: February 26th, April 30th, July 30th (Budget), September 24th, November 26th

Prayers

Special Prayer Petitions –**Joan** as she recovers from hip surgery; **Melba Fanger** as she recovers back at home; **Maureen Rehmer** for healing of her hip; **Carmen Hobson** who is facing pain, stability, and results for upcoming surgery; **Bobbie** who is back in the nursing home, but suffering; **Confirmation Class** for the Lord to mature their faith; **Our Vicars** as they continue to take classes at the Seminary; **Our Field-Workers** Tristan (and family), Alvaro and, Isaac; **Shut Ins** – Bobbie Kepford, Jerry Schmaltz, Steve Bain, Eileen Wehrheim, Carmen Hobson

Opportunities to Love and Serve Christ this Week January 8-January 15

Sunday	9:00am Worship w/ Communion 10:30am Bible Study/Nepali Worship 12:30pm African Worship
Monday	<u>8am-12pm</u> Office Open / <u>8am-3pm</u> Counseling in Nursery 3pm-6pm Compass 5:30pm Elders
Tuesday	<u>8am-12pm</u> Office Open / <u>3pm-6pm</u> Compass 6pm Seminary Students
Wednesday	8am-12pm Office Open <u>3pm-6pm</u> Compass / <u>3:45pm</u> Compass Chapel 6pm Choir
Thursday	<u>8am-12pm</u> Office Open / <u>2pm</u> Ridgewood Bible Study <u>3pm-6pm</u> Compass / <u>6:30pm</u> Adult Confirmation
Friday	8am-12pm Office Open <u>8am</u> Bible Study / <u>8am-3pm</u> Counseling in Nursery 1pm Nepali Mother's Prayer Service 2pm-6pm Compass
Saturday	8:30am Food Pantry 9am Confirmation 2pm Vicar Meeting
Next Sunday	9:00am Worship 10:30am Bible Study/Nepali Worship 12:30pm African Worship