

Day of Epiphany

Sunday January 1, 2023 – 11:00 AM

ELW Holy Communion Setting Four

**Denotes harmony arrangement available in hymnal*



CHRIST THE SERVANT LUTHERAN CHURCH

2121 East University Drive, Denton, Texas 76209

940-387-1984 www.ctsdenton.org

ctslc.office@gmail.com

GATHERING

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

The assembly stands.

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,
the Word made flesh,
our life and our salvation.

Amen.

The presiding minister may lead one of the following or another prayer of preparation.

Trusting the goodness and lovingkindness of God our Savior,
let us confess our sin.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

God of life,
**you promise good news of great joy for all people, and call us
to be messengers of your peace. We confess that too often
we hoard our joy, our resources, and our security. We nurture
conflict and build barriers. We neglect the needs of our neighbors
and ignore the groaning of creation. Have mercy on us.
Where we are self-centered, open our hearts. Where we are
reluctant, give us courage. Where we are cynical, restore our trust.
Renew us with your grace and give us again the hope of eternal life in you.
Amen.**

The presiding minister announces God's forgiveness with these or similar words.

Hear the good news: We are children of God and heirs of God's promises
through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. In ✠ Jesus we are forgiven and redeemed.
Sing with joy, for all the ends of the earth shall know the salvation of God.

Amen.

GATHERING CAROL "The Bells of Christmas"

Verses 1-4

(ELW 298*)



Det ki - mer nu til ju - le - fest, det ki - mer
 1 The bells of Christ - mas chime once more; the heav'n - ly
 2 This world, though wide and far out - spread, could scarce - ly
 3 Now let us go with qui - et mind, the swad - dled
 4 Oh, join with me, in glad - ness sing, to keep our



for den høj - e gæst, som steg til la - ve
 guest is at the door. He comes to earth - ly
 find for you a bed. Your cra - dle was a
 babe with shep - herds find, to gaze on him who
 Christ - mas with our king, un - til our song, from



hyt - ter ned med nyt - års - ga - ver: fryd og fred.
 dwell - ings still with new year gifts of peace, good will.
 man - ger stall, no pearl nor silk nor king - ly hall.
 glad - dens them, the love - liest flow'r of Jes - se's stem.
 lov - ing souls, like rush - ing might - y wa - ter rolls!

GREETING

During this time, the presiding minister and the assembly greet each other.

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

And also with you.



For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The presiding minister leads the prayer of the day.

Let us pray.

O God, on this day you revealed your Son to the nations by the leading of a star. Lead us now by faith to know your presence in our lives, and bring us at last to the full vision of your glory, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The assembly is seated.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

FIRST READING: Isaiah 60:1-6

The reading may be announced:

A reading from Isaiah.

¹Arise, shine; for your light has come,
and the glory of the LORD has risen
upon you.

²For darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples;
but the LORD will arise upon you,
and his glory will appear over you.

³Nations shall come to your light, and
kings to the brightness of your dawn.

⁴Lift up your eyes and look around;
they all gather together, they come
to you;

your sons shall come from far away,
and your daughters shall be carried

on their nurses' arms.

⁵Then you shall see and be radiant;
your heart shall thrill and rejoice,
because the abundance of the sea shall
be brought 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 proclaim the praise of the LORD.

The reading may be concluded:

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14

The Psalm for the day is read responsively. Congregation speaks the bold portion.

¹Give the king your jus- | tice, O God,
and your righteousness to | the king's son;

²**that he may rule your | people righteously
and the | poor with justice;**

³that the mountains may bring prosperity | to the people,
and the | hills, in righteousness.

⁴**Let him defend the needy a- | mong the people,
rescue the poor, and crush | the oppressor.**

- ⁵May he live as long as the sun and | moon endure,
from one generation | to another.
- ⁶**Let him come down like rain upon | the mown field,
like showers that wa- | ter the earth.**
- ⁷In his time may the | righteous flourish;
and let there be an abundance of peace
till the moon shall | be no more.
- ¹⁰**May the kings of Tarshish and of the | isles pay tribute,
and the kings of Sheba and Seba | offer gifts.**
- ¹¹May all kings bow | down before him,
and all the nations | do him service.
- ¹²**For the king delivers the poor who cry out | in distress,
the oppressed, and those who | have no helper.**
- ¹³He has compassion on the low- | ly and poor,
and preserves the lives | of the needy.
- ¹⁴**From oppression and violence he re- | deems their lives,
and precious is their blood | in his sight.**

SECOND READING: Ephesians 3:1-12

The reading may be announced:

A reading from Ephesians.

¹This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles—²for surely you have already heard of the commission of God’s grace that was given me for you, ³and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, ⁴a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. ⁵In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: ⁶that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

⁷Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God’s grace that was given me by the working of his power. ⁸Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, ⁹and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; ¹⁰so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹²in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

The reading may be concluded:

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.



GOSPEL: Matthew 2:1-12

The gospel is announced.

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ²asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.”

³When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

⁶“And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler
who is to shepherd my people Israel.’”

⁷Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.” ⁹When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

The gospel concludes:

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Rev. John Bell

The assembly is seated. Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

CAROL OF THE DAY: "Bright and Glorious Is the Sky"

(ELW 301*)

Verses: 1, & 2 All; 3 Men; 4 Women; 5 & 6 All

The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song.



1 Bright and glo - rious is the sky, ra - diant are the
2 On that ho - ly Christ - mas night through the dark - ness
3 Sa - ges from the east a - far, when they saw this
4 Him they found in Beth - le - hem, yet he wore no



heav - ens high where the gold - en stars are shin - ing.
beamed a light; all the stars a - bove were pal - ing,
won - drous star, went to find the king of na - tions
di - a - dem; there they saw a maid - en low - ly



All their rays to earth in - clin - ing beck - on us to
all their lus - ter slow - ly fail - ing as the won - drous
and to of - fer their ob - la - tions to the child, the
with an in - fant pure and ho - ly rest - ing in her



heav'n a - bove, beck - on us to heav'n a - bove.
star drew nigh, as the won - drous star drew nigh.
new - born king, to the child, the new - born king.
lov - ing arms, rest - ing in her lov - ing arms.

5 Guided by the star, they found
him whose praise the ages sound.
We too have a star to guide us,
which forever will provide us
with the light to find our Lord,
with the light to find our Lord.

6 And this star, as bright as day,
that will never lead astray
with its message so appealing,
is the word of God, revealing
Christ, the way, the truth, the life,
Christ, the way, the truth, the life.

Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783–1872; tr. Jens Christian Aaberg, 1877–1970, alt.

Music: DEJLIG ER DEN HIMMEL BLÅ, Danish, 19th cent.

Text © 1958 Service Book and Hymnal, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.*
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The prayers are led by the assisting minister and are prepared locally for each occasion.

With wonder and thanksgiving for Christ's coming into the world, we pray for the church, the life of the earth, and the whole human family.

A brief silence.

Each petition will be concluded with the following response

God of grace,
hear our prayer.

The presiding minister concludes the prayers.

Pondering the mystery of eternal love made flesh in Christ Jesus, we commend all for whom we pray to the mercy of God.

Amen.

PEACE

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you."

The assembly is seated.

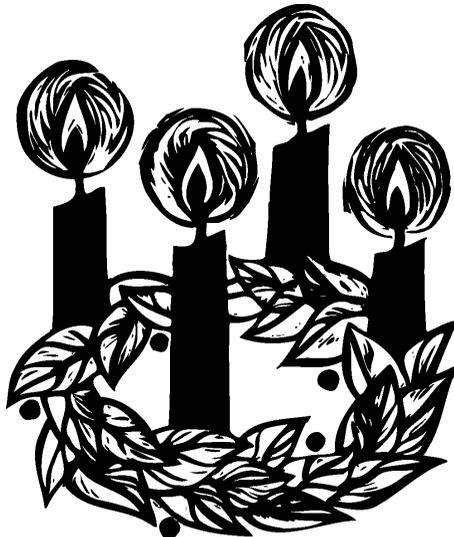
OFFERING

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.

During this time, the table is set.

After the offering is gathered, the assembly stands.

Bread, wine, money, and other gifts may be brought forward.



OFFERING CAROL “We Three Kings of Orient Are”

(WOV 646)

Verse 1 All; Verse 2 Men; Verse 3 Women; Verse 4 Men; Verse 5 All
Refrain Always All



1 We three kings of O - ri - ent are; bear - ing
 2 Born a king on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I
 3 Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I; in - cense
 4 Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a
 5 Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise, King and



gifts we tra - verse a - far, field and foun - tain,
 bring to crown him a - gain; king for - ev - er,
 owns a de - i - ty nigh; prayer and prais - ing,
 life of gath - er - ing gloom; sor - rowing, sigh - ing,
 God and Sac - ri - fice; heav'n sings al - le -



moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.
 ceas - ing nev - er, o - ver us all to reign.
 glad - ly rais - ing, wor - ship - ing God Most High.
 bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the stone - cold tomb.
 lu - ia: al - le - lu - ia the earth re - plies.



Oh, star of won - der, star of night, star with roy - al beau - ty bright;



west - ward lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - fect light!

Text: John Henry Hopkins Jr., 1820–1891, alt.
 Music: THREE KINGS OF ORIENT. John Henry Hopkins Jr., 1820–1891

OFFERTORY: "Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful"

(ELW 182)



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bles - sing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be



fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -



nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your



pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

OFFERING PRAYER

The assisting minister leads the following prayer.

Let us pray.

God of abundance,
receive and bless these gifts we have offered.
Join our hearts with the song of the angels,
and gather us at your table of celebration.
Strengthen us to share with all the world
the abundance of your grace upon grace,
poured out in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh.
Amen.

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you. **And al - so 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 our thanks and praise.

The presiding minister continues:

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations;
in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son;
and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes



in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The presiding minister continues.

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, now and forever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The presiding minister may address the assembly in these or similar words.

Glory to God in the highest!
Come to the table of peace.

The assembly may be seated. The bread may be broken for the communion.

COMMUNION

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say

The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.

and each person may respond

Amen.

All are welcome at the Lord's Table. The ministers commune before the assembly. For those unable to come to the front, notify an usher and communion will be brought to you in the pew.

COMMUNION SONG



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION CAROL: "The First Noel"

All Verses

(ELW 300*)



1 The first No - el the an - gel did say was to
 2 They look - ed up and saw . . . a star shin - ing
 3 And by the light of that . . . same star three . .
 4 This star drew near to the . . . north - west, o'er . .
 5 Then en - tered in those wise . . . men three, full . .



cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay; in fields where
 in . . . the east . . . be - yond . . . them far; and to the
 wise . . . men came . . . from coun - try far; to seek for a
 Beth - le - hem . . . it took . . . its rest; and there it
 rev - 'rent - ly . . . up - on . . . their knee, and of - fered



they lay, keep - ing their sheep, on a cold win - ter's
 earth it gave . . . great light, and . . . so it con -
 king was their . . . in - tent, and to fol - low the
 did both stop . . . and stay right . . . o - ver the
 there in his . . . pres - ence their . . . gold, . . . and

Refrain



night that was so deep.
 tin-ued both day and night.
 star wher - ev - er it went. No - el, No - el, No -
 place where Je - sus lay.
 myrrh, and frank - in - cense.



el, No - el! Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

Text: English traditional
 Music: THE FIRST NOWELL, English traditional

The assembly stands.

The body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The assisting minister leads one of the following or a similar prayer after communion.

Let us pray.

God our redeemer,
you have fed us at this table
with gifts of grace, truth, and life.
As you have gathered us in joy,
send us forth as messengers of your peace.
Make us shine with the good news of your glory,
born to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

BLESSING

The presiding minister proclaims God's blessing.

God bless you and keep you,
✠ Jesus grant you grace and truth,
and the Spirit send peace upon your hearts,
now and forever.
Amen.

SENDING CAROL: “As with Gladness Men of Old”

All Verses

(ELW 302*)



1 As with glad - ness men of old did the guid - ing star be - hold;
2 As with joy - ful steps they sped, Sav - ior, to thy low - ly bed,
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 - a - ted light;



as with joy they hailed its light, lead - ing on - ward, beam - ing bright;
there to bend the knee be - fore thee, whom heav'n and earth a - dore;
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.
so may we with will - ing feet ev - er seek thy mer - cy seat.
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, 1837–1898, alt.
Music: DIX, Conrad Kocher, 1786–1872

DISMISSAL

The assisting minister may send the assembly into mission.

Christ the Savior is born!
Go in peace. Proclaim this good news.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE “We Three Kings”

Barr

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

From sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright © 2021-2022 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.
Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Annual Liturgies license #45138

New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by Permission. All rights reserved

All music this week is public domain / setting music except what is listed below.

Bright and Glorious Is the Sky – Text © 1958 Service Book and Hymnal, admin. Augsburg Fortress., alt. Reprinted under ONELICENSE #A-707187. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Music = Public Domain.

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful - Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress and music © 2004 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted with permission under ONELICENSE #A-707187.

Serving In Worship

John Bell, Pastor
Cindy Bellefeuille, Office Administrator
Tracey Oberbacher, Nursery Attendant

Elizabeth Moose, Choir Director
Katherine Barnard, Organist

Sunday	January 1 st 11:00 am
Assisting Minister	Janelle Davis
Altar Guild	Beth Willoughby
Reader	Beth Willoughby
Usher	Ron Davis & Beth Willoughby
Counter	Greg Thiele

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please pick up your poinsettias today.

The church office will be closed tomorrow, January 2nd.



Welcome

The congregation of Christ the Servant
welcomes all who worship with us today.
We consider it a privilege to share with others
the love we have come to know in Jesus Christ.

So if you are:

Young or Old
Fair or Dark Skinned
Married or Single
Gay or Straight
Democrat or Republican
Lutheran, Catholic, Baptist, Methodist or something else
Feeling guilty or feeling blessed
or, just here because you're meeting your girlfriend's parents
and you want to impress them.

**We welcome you.
It's what Jesus would have done**

