

*The Epiphany of Our Lord*  
**COME, LET US WORSHIP THE KING!**  
*Christ Our Redeemer Lutheran Church*  
*Pastor Mark Voss – January 6, 2008*



*“We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him.”*

**PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP:** Father in heaven, I thank you for revealing your Son to me and all believers on the pages of sacred Scripture. Through him you have led me to see my forgiveness, brought peace to my heart, and given me a reason to live a life of joy and praise. As one who has seen the light, lead me to worship you with an undivided heart and guide me to put the lessons I learn today into my daily life. I pray not only for myself, but also for all who are gathered with me today. In Jesus’ name I pray. Amen.

**INVOCATION, PRAISE AND PRAYER**

*P: In the name of the Father, who is the “Father of the heavenly lights,” and of the Son, who is the “Light of the world,” and of the Holy Spirit, who reveals that light to us through the gospel.*

**Sing:**

CW90 vv 1 & 2 Text, Tune, Setting: public domain.

**The people that in darkness sat A glorious light have seen;  
The light has shone on them who long  
In shades of death have been, In shades of death have been.**

**To us a child of hope is born, To us a son is giv'n,  
And on his shoulders ever rests  
All pow'r in earth and heav'n, All pow'r in earth and heav'n.**

*P: Arise! Shine! Your light has come and the glory of the Lord rises upon you.*

*C: The darkness of sin surrounds the earth. Nations upon nations are turning away from the Lord.*

*P: But you are honored to live in the Light of the Lord.*

*C: His glory and grace are shining on us.*

*P: The Lord is present.*

*C: Look! We are standing on holy ground!*

*P: Let us reflect the light of God’s love*

*C: so that others may live in his light!*

**His name shall be the Prince of Peace, The Everlasting Lord, The Wonderful,  
the Counselor, The God by all adored, The God by all adored.**

**His righteous government and pow'r Shall over all extend; On judgment and on  
justice based, His reign shall have no end, His reign shall have no end.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**Sing:** Lord Jesus, reign in us, we pray, And make us yours alone,  
For you are with the Father and The Spirit ever one, The Spirit ever one.

## **CONFESSION OF SINS**

*P: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.*

**C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

*P: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.*

**C: Amen.**

## **EPIPHANY LESSONS AND CAROL**

**Isaiah 60:1-6 – The Glory of the Lord** "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD rises upon you. See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples, but the LORD rises upon you and his glory appears over you. Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. "Lift up your eyes and look about you: All assemble and come to you; your sons come from afar, and your daughters are carried on the arm. Then you will look and be radiant, your heart will throb and swell with joy; the wealth on the seas will be brought to you, to you the riches of the nations will come. Herds of camels will cover your land, young camels of Midian and Ephah. And all from Sheba will come, bearing gold and incense and proclaiming the praise of the LORD."

**Response:**

CW83 v 1 Text, Tune, Setting: public domain.

**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 your foll'wers be.**

**Ephesians 3:2-12 The Mystery Made Known** <sup>2</sup>Surely you have heard about the administration of God's grace that was given to me for you, <sup>3</sup>that is, the mystery made known to me by revelation, as I have already written briefly. <sup>4</sup>In reading this, then, you will be able to understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, <sup>5</sup>which was not made known to men in other generations as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to God's holy apostles and prophets. <sup>6</sup>This mystery is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members together of one body, and sharers together in the promise in Christ Jesus. <sup>7</sup>I became a servant of this gospel by the gift of God's grace given me through the working of his power. <sup>8</sup>Although I am less than the least of all God's people, this grace was given me: to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, <sup>9</sup>and to make plain to everyone the administration of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things. <sup>10</sup>His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms, <sup>11</sup>according to his eternal purpose which he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord. <sup>12</sup>In him and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence.

**Response:**

**As with joyful steps they sped, Savior, to your lowly bed,  
There to bend the knee before You whom heav'n and earth adore,  
So may we with willing feet Ever seek your mercy seat.**

**As they offered gifts most rare At your cradle, rude and bare,  
So may we with holy joy, Pure and free from sin's alloy,  
All our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to you, our heav'nly King.**

**Matthew 2:1-12 *Worshipping With Joy*** After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him." When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Christ was to be born. "In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied, "for this is what the prophet has written: "But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will be the shepherd of my people Israel.'" Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and make a careful search for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him." After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen in the east went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

### ***Apostle's Creed***

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

### ***Response:***

**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 your glory hide.**

**In the heav'nly country bright Need they no created light;  
You its light, its joy, its crown, You its sun which goes not down.  
There forever may we sing Alleluias to our King!**

***SERMON***

***"Jesus Is the Star"***

***Matthew 2:1-12***

***OFFERING***

***PRAYER OF THE CHURCH, page 124 in Christian Worship***

***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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

The Bible teaches that in Lord's Supper there is a coming together or fellowship. There is a vertical fellowship as we come together with Jesus and receive his true body and blood, and a horizontal fellowship as we come together with those who believe as we do and are one in faith. If you are a guest and haven't had a chance to express this fellowship, please speak to our Pastor if you desire the Lord's Supper. May God grant this Scriptural practice be welcomed by all who worship here today!

***Order of Lord's Supper - Preface***

*P: The Lord be with you.*

*C: (sing) And also with you.*

*P: Lift up your hearts..*

*C: (sing) We lift them up unto the Lord.*

*P: Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.*

*C: (sing) It is good and right so to do.*

*P: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord: Therefore, with all the saints on earth and host of heaven we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:*

***Song of Saints and Angels (sing)***

**Holy, holy, holy Lord God of heav'nly hosts Heav'n and earth are full of your glory;  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he, blessed is he, blessed is he,  
Who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

***Words of Institution***

***Distribution and Hymn – “Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared”***

***CW312***

***Prayer of Thanksgiving***

***Benediction***

*C: (sing) "Amen, amen, amen."*



***Closing Hymn – CW84***

***“Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun”***