

EPIPHANY

moments

GOD DELIVERS MORE THAN WE ASK

Second Sunday after Epiphany

January 19, 2025

ETERNAL LOVE LUTHERAN CHURCH

a member congregation of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS)

FOR OUR GUESTS

Thank you for being here. During your visit today, you will see and hear what we're all about: God's *eternal love* for us through his Son, Jesus Christ! Any directions for speaking or singing, standing or sitting, will be indicated in this folder or projected on the wall in front of you.

Restrooms: are available just outside the chapel doors down the hallway to the left.

Nursery: We encourage families to worship together. If an adult needs to step out of the chapel briefly with a child, the nursery is provided just outside the chapel near the restrooms.

For Kids: Activity sheets for young children are available on the bulletin table. Small bags with quiet activity items hang near the table.

ABOUT OUR WORSHIP SERIES: EPIPHANY MOMENTS

“Epiphany” comes from a Greek word that means “reveal.” When we have an epiphany, it is an “a-ha!” moment causing us to see something revealed to us in a new light. In the Church Year, Epiphany is the season where we see Jesus begin his ministry, revealing the reason the Son of God came to earth. In this season we will come to see reality differently (and better). Jesus always provides an abundance of epiphany moments.

TODAY'S EPIPHANY: GOD DELIVERS MORE THAN WE ASK

It is easy for us to assume that if God says “no” to a request, we are getting less than we wanted. We need to have an epiphany moment, seeing the reality—that God always wants more for us than we want from him. Saying “yes” to all our requests would often result in us receiving less joy, less blessing, a lesser life. So, when God says “no” to our request, we can be assured it is because he wants to give us more. Far more than existing as a “help desk” or 911 dispatch, God’s love for us is like that of a groom for his bride. His love for us exceeds all expectation and understanding. In that love, God always delivers more than we ask, not less.

OPENING HYMN

604 When All Your Mercies, O My God

Stand for stanza four.



1 When all your mer - cies, O my God, my
2 Ten thou - sand thou - sand pre - cious gifts my
3 Through ev - 'ry pass - ing phase of life your
4 Through all e - ter - ni - ty to you a



wak - ing soul sur - veys, trans - port - ed with the
dai - ly thanks em - ploy, nor is the least a
good - ness I'll pur - sue and af - ter death, in
joy - ful song I'll raise, but, oh, e - ter - ni -



view, I'm lost in won - der, love, and praise.
cheer - ful heart that tastes these gifts with joy.
dis - tant worlds, the glo - rious theme re - new.
ty's too short to ut - ter all your praise.

INVOCATION

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

OPENING RESPONSES

Psalm 145, selected verses

¹I will exalt you, my God, the King,
and I will bless your name forever and ever.

²Every day I will bless you,
and I will praise your name forever and ever.

⁸The LORD is gracious and compassionate,
slow to anger and great in mercy.

⁹The LORD is good to all.

His compassion extends over all he has made.

¹⁴The LORD lifts up all who fall,
and he supports all who are bowed down.

¹⁵The eyes of all look eagerly to you,
and you give them their food at the proper time.

**¹⁶You open your hand,
and you satisfy the desire of every living thing.**

²⁰The LORD watches over all who love him,
but he will destroy all the wicked.

²¹My mouth will speak the praise of the LORD.

Let all flesh bless his holy name forever and ever.

BE SEATED

CONFESSION OF SINS

Heavenly Father, in the gift of your gracious providence you sustain us and every living thing. In the gift of your Son, you have met our greatest need by giving us the One to be our Substitute in life and death as our Savior from sin. In the gift of your Spirit you fill our hearts with every good spiritual gift.

Lord, we confess our sin against you and your divine gifts.

Forgive us, good Lord.

Our sin is more than we are aware of and worse than we realize.

We confess to you our shortsightedness, selfishness, and insecurity.

Forgive us, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

ABSOLUTION

Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow. In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit, I forgive you all your sin. As far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed your guilt. You are justified—declared not guilty in his sight.

Thank you, Lord!

HYMN

543 O Jesus, King Most Wonderful



1 O Je - sus, King most won - der - ful,
2 When once you vis - it dark - ened hearts,
3 O Je - sus, light of all be - low,
4 May ev - 'ry heart con - fess your name,



O Maj - es - ty re - nowned, O Con - quer - or in -
then truth be - gins to shine, then earth - ly van - i -
O Fount of life and fire, sur - pass - ing all the
for - ev - er you a - dore, en - kin - dled with the



vin - ci - ble, in whom all joys are found,
ty de - parts, then kin - dles love di - vine.
joys we know, all that we can de - sire,
Spir - it's flame to love you more and more.

THE WORD

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, you gave your one and only Son to be the light of the world. Grant that your people, illumined by your Word and sacraments, may shine with the radiance of Christ's glory, that he may be known, worshiped, and believed to the ends of the earth; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 62:1–5

*Our relationship to the Lord is like an infinitely happy marriage.
As our bridegroom, Christ delivers more than we ask for.*

¹For the sake of Zion I will not be silent.
For the sake of Jerusalem I will not be quiet,
until her righteousness goes forth shining brightly,
and her salvation burns like a torch.

²Nations will see your righteousness,
and all kings will see your glory.
You will be called by a new name
that the mouth of the LORD will assign to you.

³Then you will be a beautiful crown in the LORD's hand,
and a royal diadem in the palm of your God.

⁴You will never again be called Abandoned,
and your land will never again be called Desolation,
for you will be called My Delight Is in Her,
and your land will be called Married,
because the LORD delights in you,
and your land will be married.

⁵For just as a young man marries a virgin,
your sons will marry you,
and just as a bridegroom rejoices over a bride,
your God will rejoice over you.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Ephesians 3:14–21

Faith trusts that God is able to do infinitely more than we could possibly imagine.

¹⁴For this reason I kneel before the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁵from whom the entire family in heaven and on earth receives its name. ¹⁶I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he would strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner self, ¹⁷so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. Then, being rooted and grounded in love, ¹⁸I pray that you would be able to comprehend, along with all the saints, how wide and long and high and deep his love is, ¹⁹and that you would be able to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled to all the fullness of God.

²⁰Now to him, who is able, according to the power that is at work within us, to do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine, ²¹to him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever! Amen.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

STAND

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 1:14

The congregation sings the refrains. The minister sings the verse.



Refrain



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son,
who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.*

Refrain

GOSPEL

John 2:1-11

Jesus performs his first recorded miracle, changing water into wine—the best wine!

¹Three days later, there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee. Jesus' mother was there. ²Jesus and his disciples were also invited to the wedding.

³When the wine was gone, Jesus' mother said to him, “They have no wine.”

⁴Jesus said to her, “Woman, what does that have to do with you and me? My time has not come yet.”

⁵His mother said to the servants, “Do whatever he tells you.”

⁶Six stone water jars, which the Jews used for ceremonial cleansing, were standing there, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. ⁷Jesus told them, “Fill the jars with water.” So they filled them to the brim. ⁸Then he said to them, “Now draw some out and take it to the master of the banquet.” And they did.

⁹When the master of the banquet tasted the water that had now become wine, he did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew). The master of the banquet called the bridegroom ¹⁰and said to him, “Everyone serves the good wine first, and when the guests have had plenty to drink, then the cheaper wine. You saved the good wine until now!”

¹¹This, the beginning of his miraculous signs, Jesus performed in Cana of Galilee. He revealed his glory, and his disciples believed in him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

BE SEATED

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Young children are invited to the front for a brief devotion.

HYMN OF THE DAY

386 Songs of Thankfulness and Praise, sts. 1-3, 5



1 Songs of thank - ful - ness and praise, Je - sus, Lord, to
 2 Man - i - fest at Jor - dan's stream, Proph - et, Priest, and
 3 Man - i - fest in mak - ing whole pal - sied limbs and
 5 Grant us grace to see you, Lord, mir - rored in your



you we raise, man - i - fest - ed by the star
 King su - preme, and at Ca - na, wed - ding guest,
 faint - ing soul; man - i - fest in val - iant fight,
 ho - ly Word. May our lives and all we do



to the Ma - gi from a - far, branch of roy - al
 in your God - head man - i - fest; man - i - fest in
 quell - ing all the dev - il's might; man - i - fest in
 im - i - tate and hon - or you that we all like



Da - vid's stem, in your birth at Beth - le - hem.
 pow'r di - vine, chang - ing wa - ter in - to wine.
 gra - cious will, ev - er bring - ing good from ill.
 you may be at your great e - piph - a - ny



An-thems be to you ad-dressed, God in man made man-i - fest.
 An-thems be to you ad-dressed, God in man made man-i - fest.
 An-thems be to you ad-dressed, God in man made man-i - fest.
 and may praise you, ev - er blest, God in man made man-i - fest.

SERMON

John 2:1-11

What Does Water into Wine Tell You About Jesus?

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,
and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who in unity with the Father and the Son
is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Eternal Father, your only Son has made you known and has revealed your glory by his Word and work. As we begin to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ,

empower us with understanding.

Your Son revealed his glory at the wedding of Cana, and his disciples believed in him. Continue to reveal your glory as we share the Word of your gospel,

that people may see the wonder of your love in Christ.

In the beginning you established marriage to fill our need for companionship, to provide for all physical needs, and to establish the family as the foundation of society. Strengthen husbands and wives in commitment and love. Lead and teach children to honor, serve, obey, and love their parents.

Give joy to those who are single as they serve you and others.

We rejoice in the many liberties and freedoms you have given us in our land. Preserve our freedom of religion so that your Word may be freely proclaimed

for the building up and expansion of your church.

You uphold all who fall and lift up all who are bowed down. In your mercy, look on those who endure pain and suffering. Have compassion on your people.

Special prayers or petitions may be made.

Hear us, Lord, as we bring you the prayers from the depths of our hearts.

Silent prayer.

...through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

OFFERING

The members of Eternal Love congregation have joined together to do the Lord's work in this city and around the world. Guests need not feel obligated to participate in this offering which supports our church's ministry. If being here today was a blessing to you and you would like to support our ministry, you can scan here and enter your phone number or email address to donate. (Members, please use a phone number or email address that is currently on file with the church).



During this time, we ask that everyone take part in completing the worship register. Please fill in the requested information and pass the booklet to the end of the row. Thank you!

OFFERING SONG

Light of the World (Sing Hallelujah)

*Light of the world, treasure of Heaven
Brilliant like the stars, in the wintery sky
Joy of the Father, reach through the darkness
Shine across the earth,
send the shadows to flight*

*Light of the world, from the beginning
The tragedies of time,
were no match for Your love
From great heights of glory,
You saw my story
God, You entered in, and became one of us*

*Sing hallelujah, sing hallelujah
Sing hallelujah for the things He has done
Come and adore Him, bow down before Him
Sing hallelujah to the light of the world*

*Light of the world, crown in a manger
Born for the cross, to suffer, to save
High King of Heaven, death is the poorer
We are the richer, by the price that He paid*

*Sing hallelujah, sing hallelujah
Sing hallelujah for the things He has done
Come and adore Him, bow down before Him
Sing hallelujah to the light of the world
You're the light of the world
Light up the dark*

*Light of the world, soon will be coming
With fire in His eyes, He will ransom His own
Through clouds He will lead us,
straight into glory
And there He shall reign, forevermore*

*Sing hallelujah, sing hallelujah
Sing hallelujah for the things He has done
Come and adore Him, bow down before Him
Sing hallelujah to the light of the world
The light of the world*

STAND

THE SACRAMENT

For our guests: Eternal Love Lutheran Church practices close communion. We welcome congregational members and those in fellowship with our national church body to receive the sacrament with us today. If you are interested in learning more about what we believe or about holy communion, please speak with our pastor.

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.**

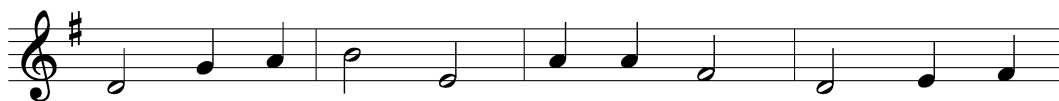
WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my + body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my + blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

BE SEATED

DISTRIBUTION HYMN 667 Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared, sts. 1, 4, 6-8



1 Lord Je - sus Christ, you have pre - pared this feast for
 4 We eat this bread and drink this cup, your pre - cious
 6 Lord, I be - lieve what you have said; help me when
 7 Grant that we wor - thi - ly re - ceive your sup - per,
 8 For your con - sol - ing sup - per, Lord, be praised through-



our sal - va - tion; it is your bod - y
 Word be - liev - ing that your true bod - y
 doubts as - sail me. Re - mem - ber that I
 Lord, our Sav - ior, and, tru - ly griev - ing
 out all ag - es! Pre - serve it, for in



and your blood, and at your in - vi - ta - tion
 and your blood our lips are here re - ceiv - ing.
 am but dust, and let my faith not fail me.
 for our sins, may prove by our be - hav - ior
 ev - 'ry place the world a - gainst it rag - es.



as wea - ry souls, with sin op - pressed, we come to
 This Word re - mains for - ev - er true, and there is
 Your sup - per in this vale of tears re - fresh - es
 that we are thank - ful for your grace and day by
 Grant that this sac - ra - ment may be a bless - ed



you for need - ed rest, for com - fort, and for par - don.
 naught you can - not do, for you, Lord, are al - might - y.
 me and stills my fears and is my price - less trea - sure.
 day may run our race, in ho - li - ness in - creas - ing.
 com - fort un - to me when liv - ing and when dy - ing.

PRAYER

Almighty God, you give us the joy of celebrating our Lord's Epiphany. Give us also the joys of life in your service and bring us at last to the full joy of life eternal, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.

Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

385 Christ Begins

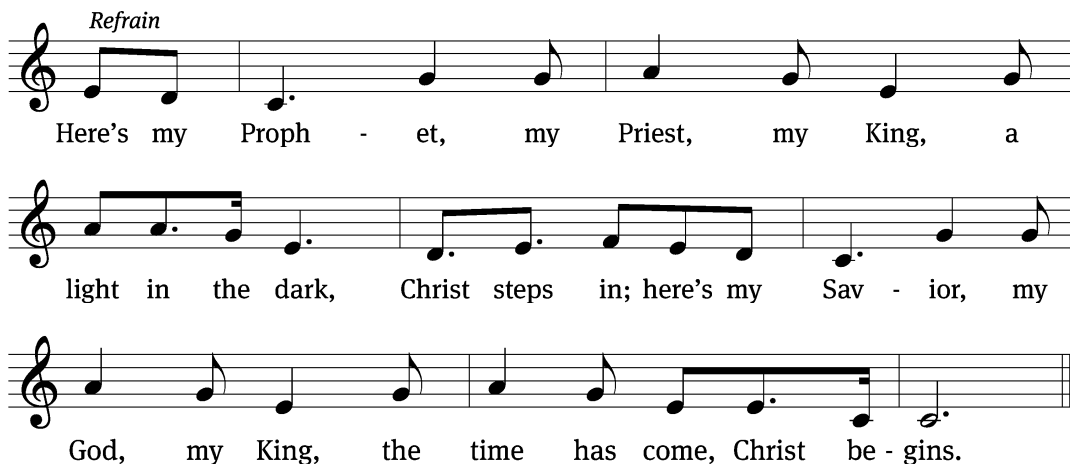
The minister sings the verse. The congregation joins in the refrain.

Mary's whispering, but it's not the time.

Yet six jars are filled with the finest wine.

Tell me, who is this by our side?

Refrain



Here's my Proph - et, my Priest, my King, a
light in the dark, Christ steps in; here's my Sav - ior, my
God, my King, the time has come, Christ be - gins.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Minister: Pastor Dave Backus

Accompanist: Lisa Neuberger

Ushers: Bill Neubauer (8:00), Matt Clark (10:45)

Lectors: Pete Neuberger (8:00), Chris Zimmerman (10:45)

Communion Assistants: Pete N., Adam S. (8:00); Shane L., Chris Z. (10:45)

604 When All Your Mercies, O My God

Text: Joseph Addison, 1672–1719, abr., alt. Tune: attr. George Kirbye, c. 1560–1634; The Whole Booke of Psalmes, London, 1592 Text and tune: Public domain.

543 O Jesus, King Most Wonderful

Text: tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–1878, alt.; attr. Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091–1153, abr. Tune: John B. Dykes, 1823–1876 Text and tune: Public domain.

Gospel Acclamation (Setting One)

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386 Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

Text: Christopher Wordsworth, 1807–1885, alt. Tune: Jakob Hintze, 1622–1702 Text and tune: Public domain.

Prayer of the Church

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Light of the World (Sing Hallelujah)

Words and music: Andrew Bergthold, Ed Cash, Franni Cash, Martin Cash, Scott Cash. © 2020 Angie Feel Good Songs (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing), Bay19 (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing), Capitol CMG Genesis (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing), Capitol CMG Paragon (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing), Scott Cash Publishing Designee (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing), We The Kingdom Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing). Used by permission: CCLI no. 1180837.

667 Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared

Text: tr. Emanuel Cronenwett, 1841–1931, alt.; Samuel Kinner, 1603–1668 Tune: Peter Sohren, c. 1630–c. 1692, alt. Text and tune: Public domain.

385 Christ Begins

Text: Luke Thompson, b. 1981 Tune: Kent Reeder, b. 1986; Luke Thompson, b. 1981 Text and tune: © 2017 Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 703840.

Holy Bible

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