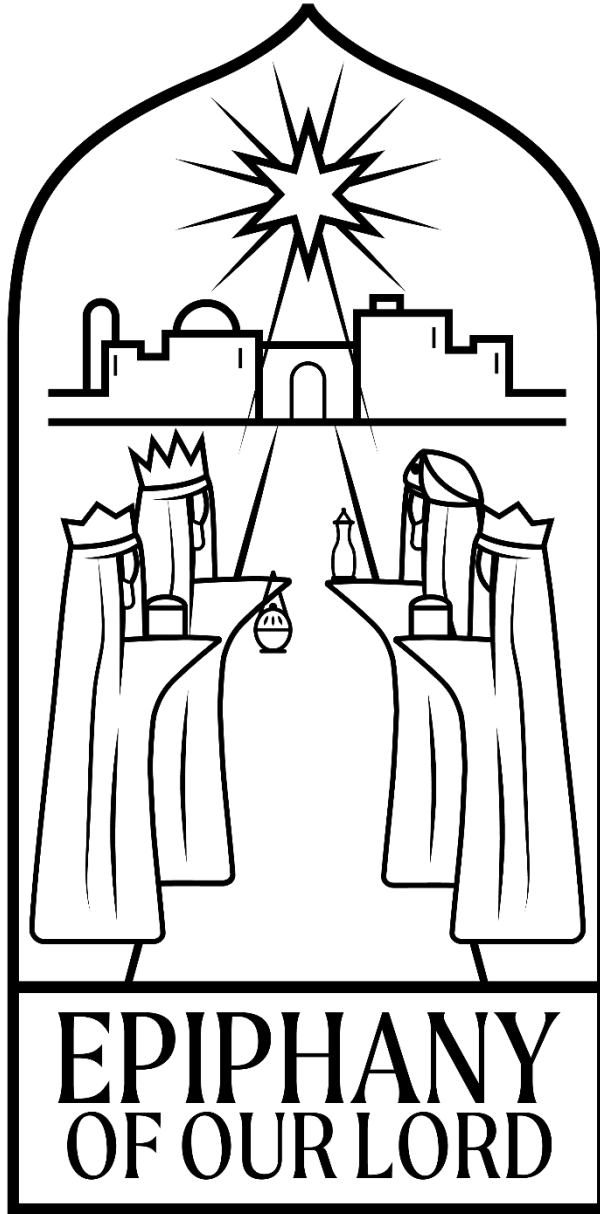


# Epiphany of Our Lord

Sunday, January 5, 2025



God's Gift to All People



198 Westridge Avenue, Burlington, Wisconsin  
262-763-8229 | stjohnsburlington.org  
Pastor Kirk Lahmann | Pastor Kenneth Rodrigue

## **Welcome to Worship**

Thank you for joining us for worship today! We are honored that you are with us. We pray that the Word of God you hear will strengthen your faith and increase your love for the Lord! Please fill out a “Welcome to Worship” card (found in the hymnal racks) and place it in an offering plate, located near the sanctuary doors, as you leave worship. If you are a guest, know that we are thankful you have joined us and hope that you will join us again soon.

## **Prepare for Worship**

To prepare for worship, read through the service focus and the Scripture readings. Ponder the words of the Psalm of the Day. Spend time in prayer, using the prayers on the inside cover of the hymnal or on pages 255-258. For those intending to receive the Lord’s Supper, read through the “Christian Questions” on pages 295-296. Consider reading through portions of the Small Catechism on pages 286-293.

## **Seasonal Theme for Epiphany – Epiphany Moments**

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 understand that when we have Jesus in our lives, it does not always mean our reality drastically changes. It simply means that we see reality differently, and better. Jesus always provides an abundance of epiphany moments.

## **Today’s Focus for Worship – God’s Gift to All People**

Today we celebrate the Epiphany of our Lord. When the Savior was born, he was first revealed to Israelites: the shepherds, Simeon, Anna. But today, the Lord miraculously guides foreigners across countless miles, so the Savior could be revealed to them as well. How did the magi respond? “They were overjoyed” (Matthew 2:10). The Festival of Epiphany is sometimes known as “The Gentiles’ Christmas.” We Gentiles (non-Jews) rejoice in the good news that this Jewish baby is not just a gift for the Jews. He is a gift for all people—the Savior of the world.

## **Serving at Worship**

Presiding Minister: Pastor Kirk Lahmann

Preacher: Pastor Kenneth Rodrigue

Accompanist: Emily Rodrigue

## **Acknowledgments**

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# Morning Prayer

## Matins



### Opening Hymn

How Lovely Shines the Morning Star | 370:1-3

*Please stand to sing the final stanza.*



O Lord, o - pen my lips,



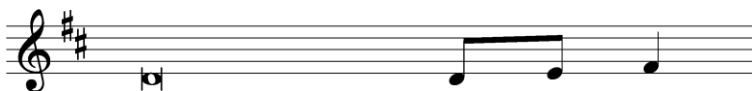
and my mouth shall de - clare your praise.



Has - ten to save me, O God;



O Lord, come quick - ly to help me.



*Epiphany* The glory of Christ is re - vealed:



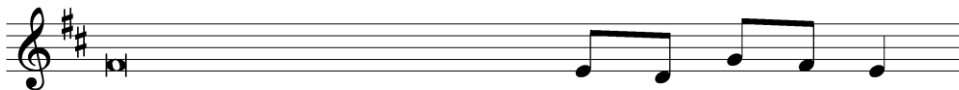
praise and thanks to God!

# O Come, Let Us Sing to the Lord *Venite*

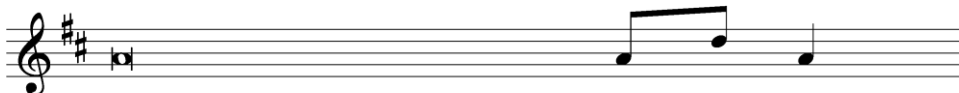
*Psalm 95:1-7*



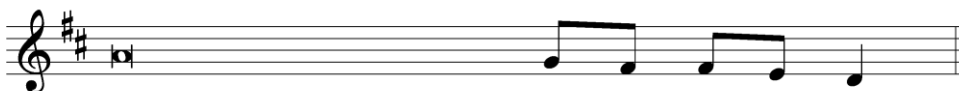
- 1 O come, let us sing to the Lord,
- 2 For the Lord is a great \_\_\_\_\_ God
- 3 The sea is his, for he made \_\_\_\_\_ it,



- 1 let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our sal - va - tion.
- 2 and a great king a - bove all gods.
- 3 and his hand formed the dry \_\_\_\_\_ land.



- 1 Let us come into his presence with thanks - giv - ing,
- 2 The deep places of the earth are in his hand;
- 3 O come, let us worship and bow \_\_\_\_\_ down,
- 4 For he is our God,



- 1 let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise.
- 2 the heights of the hills are al - so his.
- 3 let us kneel before the Lord our mak - er.
- 4 and we are the people of his  
pasture and the sheep of his \_\_\_\_\_ hand.

*Be seated*

## First Reading

1 Kings 10:1-9

<sup>1</sup>When the queen of Sheba heard about the fame of Solomon and his relationship to the LORD, she came to test Solomon with hard questions. <sup>2</sup>Arriving at Jerusalem with a very great caravan—with camels carrying spices, large quantities of gold, and precious stones—she came to Solomon and talked with him about all that she had on her mind. <sup>3</sup>Solomon answered all her questions; nothing was too hard for the king to explain to her. <sup>4</sup>When the queen of Sheba saw all the wisdom of Solomon and the palace he had built, <sup>5</sup>the food on his table, the seating of his officials, the attending servants in their robes, his cupbearers, and the burnt offerings he made at the temple of the LORD, she was overwhelmed.

<sup>6</sup>She said to the king, “The report I heard in my own country about your achievements and your wisdom is true. <sup>7</sup>But I did not believe these things until I came and saw with my own eyes. Indeed, not even half was told me; in wisdom and wealth you have far exceeded the report I heard. <sup>8</sup>How happy your people must be! How happy your officials, who continually stand before you and hear your wisdom! <sup>9</sup>Praise be to the LORD your God, who has delighted in you and placed you on the throne of Israel. Because of the LORD’s eternal love for Israel, he has made you king to maintain justice and righteousness.”

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm of the Day

Lord, Every Nation on Earth Will Adore You | 72-A

## Second Reading

Acts 13:46-49

<sup>46</sup>Then Paul and Barnabas answered them boldly: “We had to speak the word of God to you first. Since you reject it and do not consider yourselves worthy of eternal life, we now turn to the Gentiles. <sup>47</sup>For this is what the Lord has commanded us: ‘I have made you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth.’”

<sup>48</sup>When the Gentiles heard this, they were glad and honored the word of the Lord; and all who were appointed for eternal life believed. <sup>49</sup>The word of the Lord spread through the whole region.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Remain seated*

## Hymn Response

The Star Proclaims the King Is Here | 374:1-2,5



1 The star pro-claims the King is here; but, Her - od,  
2 The east - ern Ma - gi saw from far and fol - lowed  
5 All glo - ry un - to Je - sus be and praise for



why this sense - less fear? For he who came from heav - en's  
on his guid - ing star, and, led by light, to Light they  
his e - piph - a - ny, whom with the Fa - ther we a -



throne does not de - sire an earth - ly crown.  
pressed and by their gifts their God con - fessed.  
dore and Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more.

Text: tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.; Coelius Sedulius, 5th cent., abr.  
Tune: Geistliche Lieder auff's new gebessert, Wittenberg, 1535, ed. Joseph Klug  
Text and tune: Public domain

*Stand*

## Gospel

Matthew 2:1-12

<sup>1</sup>After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem <sup>2</sup>and asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.”

<sup>3</sup>When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. <sup>4</sup>When he had called together all the people’s chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. <sup>5</sup>“In Bethlehem in Judea,” they replied, “for this is what the prophet has written: <sup>6</sup>“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 shepherd my people Israel.”

<sup>7</sup>Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup>He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him.”

<sup>9</sup>After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup>When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. <sup>11</sup>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, frankincense and myrrh. <sup>12</sup>And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to you, O Christ!**

*Be seated*

**Hymn of the Day**

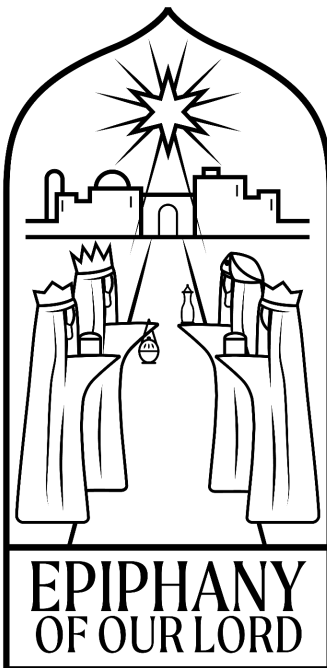
Brightest and Best | 373

**Sermon**

Acts 13:46-49

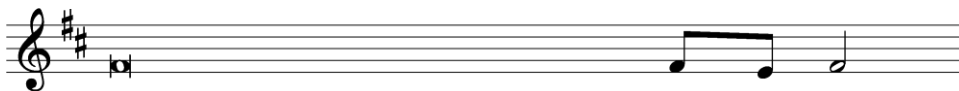
Welcome In!

*Stand*



# Song of Zechariah *Benedictus*

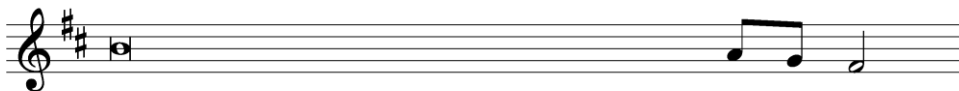
Luke 1:67-79



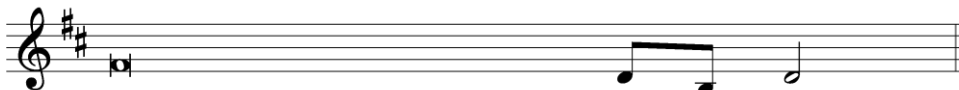
- 1 Praise be to the Lord, the God of Is - ra - el;
- 2 Through his holy prophets he promised of old  
that he would save us from our en - e - mies,
- 3 This was the oath he swore to our father A - bra - ham:
- 4 You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,
- 5 In the tender compassion of our God,



- 1 he has come to his people and set them free.
- 2 from the hands of all who hate us.
- 3 to set us free from the hands of our en - e - mies,
- 4 for you will go before the Lord to pre - pare his way,
- 5 the dawn from on high shall break up - on us,



- 1 He has raised up for us a mighty Sav - ior,
- 2 He promised to show mercy to our fa - thers
- 3 free to worship him with - out fear,
- 4 to give his people knowledge of sal - va - tion
- 5 to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shad - ow of death



- 1 born of the house of his servant Da - vid.
- 2 and to remember his holy cov - e - nant.
- 3 holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.
- 4 by the forgiveness of their sins.
- 5 and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

*Be seated*



## Offering

2 Corinthians 9:7

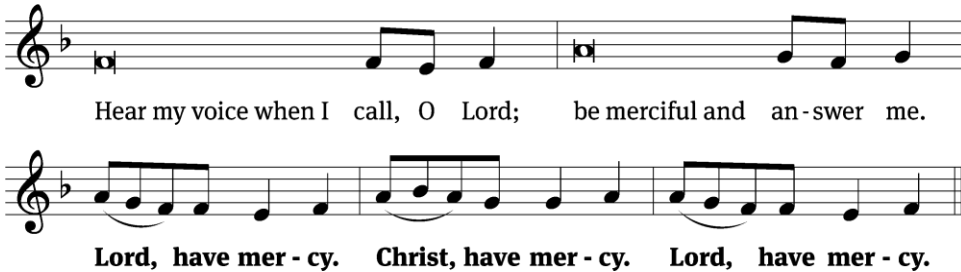
Offerings given in thanks to the Lord are brought to the Lord's altar. We ask all worshipers to fill out a "Welcome to Worship" card (found in the hymnal racks) and place it in the offering plates at the sanctuary doors following the service.

## Hymn

As With Gladness Men of Old | 372

### Lord, Have Mercy *Kyrie*

Matthew 15:22; 17:15; Mark 10:47



Hear my voice when I call, O Lord; be merciful and answer me.

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

## Prayer of the Church

Psalm 72:15

O Lord, you have made your salvation known to the nations. To the Wise Men you revealed your Son by leading them with a star. To us you have revealed him on the pages of your Word. We pray to you always,  
**and bless your name all day long.**

Your Son Jesus Christ is light for the Gentiles who brings salvation to the ends of the earth. Let your Word spread through the whole earth, and let righteousness flourish and prosperity abound. We pray to you always,  
**and bless your name all day long.**

Bless missionaries who proclaim the gospel of Jesus near and far. Give them courage to speak your Word boldly. Give them a spirit of love and compassion as they proclaim your grace and bring healing to the nations. We pray to you always,  
**and bless your name all day long.**

King of all, govern and guide the rulers of all nations, that people everywhere may enjoy peace and safety, and that your gospel may spread and bring your spiritual kingdom to the hearts of many. We pray to you always,  
**and bless your name all day long.**

Let your healing light shine on the hearts of those who are hurting, who are troubled or who are waiting for healing of mind or body. Relieve pain, give peace, heal and restore as it fits your plan and will. We pray to you always,  
**and bless your name all day long.**

*Special prayers and intercessions may follow.*

Everlasting Father, you sent your Son, Jesus Christ, to be the brightness of your faithful people, and you have let his light shine to all nations. Fill the world with your glory, and let your light, love and peace enlighten and warm the hearts of all; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

### **Prayer of the Day**

Lord God, by the leading of a star, you once made known to the nations your one and only Son. Guide us, also, who know him now by faith to come at last to the perfect joy of your heavenly glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**Lord's Prayer** *Pater Noster*

*Matthew 6:9-13*

**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.**

## Morning Prayer

O God, you have called your servants to ventures of faith of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

### Let Us Praise the Lord *Benedicamus*

*1 Corinthians 15:57*



Let us praise the Lord.



**Thanks be to God.**

### Blessing *Apostolic Benediction*

*2 Corinthians 13:14*



The grace of our Lord + Je - sus Christ and the love of God



and the fellowship of the Holy Spir - it be with you all.



**A - men.**

### Closing Hymn

How Lovely Shines the Morning Star | 370:4-5

# Epiphany Moments – Worship Series for Epiphany 2025

Epiphany of Our Lord – January 5 & 6	God’s Gift to All People
Baptism of Our Lord – January 12 & 13	Baptism Is the Cure for an Identity Crisis
Second Sunday after Epiphany – January 19 & 20	God Delivers More than We Ask, Not Less
Third Sunday after Epiphany – January 26 & 27	Rejection Is Not Proof of Failure
Fourth Sunday after Epiphany – February 2 & 3	Popularity Is Not Proof of Success
Fifth Sunday after Epiphany – February 9 & 10	The Least Qualified are the First Sent
Sixth Sunday after Epiphany – February 16 & 17	Blessings Are Cursed; Curses Are Blessed
Seventh Sunday after Epiphany – February 23 & 24	Love Your Enemies; Overcome Evil with Good
Transfiguration of Our Lord – March 2 & 3	Glory Is Hidden in Order to Be Revealed

