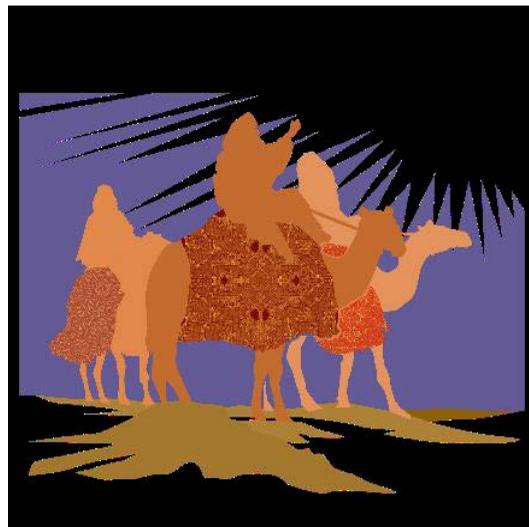


Sunday Worship
Bulletin
EPIPHANY
Of
Our Lord

10:00 a.m.
January 6,
A.D. 2019



Saint John's Lutheran Church

---- Missouri Synod ----

60 Broad Street, Westfield, MA
(413)568-1417

Rev. David Riley, Pastor
125 Glenwood Drive
Westfield, MA 01085

Cell phone # 870-814-4828

Website: www.stjohnswestfield.org E-mail: info@stjohnswestfield.org

Music Ministry Site: www.stjohnsmusic.org

Radio Broadcast at 7:30 a.m. on WHYN 560 AM

WELCOME IN THE NAME OF JESUS, OUR LORD!

We pray that our worship this day will be an inspiration to every one of us.

If you are a visitor or the guest of someone, please sign our Guest Book at the round table in the Foyer. Requests for prayers in this morning's service may be made by writing them on the Prayer Request form in the entryway of the church.

A Nursery for infants and toddlers is available in Room 4 on this level.

Jesus said: "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you are also to love another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." John 13:34-35



The Order of Holy Communion

TO OUR VISITORS AND GUESTS: The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper at this congregation is administered in accordance with the Holy Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions. It is celebrated in the confidence that we receive into our mouths, not just bread and wine, but as our Lord promises His true Body and Blood "through and in which we obtain the forgiveness of sins". If you are not a member of a congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, we kindly ask that you arrange for a time to speak with Pastor Riley if you are interested in receiving Holy Communion.

AS WE GATHER

The star that once led the Magi to the Christ Child is a type of the light that God has caused to shine so that all of us may know Christ Jesus as Savior and Redeemer. We would not have known Him except that the Lord made the light to shine in our darkness to reveal Jesus Christ to us and to lead our fearful hearts to faith. The star still shines through the light of God's Word and leads us into the presence of Him whom the Father sent to be our Savior. The glory of God is His steadfast love and mercy, which He has revealed in Jesus Christ. In Him we have been bidden, and in Him we come. Like Luther put it in the explanation of the Creed, the faithful response is to serve, praise, thank, and obey the Lord whom God has sent. And by the power of the Holy Spirit, that is exactly what we have come to do today—worship Christ, the Lord of the world.

† PRELUDE

† ANNOUNCEMENTS

† PROCESSIONAL HYMN NO. **396**: *"Arise and Shine in Splendor"*

Confession and Absolution

p. 203

Service of the Word

Choral Introit: *"Three Kings came from Sheba by the Star"* J.S. Bach

Kyrie p. 204

Gloria in Excelsis

† SALUTATION and COLLECT

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray. O God, by the leading of a star You made known Your only-begotten Son to the Gentiles. Lead us, who know You by faith, to enjoy in heaven the fullness of Your divine presence; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

(Be Seated)

† OLD TESTAMENT: Isaiah 60:1–6 *(Arise and shine for Your light has come.)*

Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. For 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. And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. Lift 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. Then 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. A 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.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

† GRADUAL: *(Sung by All)*

Praise the LORD, all | nations!*
Extol him, all | peoples!
For great is his steadfast | love toward us,*
and the faithfulness of the LORD endures for- | ever.
Ascribe to the LORD the glory | due his name;*
bring an offering, and come in- | to his courts!

† EPISTLE: Ephesians 3:1–12

(The mystery long hidden has been revealed in Jesus Christ.)

For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles— assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for you, how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, which 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. This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

Of 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. To 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, and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God, who created all things, so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

(Please Stand)

† The Gospel Processional

Sing Alleluia and Verse on Page 205

† HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 2:1-12

(The star leads the Magi to Bethlehem, where Jesus Christ was born for all.)

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the second chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, saying, "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." When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:

"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."

Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. And 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." After 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. When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. And 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. And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

† The Gospel Recessional

† NICENE CREED (page 206)

(Be Seated)

† HYMN of the DAY NO. **412**: *"The People That Sat in Darkness Sat"*

† SERMON: *"Arise, Shine for Your Light has Come"* Isaiah 60:1-6

(Please Stand)

† ANNOUNCEMENTS

† PRAYER of the CHURCH

P: Bidden by the Spirit, let us approach the throne of light on behalf of all who sit in darkness and the shadow of death and that the people of God may walk in the light. O blessed Lord, we give You thanks that the mystery once hidden has now been revealed and Jesus Christ is come for all people. Grant us boldness so that we may proclaim with confidence this saving Gospel and prepare the hearts of those who hear so that they may believe in Jesus Christ. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Mighty Lord, to You all nations are accountable and all who lead them. Give to us and to all people's good government and faithful leaders who will heed Your Word and do Your bidding. Bless all servicemen and servicewomen who protect us near and far and bless all civil servants who serve us for the common good. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Blessed Savior, You have made Your Church to be the home of all people and bid us welcome the stranger in Your name. Bless our life together around Your Word and Table and bless those who serve us with this ministry on Your behalf. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Gracious Savior, You shine upon us with the light of forgiveness and life. Lead us so that we may forgive one another as You have forgiven us and help us to walk in the way of life here on earth until we dwell in Your nearer presence on high. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Loving God, Your Son came to claim all our ills and to grant us healing, comfort, and peace sufficient for all our needs. We cry to You on behalf of those we name before You in our hearts, that their suffering be relieved, their sorrows find comfort, and their hearts know the fullness of Your peace. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: O Lord of mercy, You have daily fed us with all that we need for this body and life, and now You bid us come to feast upon the flesh and blood of Your Son. Grant us faith, a discerning heart, and repentance that we receive without hindrance all Your gifts in this blest communion. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Holy Lord, You have set us apart as Your own people by Baptism and granted us faith to walk in Your ways. Keep us faithful so that we persevere in time of trial and temptation and remain in Christ until that day dawns when we shall be reunited with those who have gone before and dwell with You in the life death cannot overcome. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: 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.

C: Amen.

Offering

We respond to God's love with our OFFERINGS

Choir Anthem: *"Little Child on the Straw"*

Austin Lovelace

Service of the Sacrament (p.208)

At the time of DISTRIBUTION, all those wishing to receive Holy Communion will come forward as the ushers direct. The bread/Body of the Lord will be served in your hand. If you wish to receive the Lord's blood from an individual glass rather than from the common cup, indicate so when Pastor comes to you and he will hand you a glass from which you then drink and place back in the tray carried by the acolyte. If you are not a member of this congregation or a sister congregation within the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, it is suggested that you speak to the Pastor before partaking of Holy Communion.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN No. **621**: "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"

***At the end of the Distribution we stand and continue with
Nunc Dimittis on p. 211***

† RECESSIONAL HYMN NO. **897**: "O Rejoice, Ye Christians, Loudly"

† SILENT PRAYER

† POSTLUDE

SERVING US AS WE WORSHIP TODAY:

Lay Assistants – William Schneeloch & Richard Conroy

Lay Reader – William Schneeloch

Acolyte – Daniel Provost

Music Director – Jeff Windoloski

Altar Care – Jane McClure

2019 ALTAR CARE: A sign-up sheet is located in the foyer for those who are willing to volunteer to clean our church altar. If you are unable to do a full month, two weeks would be fine. All are encouraged to help with the task. Training will be provided if needed.

LUTHERAN WITNESS: Subscriptions for the Lutheran Witness, a publication of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, are \$11.00 per year. To renew or enter a new subscription, please use the SUBSCRIPTION envelope in your box of 2019 offering envelopes. These envelopes may be placed in the offering plate or given to Jane McClure.

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS are needed each Sunday. Please sign up on the sheet located in the foyer to host a coffee hour after church. This activity is wonderful way to share in fellowship with our brothers and sisters in Christ. Please see Linda Slozak or Erika Slozak if you have any questions.

2019 ALTAR FLOWERS: The flower book pages for the New Year are now in the book. The cost for each bouquet is \$21.00. We can do up to three bouquets per Sunday. If anyone would like to have flowers for a particular Sunday, please sign up in the flower book located in the church foyer or see Jane McClure (562- 0492). Checks may payable to St. John's Flower Fund.