



# Grace

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*Welcome to Grace Lutheran Church! We are brothers and sisters in Christ who are about  
“Proclaiming God’s grace through faith and love.”*

*If you are a visitor, please make yourself at home and don’t hesitate to ask a question. There will be the celebration of Holy Communion in the **8:00a.m. service** today. If you are not a member of Grace and desire to commune, please speak with the pastor **before the service**. If you are physically unable to commune at the altar, the pastor would be happy to serve you in your pew. Please, notify an usher before the service begins.*

*You can follow the whole service here in this folder as well as on the displays. Some parts of the service will be found in the burgundy “Lutheran Service Book” hymnals in the pew back.*

## THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

January 2, 2022

### Today in Worship

- When the Magi arrived in Jerusalem, everyone was surprised and troubled. Few in Israel remembered God’s promise through Isaiah that other nations would be attracted to them. They had forgotten that Gentiles would come bearing gifts to a future just and righteous King. Only after God worked faith in Saul/Paul’s heart was the message clearly announced that all people share in the promise of Christ.
- Today, God’s Word calls us not only to see the light of God’s love in Christ but also to emulate the Magi. With joy, our faith moves us to follow where God leads and to worship our Lord, in whom alone we have boldness and access with confidence to the grace of God. That is, Epiphany is not only a celebration of the past but also a call to shine God’s light in our lives today.

### Ringling of the Bells

### Welcome

### Opening Hymn

Lutheran Service Book #397  
“As with Gladness Men of Old”

1. As with gladness men of old Did the guiding star behold;  
As with joy they hailed its light, Leading on ward, beaming bright;  
So, most gracious Lord, may we Ever-more be led by Thee.
2. As with joyful steps they sped, Savior, to Thy lowly bed,  
There to bend the knee before Thee, whom heav'n and earth adore;  
So may we with willing feet Ever seek Thy mercy seat.
3. As they offered gifts most rare At Thy cradle, rude and bare,  
So may we with holy joy, Pure and free from sin's alloy,  
All our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to Thee, our heav'nly King.
4. 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 Thy glory hide.
5. In the heav'nly country bright Need they no created light;  
Thou its light, its joy, its crown, Thou its sun which goes not down;  
There forever may we sing Alleluias to our King.

## Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

## Confession & Absolution

Based on Isaiah 60:1-6

- P** Arise, shine, for your light has come,
- C** and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

*We take a moment for silent prayer and meditation upon God's Word*

- P** Almighty God, thick darkness covers the whole earth, and the darkness of sin is on us, Your people.
- C** **We confess that we have walked in darkness instead of Your light. In our thoughts, words, and actions, we have turned away from Your face and have broken Your commands.**

**P** You alone, O Lord, invite all nations to come to Your light. You beckon those who are broken to find wholeness in the brightness of Your rising.

**C** **Guide us again to the mercy of our Savior Jesus Christ, that He may dispel the darkness of our sin and renew us in the light of Your presence. Amen.**

**P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen.**

## Introit Psalm

Psalm 45:6-8; *antiphon*: Ps. 45:17

**P** I will perpetuate your memory through all generations;

**C** **therefore the nations will praise you for ever and ever.**

**P** Your throne, O God will last forever and ever;

**C** **a scepter of justice will be the scepter of your kingdom.**

**P** You love righteousness and hate wickedness;

**C** **therefore God, your God, has set you above your companions by anointing you with the oil of joy.**

**P** All your robes are fragrant with myrrh and aloes and cassia;

**C** **from palaces adorned with ivory the music of the strings makes you glad.**

**C** **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

**P** I will perpetuate your memory through all generations;

**C** **therefore the nations will praise you for ever and ever.**

## Kyrie

**P** O Lord, Light of the world, have mercy upon us.

**C** **O Christ, Light of the world, have mercy upon us.**

**P** O Lord, Light of the world, have mercy upon us.

## Hymn of Praise

Lutheran Service Book #412  
“The People That in Darkness Sat”

1. The people that in darkness sat A glorious light have seen;  
The light has shined on them who long  
In shades of death have been, In shades of death have been.
2. To hail Thee, Sun of Righteousness, The gath'ring nations come;  
They joy as when the reapers bear  
Their harvest treasures home, Their harvest treasures home.
3. To us a Child of hope is born, To us a Son is giv'n,  
And on His shoulder ever rests  
All pow'r in earth and heav'n, All pow'r in earth and heav'n.
4. 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.

## Salutation and Prayer of the Day

2 Timothy 4:22

**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 Wise Men of old. Guide us also to Him, the Light of the world, and lead us to respond in worship and praise; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 60:1-6

*"The Lord promises to visit His people as light, attracting other nations to His glory."*

**L** The Old Testament Reading for the Epiphany of our Lord is from Isaiah, chapter 60.

<sup>1</sup> Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. <sup>2</sup>

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.

<sup>3</sup> And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising.

<sup>4</sup> 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.

<sup>5</sup> 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. <sup>6</sup> 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.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Epistle Reading

Ephesians 3:1-12

*“Paul rejoices in his calling to preach to the Gentiles.”*

**L** The Epistle Reading is from Ephesians, chapter three.

<sup>1</sup> For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles— <sup>2</sup> assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for you, <sup>3</sup> how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. <sup>4</sup> When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, <sup>5</sup> 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. <sup>6</sup> 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.

<sup>7</sup> 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. <sup>8</sup> 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, <sup>9</sup> and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God, who created all things, <sup>10</sup> so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. <sup>11</sup> This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, <sup>12</sup> in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Verse

Matthew 2:2b

**P** Alleluia. Where is He who has been born king of the Jews?

**C** For we saw His star when it rose and have come to worship Him. Alleluia.

# Holy Gospel

Matthew 2:1-12

*"The Magi are examples for our lives of faith."*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 2nd chapter.

**C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> 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, <sup>2</sup> 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." <sup>3</sup> When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; <sup>4</sup> and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. <sup>5</sup> They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:

<sup>6</sup> "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."

<sup>7</sup> Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup> 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." <sup>9</sup> 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. <sup>10</sup> When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. <sup>11</sup> 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. <sup>12</sup> 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.**

*8:00 Service*

## The Nicene Creed

*10:30 Service*

# The Apostles Creed

## Message for Children from God's Word

### Hymn of the Day

Sing to the Lord #178

"The First Noel"

1. The first noel the angel did say  
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay—  
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,  
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.  
Noel, noel! Noel, noel! Born is the King of Israel!

2. They looked up and saw a star  
Shining in the east, beyond them far;  
And to the earth it gave great light,  
And so it continued both day and night.  
Noel, noel! Noel, noel! Born is the King of Israel!

3. And by the light of that same star,  
Three wise men came from country far;  
To seek for a king was their intent,  
And to follow the star wherever it went.  
Noel, noel! Noel, noel! Born is the King of Israel!

4. This star drew night to the northwest,  
O'er Bethlehem it took it rest;  
And there it did both stop and stay,  
Right over the place where Jesus lay.  
Noel, noel! Noel, noel! Born is the King of Israel!

5. Then entered in those wise men three,  
Full rev'rently upon their knee,  
And offered there, in His presence,  
Their gold and myrrh and frankincense.  
Noel, noel! Noel, noel! Born is the King of Israel!

6. Then let us all with one accord  
Sing praises to our heav'nly Lord,  
That hath made heav'n and earth of naught,  
And with His blood mankind hath brought.  
Noel, noel! Noel, noel! Born is the King of Israel!

## Sermon

## Offering

*“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.” – Matthew 2:11*

*We encourage you to place your offering in the dropbox in the narthex before service. When the usher brings the offering forward at this time you may also hold it up and place it in the plate as the usher walks by. Please also use this time for prayer and reflection upon what we have heard from the Lord's Word this morning.*

*Stand*

## Prayer of the Church

**P** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

For the peace of the whole world, that wars cease and that people of every nation find lasting, perfect peace in Jesus, the Prince of Peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**C** Lord, let Your light shine upon all nations.

**P** For those who profess faith in Jesus Christ, here at Grace and in every corner of creation, that the journey of the Wise Men inspires us to follow the light of the Gospel and spread the Word of salvation throughout the world, let us pray to the Lord.

**C** Lord, let Your light shine upon Your Church.

**P** For those who lead and guide us in our congregations, schools, universities, and seminaries, that they be strengthened in their service to the Church in honor and praise to Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

**C** Lord, let Your light shine upon Your servants.



## Preface

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also with you.**
- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** **We lift them to the Lord.**
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**



## The Lord's Prayer

### Words of Our Lord

Lutheran Service Book p. 163

### Pax Domini *"The Peace of Our Lord"*

Lutheran Service Book p. 163

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.



### Agnus Dei *"Lamb of God"*

Lutheran Service Book p. 163

Musical notation for Agnus Dei, showing four staves of music with lyrics: 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.

# Distribution Hymn

Lutheran Service Book #395

“O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright”

1. O Morning Star, how fair and bright! You shine with God’s own truth and light,  
Aglow with grace and mercy! Of Jacob’s race, King David’s son,  
Our Lord and master, You have won Our hearts to serve You only!  
Lowly, holy! Great and glorious, All victorious, Rich in blessing!  
Rule and might o’er all possessing!
2. Come, heav’nly Bride-groom, Light divine, And deep within our hearts now shine;  
There light a flame undying! In Your one body let us be  
As living branches of a tree, Your life our lives supplying.  
Now, though daily Earth’s deep sadness May perplex us And distress us,  
Yet with heav’nly joy You bless us.
3. Lord, when You look on us in love, At once there falls from God above  
A ray of purest pleasure. Your Word and Spirit, flesh and blood  
Refresh our souls with heav’nly food. You are our dearest treasure!  
Let Your mercy Warm and cheer us! O draw near us! For You teach us  
God’s own love through You has reached us.
4. Almighty Father, in Your Son You loved us when not yet begun  
Was this old earth’s foundation! Your Son has ransomed us in love  
To live in Him here and above: This is Your great salvation.  
Alleluia! Christ the living, To us giving Life forever,  
Keep us Yours and fails us never!
5. O let the harps break forth in sound! Our joy be all with music crowned,  
Our voices gladly blending! For Christ goes with us all the way—  
Today, tomorrow, ev’ry day! His love is never ending!  
Sing out! Ring out! Jubilation! Exultation! Tell the story!  
Great is He, the King of Glory!
6. What joy to know, when life is past, The Lord we love is first and last,  
The end and the beginning! He will one day, oh, glorious grace,  
Transports us to that happy place Beyond all tears and sinning!  
Amen! Amen! Come, Lord Jesus! Crown of gladness! We are yearning  
For the day of Your returning!

# Distribution Hymn

Lutheran Service Book #399

“The Star Proclaims the King is Here”

1. The star proclaims the King is here; But, Herod, why this senseless fear?  
For, He who offers heav’nly birth Seeks not the kingdoms of this earth.
2. The eastern sages saws from far And followed on His guiding star;  
And, led by light, to light they trod And by their gifts confessed their God.
3. Within the Jordan’s sacred flood The heav’nly Lamb in meekness stood  
That He, of whom no sin was known, Might cleanse His people from their own.
4. And oh, what miracle divine, When water reddened into wine!  
He spoke the word, and forth it flowed In streams that nature ne’er bestowed.
- Δ 5. For this His glad epiphany All glory, Jesus, be to Thee,  
Whom with the Father we adore, And Holy Spirit evermore.

## The Closing Prayer

- P** Thank You, Lord of all creation, for bringing joy into this heartbroken world.  
For the joy of creation, the beauty that points us to You as the Creator of all,  
**C we thank You, Lord.**
- P** For the joy of Your promise to Adam and Eve to send a Savior,  
**C we thank You, Lord.**
- P** For the joy of Your covenant with Abraham and Sarah to bless the world through  
their offspring,  
**C we thank You, Lord.**
- P** For the joy of the wise men who, having followed the star, found their Savior  
bringing Him gifts of worship,  
**C we thank You, Lord.**
- P** For the joy of Jesus, Your Son, who proclaimed, taught, and demonstrated the  
coming Kingdom, and who suffered, died, rose, and ascended,  
**C we thank You. We praise You. We adore You. Amen.**

## Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26

- P** The LORD bless you and keep you.  
The LORD make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you.  
The LORD look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
- C** Amen.

## Announcements

## Closing Hymn

Lutheran Service Book #394  
“Songs of Thankfulness and Praise”

1. Songs of thankfulness and praise, Jesus, Lord, to Thee we raise,  
Manifest by the star To the sages from afar,  
Branch of royal David’s stem In Thy birth at Bethlehem:  
Anthems be to Thee addressed, God in man made manifest.
2. Manifest at Jordan’s stream, Prophet, priest, and King supreme;  
And at Cana wedding guest In Thy Godhead manifest;  
Manifest in pow’r divine, Changing water into wine;  
Anthems be to Thee addressed, God in man made manifest.
3. Manifest in making whole Palsied limbs and fainting soul;  
Manifest in valiant fight, Quelling all the devil’s might;  
Manifest in gracious will, Ever bringing good from ill;  
Anthems be to Thee addressed, God in man made manifest.
4. Sun and moon shall darkened be, Stars shall fall, the heav’ns shall flee;  
Christ will then like lightning shine, All will see His glorious sign;  
All will then the trumpets hear, All will see the Judge appear;  
Thou by all wilt be confessed, God in man made manifest.
5. Grant us grace to see Thee, Lord, Present in Thy holy Word—  
Grace to imitate Thee now And be pure, as pure art Thou;  
That we might become like Thee At Thy great epiphany  
And may praise Thee, ever blest, God in man made manifest.

*This concludes the 8:00 a.m. Service*



# Closing Hymn

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“Songs of Thankfulness and Praise”

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5. Grant us grace to see Thee, Lord, Present in Thy holy Word—  
Grace to imitate Thee now And be pure, as pure art Thou;  
That we might become like Thee At Thy great epiphany  
And may praise Thee, ever blest, God in man made manifest.

*This concludes the 10:30 a.m. Service*