

EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

FOLLOW THE STAR

St. Matthews Church

WHERE COMMUNITY GATHERS AND GROWS

January 7, 2024

Epiphany of Our Lord
Sunday, January 7, 2024
(indicates the assembly stands)*

Gathering

Prelude	<i>"The Coventry Carol"</i>	G. Hatton
Words of Welcome & Service Announcements		
*Hymn 300		<i>"The First Noel"</i>
*Greeting		
*This is the Feast		p. 101
*Prayer of the Day		
Children's Message		
Anthem	<i>"The Three Kings"</i>	P. Cornelius

Word

First Reading		Isaiah 60:1-6
Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14 (see page 4)		(sung responsively by full verse)
Second Reading		Ephesians 3:1-12
*Gospel Acclamation		p. 102
*Gospel Reading		Matthew 2:1-12
*Hymn of the Day WOV 646		<i>"We Three Kings"</i>
Sermon		
*Nicene Creed		p. 104
*Prayers of Intercession		A: Your mercy is great.
*Peace		

Meal

*Offering Hymn 296 v. 3	<i>“What Child is This”</i>
*Offering Prayer	
*Great Thanksgiving	p. 107
*Holy, Holy, Holy	p. 108
*Thanksgiving at the Table	
*Lord’s Prayer (<i>Our Father, who art in heaven...</i>)	p. 112
Lamb of God	
Communion Hymn 301	<i>“Bright and Glorious in the Sky”</i>

Sending

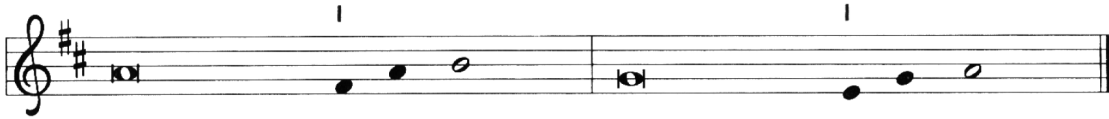
General Announcements	
*Blessing	
*Hymn 302	<i>“As With Gladness Men of Old”</i>
*Dismissal	A: Thanks be to God.
Postlude	<i>“As With Gladness”</i> W. Wold

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The feast of Epiphany (“manifestation”) concludes the Christmas season with a celebration of God’s glory revealed in the person of Jesus Christ. In Isaiah and Ephesians, that glory is proclaimed for all nations and people. Like the light of the star that guided the magi to Jesus, the light of Christ reveals who we are: children of God who are claimed and washed in the waters of baptism. We are sent out to be beacons of the light of Christ, sharing the good news of God’s love to all people.

Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14

Tone 1



1 Give the king your jus- | tice, O God,
and your righteousness to | the king's son;

2 that he may rule your | people righteously
and the | poor with justice;

3 that the mountains may bring prosperity | to the people,
and the | hills, in righteousness.

4 Let him defend the needy a- | mong the people,
rescue the poor, and crush | the oppressor.

5 May he live as long as the sun and | moon endure,
from one generation | to another.

6 Let him come down like rain upon | the mown field,
like showers that wa- | ter the earth.

7 In his time may the | righteous flourish;
and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall | be no more.

10 May the kings of Tarshish and of the | isles pay tribute,
and the kings of Sheba and Seba | offer gifts.

11 May all kings bow | down before him,
and all the nations | do him service.

12 For the king delivers the poor who cry out | in distress,
the oppressed, and those who | have no helper.

13 He has compassion on the low- | ly and poor,
and preserves the lives | of the needy.

14 From oppression and violence he re- | deems their lives,
and precious is their blood | in his sight.

Leading Worship Today

Minister: Rev. Carey Meadows-Helmer

Assisting Minister: Linda McLellan

Diaconal Minister of Music: Deacon Scott Knarr

Lector: John Heil

Communion Server: Grace Schuester

Choral Scholar: John Waterfield

Broadcast: Gary Pootz

Building Monitor: Ron Roeder (519-895-6833)

Worship Notes

In our prayers Jeanette, Meaghan, Henry, Marie, Grace, Maureen and John.

Sunday School: The kids are meeting today in Scout Hall for story, music and craft with Pr. Sebastian and Karen.

General Announcements

The 2024 Offering Envelope Boxes are available for pickup at the church office.

Betty Bowman would like to invite everyone down this Sunday for cake and coffee to celebrate her 92nd birthday!!!

Church Fire Plan For everyone's awareness, a copy of the Church Fire Plan for safe exit from the Sanctuary appears in the back of the worship books. Please take a moment to review for your own safety.

Important Information for today's worship

- **Offering:** Please place your offering in one of the offering plates in the Narthex (entranceway) upon entering. The offering plates will be presented at the High Altar during the service.
- **The Peace:** We support people's choices for passing of the peace.
- **Exiting:** At the end of the service, please remain in place until the end of the postlude.
- **Please join us for Fellowship Time** after worship in the Lower Level Hall. Use any of the staircases (Narthex, west stair tower, parking lot tower) to go down.
- **Lower Level Sanctuary Washrooms** can be accessed via any of the staircases. There is one wheelchair accessible washroom, and the rest are all-gender washrooms. A further all-gender washroom is also available via the west stair tower door (front left of the Sanctuary) on the same level. Turn right at the hallway.

Contact Information

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Space for your notes on today's service, for your personal reflection.



St. Matthews Lutheran Church

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