

HOLY COMMUNION
JANUARY 19, 2025
SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY
SANCTITY OF HUMAN LIFE SUNDAY

WE GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

PRELUDE AND PREPARATION *During the prelude, prepare your heart for worship: read the introduction, peruse the bulletin, find the scripture readings in the pew Bible, and focus your thoughts on the Lord. You may use this prayer: **Direct and control us, O Lord, always and everywhere with heavenly light; that we may both discern with clear vision and share with worthy effect the Mystery which You have willed us to partake; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

CHILDREN *We welcome children of all ages. The Children's Library is available if a child needs a break during the service.*

INTRODUCTION *The Sundays after Epiphany continue to celebrate the revelation of the glory of God to us as it was made known to the magi and to those on Jordan's banks at the baptism of Jesus. Using wedding imagery, God rejoices over His people "as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride." By the power of the Spirit there are gifts galore for everyone. In Christ Jesus the best wine is saved for last: taste and see!*



COMMEMORATION *Henry, missionary to Finland, martyr, 1156. Henry, an Englishman, became bishop of Uppsala, Sweden, in 1152, and is regarded as the patron saint of Finland. He traveled to there with the king of Sweden on a mission trip and remained to organize the church. He was murdered by a man whom he had rebuked and who was disciplined by the church. Henry's burial place became a center of pilgrimage. His popularity as a saint is strong in both Sweden and Finland. During Epiphany we celebrate the light of Christ revealed to the nations, and martyrs such as Henry continue to reveal that light through their witness to faith.*

WELCOME AND MEDITATION

1 Come, Thou Fount of ev - ery bless - ing, Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
 2 Here I raise my Eb - e - ne - zer; Hith - er by Thy help I'm come.
 3 O to grace how great a debt - or Dai - ly I'm con - strained to be!

1 Streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, Call for songs of loud - est praise.
 2 And I hope, by Thy good pleas - ure, Safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
 3 Let Thy good - ness, like a fet - ter, Bind my wan - d'ring heart to Thee:

1 Teach me some me - lo - dious son - net, Sung by flam - ing tongues a - bove;
 2 Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, Wan - dering from the fold of God.
 3 Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it, Prone to leave the God I love:

1 Praise the mount! I'm fixed up - on it, Mount of Thy re - deem - ing love.
 2 He, to res - cue me from dan - ger, In - ter - posed His pre - cious blood.
 3 Here's my heart, O take and seal it, Seal it for Thy courts a - bove.

GATHERING HYMN *(Please rise.)*

“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing” (Maj # 30 - favorite)

INVOCATION *(= All may make the sign of the cross.)*

P: In the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

C: AMEN.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: As God’s beloved children, let us call to mind our sin and our need for reconciliation with God and one another.

(Please kneel. Silence is kept for reflection.)

P: Strong and faithful God, **C: We confess that we have not lived as Your holy people in the world. We have closed our hearts to Your love. We have resisted Your light. We have failed to proclaim Your mercy. Forgive what we have done and what we have left undone, heal us with Your abundant grace, and help us walk as children of the Light. AMEN.**

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: AMEN.

GREETING *(Please rise.)*

P: Arise, shine; for your light has come. The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God, and the Communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

WE PRAISE GOD’S NAME

HYMN OF PRAISE *“Glory to God” (WOV p 29)*



Refrain
☐ Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



I Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we



wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. *Refrain*



II Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,



Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the



right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer. *Refrain*



III For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Final refrain

Glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;
 glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth,
 and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: The Lord be with you. C: And also with you.

L: Let us pray together: **Lord God, source of every blessing, You showed forth Your glory and led many to faith by the works of Your Son, Who brought gladness and salvation to His people. Transform us by the Spirit of His love, that we may find our life together in Him, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. AMEN.**

RESPONSIVE READING...Psalm 36 (*congregation: indented*)

An oracle is within my heart

concerning the sinfulness of the wicked:

There is no fear of God before his eyes.

For in his own eyes he flatters himself too much to detect or hate his sin.

The words of his mouth are wicked and deceitful; he has ceased to be wise and to do good.

Even on his bed he plots evil; he commits himself to a sinful course

and does not reject what is wrong.

Your love, O LORD, reaches to the heavens,

Your faithfulness to the skies.

Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains,

Your justice like the great deep.

O LORD, You preserve both man and beast.

How priceless is Your unfailing love!

Both high and low among men

find refuge in the shadow of Your wings.

They feast on the abundance of Your house;

You give them drink from Your river of delights.

For with You is the fountain of life;

in Your light we see light.

Continue Your love to those who know You,

Your righteousness to the upright in heart.

May the foot of the proud not come against me,

nor the hand of the wicked drive me away.

See how the evildoers lie fallen—

thrown down, not able to rise!

HYMN OF PRAISE *(Please sit.)*

“O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright” (LBW # 76 verses 1-3)

1 O Morn - ing Star, how fair and bright! You shine with God's
2 Come, heav'n - ly Bride - groom, light di - vine, and deep with - in
3 Lord, when you look on us in love, at once there falls
own truth and light, a - glow with grace and mer - cy!
our hearts now shine; there light a flame un - dy - ing!
from God a - bove a ray of pur - est plea - sure.
Of Ja - cob's race, King Da - vid's Son, our Lord and mas -
In your one bod - y let us be as liv - ing branch -
Your word and Spir - it, flesh and blood re - fresh our souls
ter, you have won our hearts to serve you on - ly!
es of a tree, your life our lives sup - ply - ing.
with heav'n - ly food. You are our dear - est trea - sure!
Low - ly, ho - ly! Great and glo - rious, all vic - to - rious, rich in
Now, though dai - ly earth's deep sad - ness may per - plex us and dis -
Let your mer - cy warm and cheer us! Oh, draw near us! for you
bless - ing! Rule and might o'er all pos - sess - ing!
tress us, yet with heav'n - ly joy you bless us.
teach us God's own love through you has reached us.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

FIRST READINGIsaiah 62:1-12 p. 1159


P: Word of God, Word of Life. **C: Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING....1 Corinthians 12:1-11..... p. 1785


P: Word of God, Word of Life. **C: Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (*Please rise.*)

“Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness” verse 2 (ELW # 488)




2 Has - ten as a bride to meet him, ea - ger - ly and glad - ly greet him.
4 Je - sus, source of last - ing plea - sure, tru - est friend, and dear - est trea - sure,



There he stands al - read - y knock - ing; quick - ly, now, your gate un - lock - ing,
peace be - yond all un - der - stand - ing, joy in - to all life ex - pand - ing:



o - pen wide the fast - closed por - tal, say - ing to the Lord im - mor - tal:
hum - bly now, I bow be - fore you, love in - car - nate, I a - dore you;



“Come, and leave your loved one nev - er; dwell with - in my heart for - ev - er.”
wor - thi - ly let me re - ceive you, and, so fa - vored, nev - er leave you.

Text: Johann Franck, 1618–1677; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*, 1978 Music: SCHMÜCKE DICH, Johann Crüger, 1598–1662

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 2nd Chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

GOSPELJohn 2:1-12 p. 1648

P: The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to You, O Christ.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *“Soul, Adorn Yourself” verse 4*

(Young children may go to Children’s Church)

SERMON (*Please sit. See outline in Announcements insert.*)

“Jesus’ Secret Revelation”

WE RESPOND IN FAITH

HYMN OF THE DAY *(Please rise.)*

“Jesus, Come! For We Invite You” (ELW # 312 alt tune)

1 Je - sus, come, for we in - vite you, guest and mas - ter,
2 Je - sus, come! trans - form our pleas - ures, guide us in - to
3 Je - sus, come in new cre - a - tion, heaven brought near by
4 Je - sus, come! sur - prise our dull - ness; make us will - ing

friend and Lord; now, as once at Ca - na's wed - ding,
paths un - known; bring your gifts, com - mand your ser - vants,
power di - vine; give your un - ex - pect - ed glo - ry,
to re - ceive more than we can yet im - ag - ine,

speak, and let us hear your word: lead us through our
let us trust in you a - lone: though your hand may
chang - ing wa - ter in - to wine: rouse the faith of
all the best you have to give: let us find your

need or doubt - ing, hope be born and joy re - stored.
work in se - cret, all shall see what you have done.
your dis - ci - ples— come, our first and great - est Sign!
hid - den rich - es, taste your love, be - lieve, and live!

WORDS: Christopher Idle (1938-)
MUSIC: Sicilian melody, 18th c.

SICILIAN MARINERS
8.7.8.7.8.7.

A LITANY FOR LIFE *(Please kneel.)*

P: O God, in Whom we live and move and have our being:

C: Have mercy on us.

L: O God, You are the author of life:

C: Grant that all may respect the sanctity of the gift of life

P: O God, Your gift is not diminished by change or circumstance:

C: Help all people to see the value of human life and that we are all equal before You.

L: O Giver of Life, in mercy grant repentance to those who wrest life from the womb:

C: Father, for the sake of Christ, forgive them, for they know not fully what they do.

P: Father, to those who are troubled by a haunting sense of guilt:

C: Bring them the freeing, healing love of Christ.

L: Father, You have freed us from a life of death and despair:

C: By the power of Christ's resurrection help us to live a life of faith and love.

P: Compassionate Christ, grant all a sincere concern for the unborn, the developmentally disabled, the aged and all the vulnerable in need of love and protection:

C: May we love them as You do.

L: Gracious Father, turn the hearts of all people to You and to respect for the wondrous mystery that is the gift of life. May hearts and minds be changed by the words and deeds of Lutherans for Life and Pro-life marchers across the nation.

C: Help us to see that there are no men or women, none old or young, none healthy or incapacitated that You do not sustain and whom we should not protect.

P: Take away callousness, impatience, greed, and indifference from our people that the church may unite with all people of noble mind to care for those who experience life as a burden, to work for justice that all life may be protected by civil government, and to pray for mercy in the face of all the lives that have been lost. Use Bright Hope Pregnancy Support Centers to rescue many lives.

C: Compassionate Christ, grant that we may all be channels of Your saving, seeking love. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

(Response: L: Lord, in Your mercy, C: hear our prayer.)

OFFERING *We no longer pass the plate, but your offerings are needed more than ever. The plate is located at the back of the center aisle. Please place your offering and your Communication Card there as you come in or go out. Thank You!*

WE COMMUNE WITH CHRIST

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING *(Please rise.)*

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 our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to You, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. Sharing our life, He lived among us to reveal Your glory and love, that our darkness should give way to His own brilliant light. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise Your name and join their unending hymn: *(WOV p 36)*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the
high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

PRAYER AND WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: Blessed are You, O holy God: You are the Life and Light of all. By Your powerful Word You created all things. Through the prophets You called Your people to be a light to the nations. You sent the Living Word, Jesus, Your Son. He is Your Light, shining in our darkness and revealing to us Your mercy and might.

In the night in which He was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to His disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is My body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of Me.

Again, after supper, He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in My blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of Me.

Remembering, therefore, His preaching and healing, His dying and rising, and His promise to come again, we await that day when all the universe will rejoice in Your holy and life-giving light. By Your Spirit bless us and this meal, that, refreshed with this heavenly food, we may be light for the world, revealing the brilliance of Your Son. Through Him all glory and honor is Yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in Your holy Church, both now and forever. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(sung)*

Our Father, Who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. AMEN.

COMMUNION *(Please be seated)*

All who are baptized and trust in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior may partake. Please fill out a communication card and put it in the offering plate. Gluten-free rice wafers (blue-green) are available. Grape juice (white) is in pre-filled glasses. Those not ready to receive communion may come for a blessing.

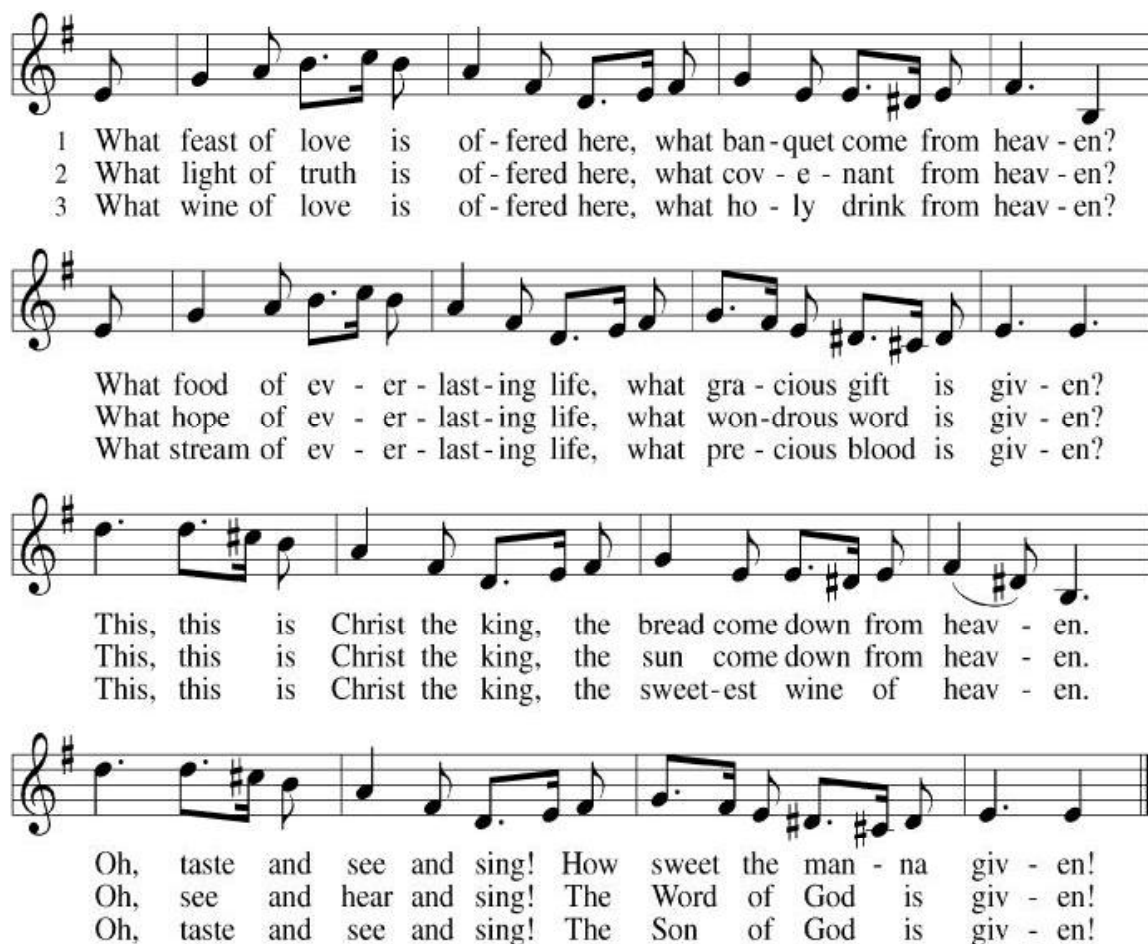
LAMB OF GOD *(WOV p 39)*



♩ 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, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMNS *(sung while others are receiving.)*

1. "What Feast of Love" *(ELW # 487 - Text: Delores Dufner)*



1 What feast of love is of-fered here, what ban-quet come from heav-en?
2 What light of truth is of-fered here, what cov-e-nant from heav-en?
3 What wine of love is of-fered here, what ho-ly drink from heav-en?

What food of ev-er-last-ing life, what gra-cious gift is giv-en?
What hope of ev-er-last-ing life, what won-drous word is giv-en?
What stream of ev-er-last-ing life, what pre-cious blood is giv-en?

This, this is Christ the king, the bread come down from heav-en.
This, this is Christ the king, the sun come down from heav-en.
This, this is Christ the king, the sweet-est wine of heav-en.

Oh, taste and see and sing! How sweet the man-na giv-en!
Oh, see and hear and sing! The Word of God is giv-en!
Oh, taste and see and sing! The Son of God is giv-en!

2. “Bind us Together” (WOV # 748 - favorite - Bob Gillman)

Refrain

Bind us to - geth - er, Lord, bind us to - geth - er with cords that
 can - not be bro - ken. Bind us to - geth - er, Lord,
 bind us to - geth - er, Lord; bind us to - geth - er in love.

1 There is on - ly one God. There is on - ly one King.
 2 You are the fam - ly of God. You are the prom - ise di - vine.

Refrain

There is on - ly one Bod - y; that is why we can sing.
 You are God's cho - sen de - sire, . . you are the glo - rious new wine.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER *(Please rise.)*

L: Let us pray together: **We thank You, O God, that You have fed us at Your banqueting table with bread and wine beyond compare, the very life of Christ for us. Send Your Spirit with us now, that we may set the captive free, use Your gifts to build one another up, and in everything reflect Your glory revealed in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. AMEN.**

BLESSING

P: Light and peace are yours through Jesus Christ. Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven. Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C: AMEN.

1 Great is thy faith-ful-ness, O God my Fa-ther; there is no
 2 Sum-mer and win-ter and spring-time and har-vest, sun, moon, and
 3 Par-don for sin and a peace that en-dur-eth, thine own dear

shad-ow of turn-ing with thee; thou chang-est not, thy com-
 stars in their cours-es a-bove join with all na-ture in
 pres-ence to cheer and to guide; strength for to-day and bright

pas-sions, they fail not; as thou hast been, thou for-ev-er wilt be.
 man-i-fold wit-ness to thy great faith-ful-ness, mer-cy, and love.
 hope for to-mor-row, bless-ings all mine, with ten thou-sand be-side!

Refrain

Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Morn-ing by

morn-ing new mer-cies I see; all I have need-ed thy

hand hath pro-vid-ed; great is thy faith-ful-ness, Lord, un-to me.

Text: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1866–1960 Music: FAITHFULNESS, William M. Runyan, 1870–1957

SENDING HYMN “*Great Is Thy Faithfulness*”
(Maj # 519 - favorite)

PASSING THE PEACE

L: As we leave to serve the Risen Lord in the power of His Spirit,
let us share with one another some of the blessings of peace we
have received. The peace of the Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

POSTLUDE

FELLOWSHIP AND REFRESHMENTS

*Everyone is invited to remain for fellowship and refreshments.
Snacks, coffee and hot water are available in the Gathering Place.
You can brew your own coffee/tea using the Keurig® in the Parlor.*

ALTAR FLOWERS AND BULLETINS ARE SPONSORED BY:

Holy Cross, to the glory of God

Life Quote for a New Year

www.lutheransforlife.org/media/life-quotes

“The first truth of life is that every life is the handiwork of God. The Psalmist says that God ‘knitted’ (*Psalm 139:13 ESV*) each of us together in our mother’s womb. Job and Isaiah talk about God shaping and forming us in the womb. Yes, the truth of life is, every life is the work of God’s hands.” *Rev. Dr. James I. Lamb, former executive director of Lutherans For Life*

JANUARY 19, 2025

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

SERVANTS OF THE LORD TODAY:

GREETER: 8:30-Pat Gilbert | 10:45-Irene Graham

SOUND: 8:30-Josh Miller | 10:45-Ken Yoxheimer

LIVESTREAM: 8:30-Jan Stryker

SONG LEADER: 8:30-Emma Fliszar | 10:45-**Volunteer needed**

LITURGIST: 8:30-Patty Stein | 10:45-Lyn Stryker

LECTOR: 8:30-Kathy Ballek | 10:45-Jim Femister

CHILDREN'S CHURCH: Ruthann Kistler

USHER: 8:30-Jan Stryker | 10:45-Irene Graham

COMMUNION: 8:30-Patty Stein | 10:45-Lyn Stryker

ALTAR GUILD: Jan Stryker & **Volunteer needed**

COUNTERS: Jan Stryker, Karen Brown

SEXTON: **Volunteers needed**

PHONETREE: Jim Femister

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH: Mike Zyskowski

PRAYER CARE: Pat Gilbert (610-867-7759)

Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church



a congregation of the
NORTH AMERICAN
LUTHERAN
CHURCH



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CHURCH STAFF

Rev. David L. Brown, *Pastor* † Ruthann Kistler, *Christian Ed. Dir.*

Nancy Cook, *Music Director* † Karen Brown, *Secretary*

Volunteers Needed, *Sexton* † Karen Steiner, *Pre-school*

Lisa Wechsler, *Bookkeeper* † Jim Femister, *Webmaster*

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Worship - 8:30 AM & 10:45 AM † Sunday School - 9:45 AM

(*Holy Communion 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays & Major Feasts*)

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