



Epiphany

WORSHIP NOTES

How Lovely Shines the Morning Star

One of the very finest hymns ever written is “How Lovely Shines the Morning Star,” Pastor Philip Nicolai’s masterpiece.

Philip Nicolai graduated in 1594 from the University of Wittenberg with a Doctorate Degree in Theology. He served as a Lutheran pastor in congregations in Germany. But, he is most remembered as a hymn writer. He was the author of two famous hymns: “Awake, Awake, the Night is Flying” and “How Lovely Shines the Morning Star.” These are sometimes referred to as the King and Queen of Chorales, respectively. These two chorales have inspired many composers, including Johann Sebastian Bach, who based two of his chorale cantatas on Nicolai’s hymns.

The tune for “How Lovely Shines the Morning Star” is such a masterpiece that this is written about it: “So popular did it soon become, that its tune was often chimed by city chimes, lines and verses from it were printed by way of ornament on the common earthenware of the country, and it was invariably used at weddings and certain festivals.”

The hymn originally was in seven ten-line stanzas and bore the title “A spiritual bridal song of the believing soul concerning Jesus Christ, her heavenly bridegroom, founded on the 45th Psalm of the prophet David.” Jesus says in Revelation 22:16 that He is the fulfillment of this heavenly bridegroom and the morning star: “I, Jesus, have sent my angel to give you this testimony for the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, and the bright Morning Star.”

Communion

In today’s service, we will be celebrating the sacrament of Holy Communion. This meal is also known as the Lord’s Supper because Jesus’ body and blood are really present and have a common-union with the bread and wine, and it is a gift from God to you for the forgiveness of your sins. Everyone who eats and drinks this is also united to God and each other. This is truly a wonderful thing! Yet God tells us that this meal (like a doctor’s prescription) is not for everyone: If taken incorrectly or in an “unworthy manner” (1 Corinthians 11:27) it can actually do harm! God wants those who participate to have a thorough understanding of what communion is.

Therefore, in Christian love, at Zion Lutheran Church we ask that only members and those individuals who have shared with the pastor their intention of receiving the Lord’s Supper today come forward when the sacrament is distributed. Thank you for respecting our beliefs.

Since God wants Christians to “examine themselves” (1 Cor. 11:28) before receiving this Sacrament, a guide for personal preparation can be found on page 156 in your pew hymnals.

ZION EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH, MONROE, MI

(Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod)

IN JESUS' NAME WE WELCOME YOU!

Epiphany of Our Lord

January 5, 2025

WELCOME TO ZION. It is our hope and prayer that the message you hear today from God's Word will strengthen your faith and fill your heart with the peace only God can give and the joy we have in believing that JESUS CHRIST is our Savior from sin.

Worship Focus: Jesus is revealed as the Christ, the Anointed One of God.

This is the First Sunday in the season of Epiphany. The readings during the Epiphany season carry forward the emphasis in the readings for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, the theme of Jesus revealing himself to us as God and Savior. In Christmas and Epiphany our attention is on getting to know Jesus, who he is and how he works; thus there is not so much emphasis on our response beyond the response of faith, which itself is always seen as his work and not ours.

LITURGY: Common Service

CW pg. 15

OUR FAMILY AT WORSHIP

BATHROOMS are located in the back of church, just down the hall toward the school. Please ask an usher for help finding them.

HEARING ASSISTANCE EQUIPMENT is available as part of our sound system. Individual hand-held units are available. Please check with an usher if you would like a unit for today's worship service.

VISITORS are asked to please sign our fellowship registry in the back of church so that we will have a record of your visit. Thank you for joining us today!

For most of you, putting on perfume, cologne, or aftershave before coming to church is just routine. But for a growing number of us in the congregation, those smells will lead to nausea, headaches, shortness of breath, and migraines. We are asking if you could please re-evaluate your use of fragrances before you come to church, especially during the winter months when the enclosed heated space will magnify the effects of the fragrances. If you could wait until you get home from church to spritz on the smells, it would be greatly appreciated!

EPIPHANY

79 How Lovely Shines the Morning Star



1 How love - ly shines the Morn - ing Star! The na - tions see and
 2 O high - est joy by mor - tals won, True Son of God and
 3 O might - y Fa - ther, in your Son You loved me ere you
 4 Oh, joy to know that you, my Friend, Are Lord, be - gin - ning
 5 Lift up the voice and strike the string, Let all glad sounds of



hail a - far The light in Ju - dah shin - ing,
 Mar - y's Son, The high - born King of a - ges!
 had be - gun This an - cient world's foun - da - tion.
 with - out end, The first and last, e - ter - nal!
 mu - sic ring In God's high prais - es blend - ed.



O Da - vid's Son of Ja - cob's race, My Bride - groom
 In your blest bod - y let me be, E'en as the
 Your Son has made a friend of me, And when in
 And you at length— O glo - rious grace— Will take me
 Christ will be with me all the way, To - day, to -



and my King of grace, For you my heart is pin - ing,
 branch is in the tree, Your life my life sup - ply - ing.
 spir - it him I see, I joy in trib - u - la - tion.
 to that ho - ly place, The home of joys su - per - nal.
 mor - row, ev - 'ry day Till trav - 'ling days are end - ed.



Low - ly, Ho - ly, Great and glo - rious, O vic - to - rious
 Sigh - ing, Cry - ing For the sa - vor Of your fa - vor
 What bliss Is this! He is liv - ing, To me giv - ing
 A - men, A - men! Come and meet me, Quick - ly greet me!
 Sing out, Ring out Tri - umph glo - rious, O vic - to - rious



Prince of gra - ces, Fill - ing all the heav'n - ly pla - ces.
 Rest - ing nev - er Till I rest in you for - ev - er.
 Life for - ev - er; Noth - ing me from him can sev - er.
 With deep yearn - ing, Lord, I look for your re - turn - ing.
 Chos - en na - tion; Praise the God of your sal - va - tion.

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

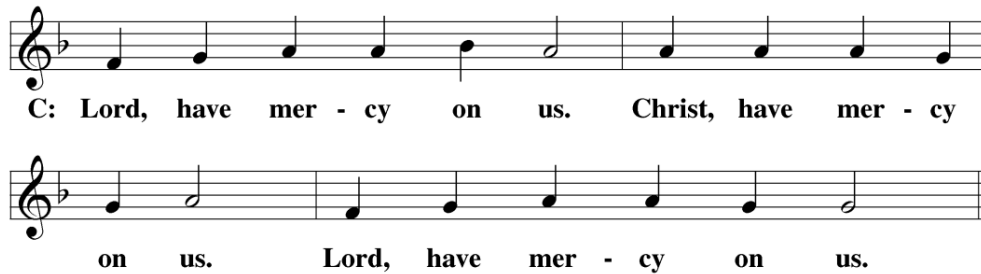


CONFESSION OF SINS

P: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Lord, Have Mercy



P: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (✠) and of the Holy Spirit.



PRAYER AND PRAISE

P: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.



C: Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.



We praise you, we bless you, we wor-ship you, we glorify you,



we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,



God the Fa-ther al - mighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;



O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the



sin of the world; have mercy on us. You take away the



sin of the world; re - ceive our prayer. You sit at the right hand of



God the Father; have mercy on us. For you on-ly are holy;



you on - ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Spirit,



are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.



C: And al - so with you.

P: Let us pray.

P: 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 Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

Be Seated

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON:

Isaiah 60:1-6

60 Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD is dawning upon you. ² Look, darkness covers the earth, and deep darkness covers the peoples, but the LORD will dawn upon you, and his glory will be seen over you. ³ Nations will walk to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. ⁴ Look up. Look all around and see! All of them have been gathered. They are coming to you. Your sons will come from far away, and people will carry your daughters on their side. ⁵ Then you will look and be radiant. Your heart will race with excitement and burst with joy. For great riches from the sea will be delivered to you. The wealth of the nations will come to you. ⁶ Caravans of camels will cover your land, young camels from Midian and Ephah. All those from Sheba will come. They will carry gold and incense, and they will announce the good news of the praise of the LORD. (EHV)

Refrain

Let the peo - ple praise you, O God.



Let all the peo - ple praise you.

Psalm tone

Endow the King with your justice, O God,*
the royal Son with your righteousness.

He will defend the afflicted among the people*
and save the children of the needy.

He will endure as long as the sun,*
as long as the moon, through all generations.

He will be like rain falling on a mown field,*
like showers watering the earth.

Refrain

All kings will bow down to him,*
and all nations will serve him.

All nations will be blessed through him,*
and they will call him blessed.

Praise be to the LORD God, who alone does marvelous deeds.*
May the whole earth be filled with his glory.

**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.**

Refrain

THE SECOND LESSON:

Ephesians 3:2-12

² Surely you have heard of the administration of God's grace given to me for you, ³ namely, that the mystery was made known to me by revelation (as I have already written briefly). ⁴ When you read this, you will be able to understand my insight into the mystery of Christ. ⁵ This mystery was not made known to people in past generations as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to his holy apostles and prophets. ⁶ This mystery is that in Christ Jesus the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and people who also share in the promise through the gospel. ⁷ I became a servant of this gospel, in keeping with the gift of God's grace that was given to me by the working of his power. ⁸ To me—even though I am the very least of all the saints—was given this grace: to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ ⁹ and to enlighten everyone about the administration of this mystery. In past ages this mystery remained hidden in God, who created all things. ¹⁰ He did this so that, through the church, the multifaceted wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹ This was done according to the eternal purpose that he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord. ¹² In him we can freely approach God with confidence through faith in him. (EHV)

VERSE OF THE DAY:

Alleluia. We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him. Alleluia. (Matthew 2:2b)



GOSPEL



Matthew 2:1-12

² After Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, when Herod was king, Wise Men from the east came to Jerusalem. They asked, ² “Where is he who has been born King of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.” ³ When King Herod heard this, he was alarmed, and all Jerusalem with him. ⁴ He gathered together all the people's chief priests and experts in the law. He asked them where the Christ was to be born. ⁵ They said to him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, because this was written through the prophet: ⁶ You, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are certainly not least among the rulers of Judah: because out of you will come a ruler, who will shepherd my people, Israel.” ⁷ Then Herod secretly summoned the Wise Men and found out from them exactly when the star had appeared. ⁸ He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the child. When you find him, report to me, so that I may also go and worship him.” ⁹ After listening to the king, they went on their way. Then the star they had seen when it rose^[L] went ahead of them, until it stood still over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they rejoiced with overwhelming joy. ¹¹ After they went into the

house and saw the child with Mary, his mother, they bowed down and worshipped him. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts: gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹² Since they had been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they went back to their own country by another route.



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.

**For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,
and became fully human.**

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

We believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,

who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Hail to the Lord's Anointed



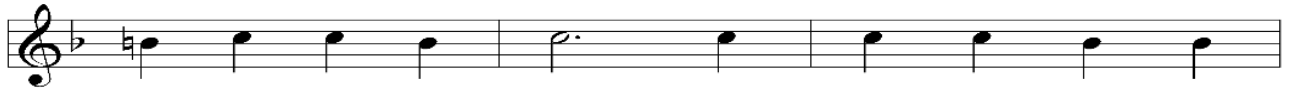
1 Hail to the Lord's A - noint - ed, Great Da - vid's great - er
 2 He comes with res - cue speed - y To those who suf - fer
 3 Kings shall bow down be - fore him And gold and in - cense
 4 O'er ev - 'ry foe vic - to - rious, He on his throne shall



Son! Hail, in the time ap - point - ed, His reign on
 wrong, To help the poor and need - y And bid the
 bring; All na - tions shall a - dore him; His praise all
 rest, From age to age more glo - rious, All bless - ing



earth be - gun! He comes to break op - pres - sion, To
 weak be strong, To give them songs for sigh - ing, Their
 peo - ple sing. To him shall prayer un - ceas - ing And
 and all - blest. The tide of time shall nev - er His



set the cap - tive free, To take a - way trans -
 dark - ness turn to light Whose souls, con - demned and
 dai - ly vows as - cend, His king - dom still in -
 cov - e - nant re - move; His name shall stand for -



gres - sion, And rule in eq - ui - ty.
 dy - ing, Are pre - cious in his sight.
 creas - ing, A king - dom with - out end.
 ev - er— That name to us is Love.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, abr., alt.

Tune: FREUT EUCH, IHR LIEBEN CHRISTEN (76 76 D) Leonhart Schröter, c. 1532–c. 1601.

SERMON TEXT AND THEME: based on Luke 2:1-12

2 In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first census taken while Quirinius was governing Syria. ³And everyone went to register, each to his own town. ⁴And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the town of Nazareth, into Judea, to the town of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was from the house and family line of David. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, his wife, who was pledged to him in marriage and was expecting a child. ⁶And so it was that while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son, wrapped him in swaddling cloths, and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn. ⁸There were in the same country shepherds staying out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock at night. ⁹An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified! ¹⁰But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. For behold, I bring you good news of great joy, which will be for all people: ¹¹Today in the town of David,

a Savior was born for you. He is Christ the Lord. ¹² And this will be a sign for you: You will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.”

We Know Jesus By the Light of His Word

INSTALLATION OF CHURCH OFFICERS: Jake Burke, Vice-president; Joe Schmeling, Financial Secretary; Bari Waltz, Elder Chairman; Keith McBee, Trustees Chairman, Erich Freiny, Stewardship Chairman and Jeff Grubb, Recording Secretary.

OFFERING: *The collection of the offering in the service is an opportunity for the members of Zion to give back to God a small portion of what he has given us in order to support the Gospel ministry of Zion Lutheran Church and School and of the WELS throughout the world. If you are a visitor today, while we appreciate an offering from you, please do not feel obligated to give.*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God and Mary’s son, in the fullness of time you came into our world to save us from sin and death:

C: You ushered in the day of grace so long foretold.

P: Beloved Son of the Father, revered by the Magi, baptized by John, you came preaching and teaching, healing and comforting, forgiving and encouraging:

C: You brought the light of life to those walking in darkness, and the joy of salvation to those doomed to death.

P: Prince of Peace, shine like a beacon for us and the people of our world. Let the good news of salvation be heard in the remotest corners of the earth. Open our own lips to speak your name to those around us who still live without faith or hope:

C: Arouse us and our missionaries to flood the world with the light of your gospel.

P: Lord of the Church, let your peace rule our hearts that we may use our gifts to serve you and each other in willing gratitude and joy. Watch over our loved ones near and far, that they may remember your love and rejoice in your salvation. Strengthen the faith of the sick and the disheartened. Give hope to those in despair and comfort those who mourn:

C: Be gracious to all and lead us to reflect your love in everything we say and do.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

P: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

M: Finally, bring us and all your believers to the heavenly home where we will stand in the full light of your glory and with all your saints and angels sing the everlasting song of triumph.

C: Amen.

Lord's Prayer

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.

THE SACRAMENT

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.



C: A - men.

O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD

Agnus Dei

C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,
you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
grant us your peace. A - men.

BE SEATED

DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS: CW 310
CW 85

“I Come, O Savior; to Your Table”
“O God from God, O Light from Light”

HOLY COMMUNION

310 I Come, O Savior, to Your Table



1 I come, O Sav - ior, to your ta - ble, For weak and
2 Oh, grant that I in man - ner wor - thy May now trust
3 Un - wor - thy though I am, O Sav - ior, Be - cause I
4 Oh, let me loathe all sin for - ev - er As death and
5 Your heart is filled with fer - vent yearn - ing That sin - ners



wea - ry is my soul; O Je - sus, you a - lone are
sole - ly in your Word, And, con - scious of the sins be -
have a sin - ful heart, Yet you your lamb will ban - ish
poi - son to my soul, That I through will - ful sin - ning
may sal - va - tion see Who, Lord, to you in faith are



Refrain
a - ble To sat - is - fy and make me whole.
fore me, Look on - ly un - to you, O Lord.
nev - er, Nor will your faith - ful - ness de - part. Lord, may your
nev - er May see your judg - ment take its toll!
turn - ing; So let me, too, come trust - ing - ly.



bod - y and your blood Be for my soul the high - est good!

- | | |
|--|---|
| 6 Weary am I and heavy laden;
With sin my soul is sore oppressed.
Receive me graciously and gladden
My heart, for I am now your guest.
<i>Refrain</i> | 11 Your body, giv'n for me, O Savior,
Your blood, which you for me have shed—
These are my life and strength forever;
By them my hungry soul is fed.
<i>Refrain</i> |
| 7 You here will find a heart most lowly
That feels unworthy in your sight,
That duly weeps o'er sin, yet solely
Your merit pleads, as it is right.
<i>Refrain</i> | 12 With you, Lord, I am now united;
I live in you and you in me.
No sorrow fills my soul; delighted,
It finds its peace on Calvary.
<i>Refrain</i> |
| 8 By faith I call your holy table
The testament of your deep love,
For by your gift I now am able
To know the heart of God above.
<i>Refrain</i> | 13 Who can condemn me now? For surely
The Lord is near, who justifies.
No hell I fear, and thus securely
With Jesus I to heaven rise.
<i>Refrain</i> |
| 9 What higher gift can we inherit?
It is faith's bond and solid base;
It is the strength of heart and spirit,
The covenant of hope and grace.
<i>Refrain</i> | 14 Though death may threaten with disaster,
It cannot rob me of my cheer,
For he who is of death the master
With help and strength is always near.
<i>Refrain</i> |
| 10 This feast is manna, wealth abounding
Unto the poor, to weak ones pow'r,
To angels joy, to hell confounding,
And life for me in death's dark hour.
<i>Refrain</i> | 15 My heart has now become your dwelling,
O blessed, holy Trinity.
With angels I, your praises telling,
Shall live in joy eternally.
<i>Refrain</i> |

Text: Friedrich C. Heyder, 1677–1754, abr.; tr. *The Lutheran Hymnal*, St. Louis, 1941, alt.
Tune: ICH STERBE TÄGLICH (98 98 88) *Emskirchner Choralbuch*, Leipzig, 1756, alt.

85 O God from God, O Light from Light



1 O God from God, O Light from Light, O Prince of
 2 Deep in the proph-ets' sa-cred page, Grand in the
 3 That life of truth, those deeds of love, That death of
 4 Sing to the Lord a might-y song; Sing to his



Peace and King of kings, To you in heav-en's
 po-ets' wing-ed word, Slow-ly, in type, from
 pain mid hate and scorn—These all are past, and
 name, his glo-ries tell! Sing, heav'n-ly hosts, your



glo-ry bright The song of praise for-ev-er rings.
 age to age The na-tions saw their com-ing Lord;
 now a-bove He reigns, our King once crowned with thorn.
 praise pro-long, And all on earth, your an-them swell!



To him who sits up-on the throne, The Lamb once
 Till through the deep Ju-de-an night Rang out the
 Lift up your heads, O might-y gates! So sang the
 Wor-thy the Lamb for sin-ners slain! For-ev-er



slain but raised a-gain, Be all the glo-ry
 song, "Good will to men!" Sung by heav'n's hosts in
 an-gel hosts a-gain. Lift up your heads—your
 let the song as-cend! Wor-thy the Lamb en-



he has won, All thanks and praise! A-men, A-men.
 splen-dor bright, Re-ech-oed now, "Good will!" A-men.
 King a-waits. We lift them up, A-men, A-men.
 throned to reign; Glo-ry and pow'r! A-men, A-men.

Text: John Julian, 1839–1913, abr., alt.

Tune: O GROSSER GOTT (LM D) Johann Störts . . . Schlag-Gesang-Und Noten-Buch, Stuttgart, 1744.

THANKSGIVING

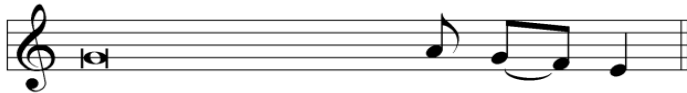
SONG OF SIMEON

Nunc Dimittis



C: Lord, now you let your servant de - part in peace ac-cord-ing
to your word. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have pre-
pared be - fore the face of all people, a light to light - en the
Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of your peo-ple Is - ra - el.

P: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.



C: **And his mercy endures for - ev - er.**

P: We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this holy supper. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: **A - men.**

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and (✠) give you peace.



C: **A - men. A - men. A - men.**

EPIPHANY

92

Brightest and Best



1 Bright - est and best of the stars of the morn - ing,
 2 Cold on his cra - dle the dew - drops are shin - ing;
 3 Shall we not yield him in cost - ly de - vo - tion
 4 Vain - ly we bring him the fin - est of of - f'rings,
 5 Bright - est and best of the stars of the morn - ing,



Dawn on our dark - ness and lend us your aid.
 Low lies his head with the beasts of the stall.
 Rar - est of fra - gran - ces, tri - bute di - vine,
 Vain - ly with gifts would his fa - vor se - cure.
 Dawn on our dark - ness and lend us your aid.



Star of the East, the ho - ri - zon a - dorn - ing,
 An - gels a - dore him in slum - ber re - clin - ing,
 Gems of the moun - tain and pearls of the o - cean,
 Rich - er by far is the praise that the heart brings;
 Star of the East, the ho - ri - zon a - dorn - ing,



Guide where our in - fant Re - deem - er is laid.
 Mak - er and mon - arch and Sav - ior of all.
 Myrrh from the for - est and gold from the mine?
 Dear - er to God are the prayers of the poor.
 Guide where our in - fant Re - deem - er is laid.

Text: Reginald Heber, 1783–1826, alt.

Tune: MORNING STAR (11 10 11 10) James P. Harding, 1850–1911, adapt.

Officiants

Accompanist: Miller Sordahl

Liturgist & Preacher: Pastor Greg Sitzman



2024 Christmas Poinsettias

In Memory of . . .

In memory of our brother Bill Vitale and sister Thekla Schneider from Russ and Mona Vitale
In memory of loved ones from Ken and Gail Heusman
In memory of Dave Holsen and Arvin Schneck from Bryan and Deanna Schneck
In memory of Kenneth and Margaret Pitcher from Carol Pitcher
In memory of loved ones from Bari and Wendy Waltz
In memory of Becki Brasher and Birdie Duby (Paula's mom) from Mark and Paula Kipf
In memory of Gary Nied from Beth and family
In memory of Dannie M. Younglove, Hazel Younglove, and Annette Younglove
from Lee A. Younglove
In memory of Larry Miller and Tim Miller from Annette Miller and family
In memory of Roger & Della Premo and Frank & Evelyn Tomczak from Frank and Kris Tomczak
In memory of Adam, Muriel, and Richard Yeager from Tom and Ruth Moran
In memory of Rita Raasch, Jim & Norma Bechberger, and Harry and Frieda Raasch
from Howard Raasch and Juergen and Lorrie Koenig
In memory of parents Leonard and Leona Selvidge and Bobby Selvidge from Linda Selvidge
In memory of Ernest & Margaret Howerton and Urban & Mary Jane Trowbridge
from Robert and Joyce Trowbridge
In memory of Glen Eckel from Jackie Eckel
In memory of Lyle Kull, Kevin Kull, and Albert Kull from Maxine Kull

For Blessings Received . . .

Alan and Dottie Bober
Ray and Brenda Chandonnet
Jesus from Ray and Melanie Palmatier
Grandchildren from Larry and Deb Sachs
Linda Selvidge Family from Linda Selvidge
Sarah, Otto, Kirsten, Nigel and Zachariah from Jim and Kathy Vanisacker

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

Pastor Greg Sitzman: 734-309-7877; gsitzman@zionmonroe.org

Principal: Bryan Schneck: 907-331-7761; bschneck@zionmonroe.org

CALL UPDATE—The Members of Zion and St. Paul extended a call to Pastor John Moll. Please keep him and his family in your prayers as he deliberates his call.

IMPORTANT MEETING: Preschool Director Call Meeting-Sunday, January 5th at 11:30 a.m.

Bottle Drive: Our Congregation is participating in the Change for Life program to support the ministry of New Beginnings—A Home for Mothers. New Beginnings is a WELS-based ministry that helps single mothers pave the way to self-sufficiency in a Christ-centered home. We will give gifts of LOVE to support the mothers and babies they serve. The bottle drive display is located in the back of the church or the school hallway. The fundraising effort is going to run from January 1st through February 23rd. Pick up a baby bottle, take it home and have everyone in your household fill it with their spare change. On Sunday, February 23rd please make sure all bottles are returned so we can send the money to New Beginnings. Thank you.

STEWARDSHIP GIFT OF TIME OPPORTUNITY: Zion is in need of members who would be willing to input the attendance information into Church 360 following the service each week. Training will be provided and this is something that can be done from home. We hope that if we get five or six people to help it would have to be done once every month to month and a half. If interested, please reach out to Rob Krueger at 734-770-1149.

CHURCH ENVELOPES OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2025 are available in the west foyer. The envelopes will be in alphabetic order. If you don't see your envelopes, please contact the office.

ALTAR GUILD FOR 2025 — There is a sign-up sheet in the west foyer for Altar Guild volunteers for 2025. We really do appreciate all the help we get through the year with this service of love. If you haven't ever done Altar Guild, please consider helping out. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the office.

FRIENDS IN FAITH: In the East foyer Friends in Faith is now selling greeting cards for \$1.00 each. There are different occasion cards available. The money raised from the sales is going towards future Friends in Faith projects, such as the Kleenex box ministry project and other shut in projects they do throughout the year.

Coming up at Zion

Sunday	9:00 a.m. Worship Service (IC/CC)
	10:15 a.m. Sunday School and Bible Class
	11:30 a.m. Preschool Call Meeting
Monday	8:00 a.m. Zion School Resumes
Tuesday	10:00 a.m. Adult Bible Class Resumes
Wednesday	7:00 p.m. Worship Service
Sunday	9:00 a.m. Worship Service
	10:15 a.m. Sunday School or Bible Class

January Volunteers

	Jan. 1 & 5	Jan. 8 & 12	Jan. 15 & 19	Jan. 22 & 26	Jan. 29 & Feb. 2
Altar Guild			NEED VOLUNTEER		
Live Stream Helpers					
Ushers	<p><u>Jan. 1</u> No Service</p> <p><u>Jan. 5</u> Dave Bengé Alan Bober Matthew Hill Joe Koch Jeremy Robinson Jacob Robinson William Robinson</p>	<p><u>Jan. 8</u> Ray Chandonnet Erich Freiny Rob Krueger Matthew Loos Zach Turner</p> <p><u>Jan. 12</u> Ray Chandonnet Erich Freiny Rob Krueger Matthew Loos Zach Turner</p>	<p><u>Jan. 15</u> Jake Burke Rich Heusman Jeff Heusman Juergen Koenig Matt McCormick Zach McCormick</p> <p><u>Jan. 19</u> Jake Burke Rich Heusman Jeff Heusman Juergen Koenig Matt McCormick Zach McCormick</p>	<p><u>Jan. 22</u> Tony Affholter Jeff Douglas Mark Fuerstenberg Ray Palmatier</p> <p><u>Jan. 26</u> Tony Affholter Jeff Douglas Mark Fuerstenberg Ray Palmatier</p>	<p><u>Jan. 29</u> Mark Kipf Keith McBee Joe Schmeling</p> <p><u>Feb. 2</u> Mark Kipf Keith McBee Joe Schmeling</p>
Communion Helpers	<p><u>Jan. 5</u> Alan Bober Mark Kipf</p>		<p><u>Jan. 15</u> Ken Vagt</p> <p><u>Jan. 19</u> Jeremy Robinson Ray Palmatier</p>		<p><u>Jan. 29</u> Alan Bober</p> <p><u>Feb. 2</u> Erich Freiny Ron Krueger</p>