

# EPIPHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Epiphany of Our Lord, January 5, 2025

Traditional Worship

Austin Campus 9:00 AM, Far Hills Campus 10:30 AM

Gather

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## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PRELUDE

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, whose steadfast love is everlasting.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*(silence for reflection)*

P: God-with-us,

**C: we confess that we have turned away those seeking shelter,  
claiming there is no room when we have plenty.**

**We have made power and wealth our idols,**

**while you show us true glory: a baby in a manger.**

**We have overlooked the shepherds,**

**expecting good news in prettier packaging.**

**Too often, we have valued violence instead of your peace.**

**Turn us from our ways to your ways.**

**Grant us the grace to begin again.**

**Free us from all that keeps us bound, and forgive our sin,**

**through Jesus Christ, who gives himself for us. Amen.**

P: Hear the good news and rejoice! You are God's chosen ones,

holy and beloved, † forgiven in Christ, and freed to respond in joy.

**C: Amen.**

### SHARING THE PEACE

P: We have been forgiven and reconciled to God through Christ our Savior. Therefore, let us be reconciled to each other and share the peace of the Lord.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**



1 Bright and glo - rious is the sky, ra - diant are the  
 2 On that ho - ly Christ - mas night through the dark - ness  
 3 Sa - ges from the east a - far, when they saw this  
 4 Him they found in Beth - le - hem, yet he wore no



heav - ens high where the gold - en stars are shin - ing.  
 beamed a light; all the stars a - bove were pal - ing,  
 won - drous star, went to find the king of na - tions  
 di - a - dem; there they saw a maid - en low - ly



All their rays to earth in - clin - ing beck - on us to  
 all their lus - ter slow - ly fail - ing as the won - drous  
 and to of - fer their ob - la - tions to the child, the  
 with an in - fant pure and ho - ly rest - ing in her



heav'n a - bove, beck - on us to heav'n a - bove.  
 star drew nigh, as the won - drous star drew nigh.  
 new - born king, to the child, the new - born king.  
 lov - ing arms, rest - ing in her lov - ing arms.

5 Guided by the star, they found  
 him whose praise the ages sound.  
 We too have a star to guide us,  
 which forever will provide us  
 with the light to find our Lord,  
 with the light to find our Lord.

6 And this star, as bright as day,  
 that will never lead astray  
 with its message so appealing,  
 is the word of God, revealing  
 Christ, the way, the truth, the life,  
 Christ, the way, the truth, the life.

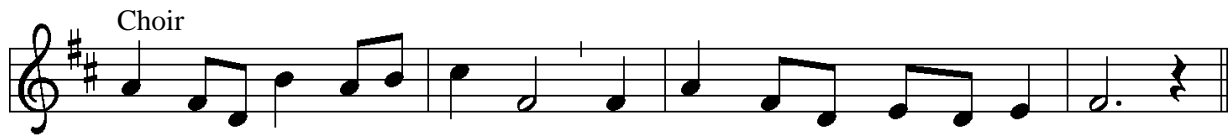
**APOSTOLIC GREETING**

**P:** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, Word made flesh,  
 the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C:** **And also with you.**

CANTICLE OF PRAISE: ELW 4

Choir



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

All



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.



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.



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.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

### Word

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## WELCOMING THE CHILDREN

### FIRST READING: ISAIAH 60:1-6

- <sup>1</sup>Arise, shine; for your light has come,  
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.
- <sup>2</sup>For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples;  
but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you.
- <sup>3</sup>Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.
- <sup>4</sup>Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you;  
your sons shall come from far away,  
and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms.
- <sup>5</sup>Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice,  
because the abundance of the sea shall be brought 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 proclaim the praise of the LORD.

A: The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### RESPONSIVE READING: FROM PSALM 72

- A: Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the king's son;  
**C: that he may rule your people righteously and the poor with justice.**
- A: Let him defend the needy among the people, rescue the poor, and crush the oppressor.  
**C: May he live as long as the sun and moon endure, from one generation to another.**
- A: In his time may the righteous flourish;  
**C: let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.**
- A: May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles pay tribute, and the kings of Sheba and Seba offer gifts.  
**C: May all kings bow down before him, and all the nations do him service.**
- A: For the king delivers the poor who cry out in distress, the oppressed,  
and those who have no helper.  
**C: He has compassion on the lowly and poor, and preserves the lives of the needy.**
- A: From oppression and violence he redeems their lives;  
**C: precious is their blood in his sight.**

### SECOND READING: EPHESIANS 3:1-12

<sup>1</sup>This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles—<sup>2</sup>for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, <sup>3</sup>and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, <sup>4</sup>a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. <sup>5</sup>In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: <sup>6</sup>that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.



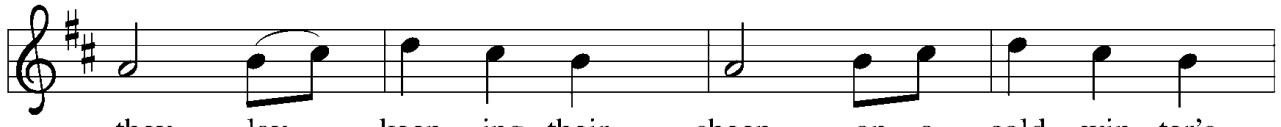
(Refrain – All, vv. 1 & 2 – All, v. 3 – Men, v. 4 – Women, v. 5 – All)



1 The first No - el the an - gel did say was to  
 2 They look - ed up and saw . . . a star shin - ing  
 3 And by the light of that . . . same star three . .  
 4 This star drew near to the . . . north - west, o'er . .  
 5 Then en - tered in those wise . . . men three, full . .



cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay; in fields where  
 in . . . the east . . . be - yond . . . them far; and to the  
 wise . . . men came . . . from coun - try far; to seek for a  
 Beth - le - hem . . . it took . . . its rest; and there it  
 rev - 'rent - ly . . . up - on . . . their knee, and of - fered



they lay, keep - ing their sheep, on a cold win - ter's  
 earth it gave . . . great light, and . . . so it con -  
 king was their . . . in - tent, and to fol - low the  
 did both stop . . . and stay right . . . o - ver the  
 there in his . . . pres - ence their . . . gold, . . . . and

*Refrain*



night that was so deep.  
 tin-ued both day and night.  
 star wher - ev - er it went. No - el, No - el, No -  
 place where Je - sus lay.  
 myrrh, and frank - in - cense.



el, No - el! Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

Text: English traditional  
 Music: THE FIRST NOWELL, English traditional

## NICENE CREED

A: Together with the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**C: 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 truly 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 with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic 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.**

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH *(after each petition...)*

A: Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

## Meal

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**OFFERING: COME, FOLLOW THAT STAR** *(Don Besig)*

*Epiphany Chorale*

**OFFERTORY: WHEN A STAR IS SHINING**

*Refrain*

Lead us on, lead us on, to a morn-ing where the  
prom-ise shines. Lead us on, lead us on,  
to a morn - ing where the prom - ise shines.

The image shows three staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff begins with the word 'Refrain'. The lyrics are: 'Lead us on, lead us on, to a morn-ing where the'. The second staff continues: 'prom-ise shines. Lead us on, lead us on,'. The third staff concludes: 'to a morn - ing where the prom - ise shines.' The music consists of quarter and eighth notes with some slurs.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993  
Music: WHERE THE PROMISE SHINES, Bob Moore, b. 1962  
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**OFFERING PRAYER**

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: ELW 4**

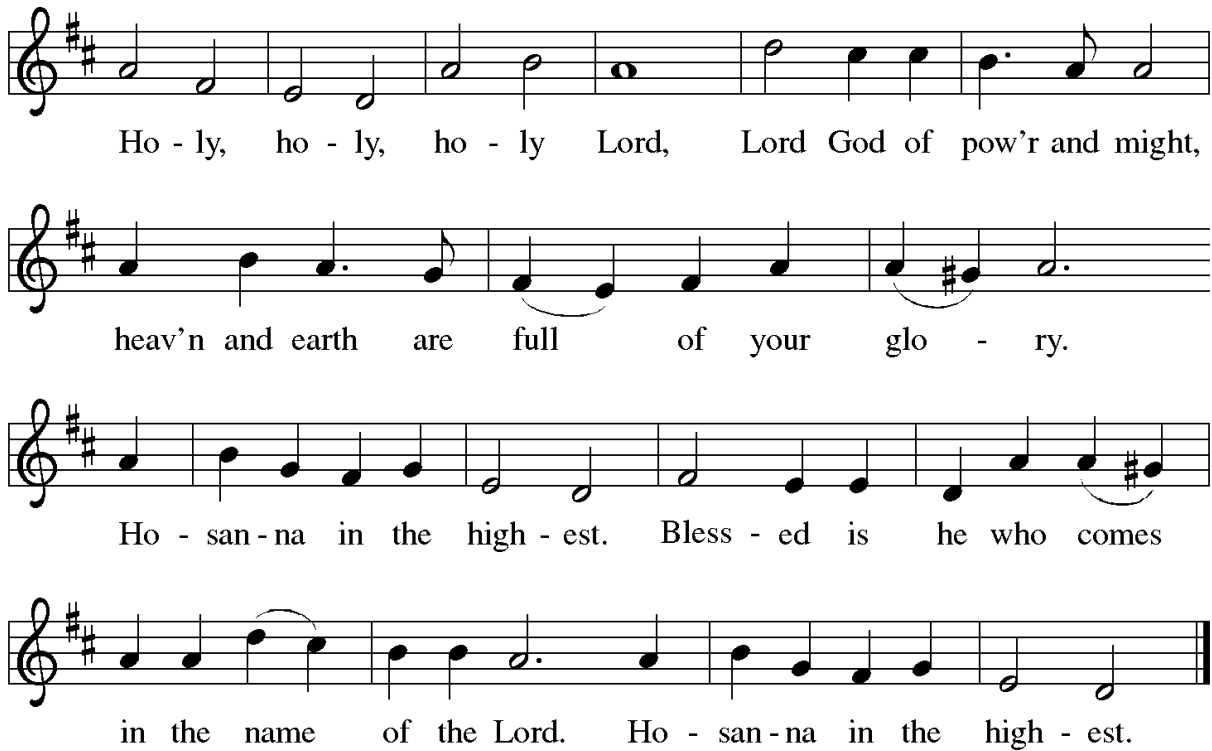
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are: 'The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.', 'Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.', 'Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.', and 'It is right to give our thanks and praise.' The music consists of quarter and eighth notes with some slurs.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ.  
By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations;  
in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son;  
and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory.  
And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



## SANCTUS: ELW 4



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,  
heav'n 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.

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

### THE 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.**

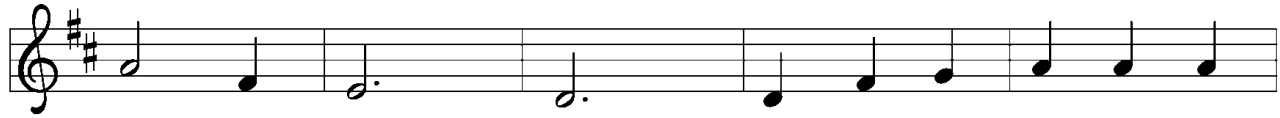
### DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

*If you are unable to attend worship due to health concerns, please contact the church office to be included on the homebound list.*

*Christ welcomes you to the meal of grace! All who desire to receive Christ's nourishment and grace may join us at the Lord's Table. (9:00) Please come to the table by the center aisle and return to your seat by the front or side aisle. Communion is by intinction; dip the bread in the red wine or white grape juice. Gluten free wafers are available upon request. (10:30) Please come to the table by the diagonal aisle and return to your seat by the center or a front aisle. Communion is by intinction; dip the wafer in the red wine or white grape juice. Gluten free wafers are available at the front of the center aisle.*



1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to  
 2 I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God. I want to  
 3 I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ. I want to



fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give  
 look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ - teous-ness,  
 be with Je - sus. When we have run . . . with



light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.  
 shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.  
 pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

*Refrain*



In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the



day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the



cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Text: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934  
 Music: HOUSTON, Kathleen Thomerson  
 Text and music © 1970, 1975 Celebration

**POST-COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER**

Send

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**BENEDICTION**



1 As with glad - ness men of old did the guid - ing star be - hold;  
 2 As with joy - ful steps they sped, Sav - ior, to thy low - ly bed,  
 3 As they of - fered gifts most rare at thy cra - dle, rude and bare,  
 4 Ho - ly Je - sus, ev - 'ry day keep us in the nar - row way;  
 5 In the heav'n - ly coun - try bright need they no cre - a - ted light;



as with joy they hailed its light, lead - ing on - ward, beam - ing bright;  
 there to bend the knee be - fore thee, whom heav'n and earth a - dore;  
 so may we with ho - ly joy, pure and free from sin's al - loy,  
 and when earth - ly things are past, bring our ran - somed souls at last  
 thou its light, its joy, its crown, thou its sun which goes not down;



so, most gra - cious Lord, may we ev - er - more be led by thee.  
 so may we with will - ing feet ev - er seek thy mer - cy seat.  
 all our cost - liest trea - sures bring, Christ, to thee, our heav'n - ly king.  
 where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glo - ry hide.  
 there for - ev - er may we sing al - le - lu - ias to our king.

Text: William C. Dix, 1837–1898, alt.  
 Music: DIX, Conrad Kocher, 1786–1872

**SENDING**

A: Go in peace. The Word of God dwells in you richly.  
 C: **Thanks be to God.**

Serving in Worship

Austin Campus 9:00 AM

Presiding Minister:	Pastor Heidi Johns
Pianist:	John Benjamin
Lay Reader:	David Moenter

Far Hills Campus 10:30 AM

Presiding Minister: Pastor Tracy Paschke-Johannes  
Assisting Minister: Paul Gresham  
Organist: John Benjamin  
Sound: Alex Wasser  
Stream Team: Landon Henderson, Melonie June Warren  
Ushers: Adam & Todd Armstrong  
Communion: Bob & Cindy Hess, Charlotte Richard, Rose Wasky

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