ORDER OF SERVICE

Prelude

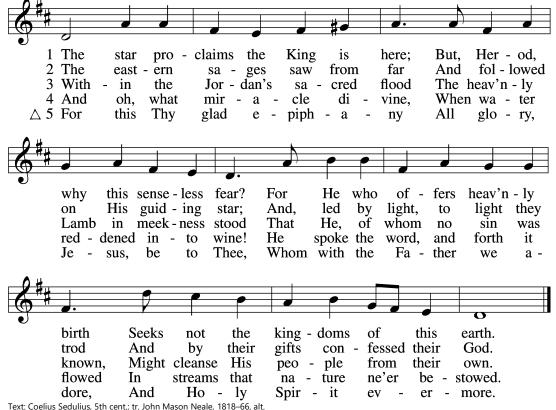
Announcements

Stand

Opening Prayer

Opening Hymn

LSB #399 The Star Proclaims the King Is Here



Tune: Geistliche Lieder auffs new gebessert, 1535, Wittenberg, ed. Joseph Klug Text and tune: Public domain

+ Confession and Absolution +

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

- \blacksquare In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- **C** Amen.
- **P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- **C** But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Kneel/Stand

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

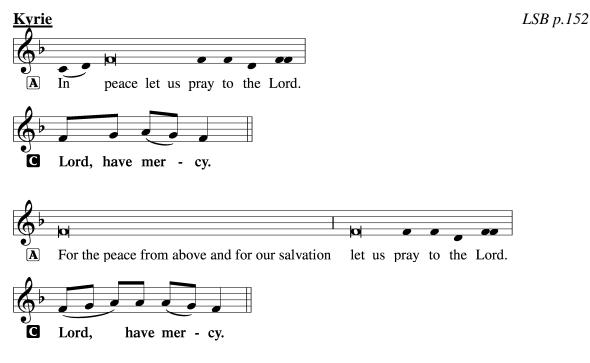
- **P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. 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.

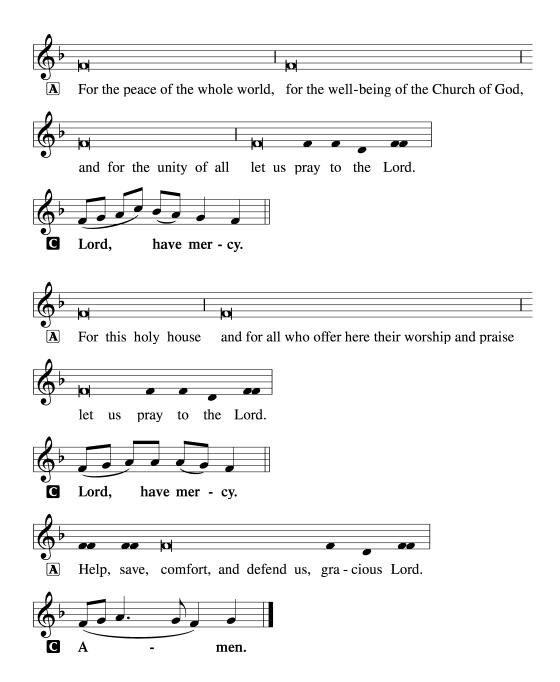
+ Service of the Word +

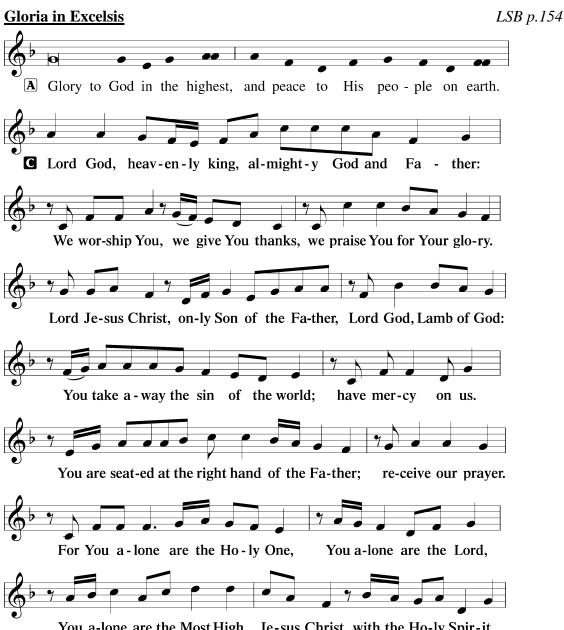
Stand

<u>Introit</u>

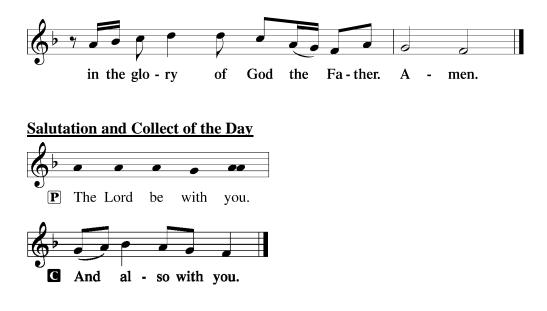
- **P** I will cause Your name to be remembered in all generations;
- **C** therefore nations will praise You forever and ever.
- P Your throne, O God, is forever and ever. The scepter of Your kingdom is a scepter of uprightness;
- **C** You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness.
- Therefore God, Your God, has anointed You with the oil of gladness beyond Your companions;
- C Your robes are all fragrant with myrrh and aloes and cassia. 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.







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



P Let us pray.

O God, by the leading of a star You made known Your only-begotten Son to the Gentiles. Lead us, who know You by faith, to enjoy in heaven the fullness of Your divine presence; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Sit Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 60:1–6

¹Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. ²For 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. ³And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. ⁴Lift 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. ⁵Then 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. ⁶A 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.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Praise the LORD, all nations! Extol him, all peoples!

For great is his steadfast love toward us, and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever. Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts!

Epistle

Ephesians 3:1-12

¹For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles—²assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for you, ³how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. ⁴When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, ⁵which 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. ⁶This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. ⁷Of 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. ⁸To 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, ⁹and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things, ¹⁰so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹²in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him.

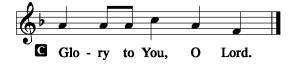
A This is the Word of the Lord.



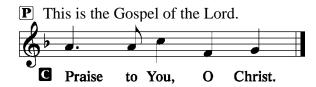
Holy Gospel

Matthew 2:1-12

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.

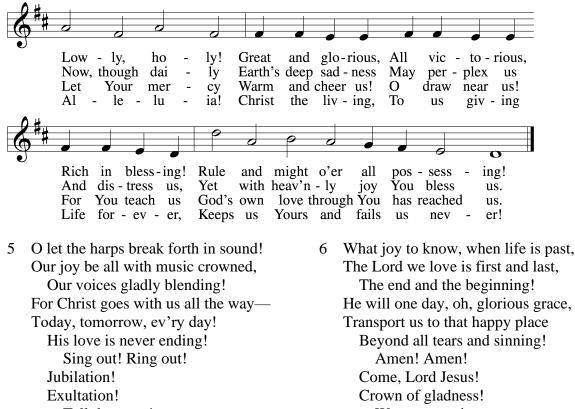


¹Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, ²saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." ³When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him: ⁴and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. ⁵They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet: ⁶"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."⁷Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. ⁸And he sent them to Bethlehem, saving, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him." ⁹After 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. ¹⁰When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. ¹¹And 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. ¹²And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.



<u>Hymn of the Day</u> LSB #395 O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright





Tell the story! Great is He, the King of Glory! We are yearning For the day of Your returning!

Text: tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978, alt.Text and tune: Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608 Text: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003898Tune: Public domain

<u>Sermon</u>

"God's Grace for Stargazing Sojourners"

Rev. Dr. Jedidiah Maschke

Stand Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life + of the world to come. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

P Lord, in Your mercy,C hear our prayer.

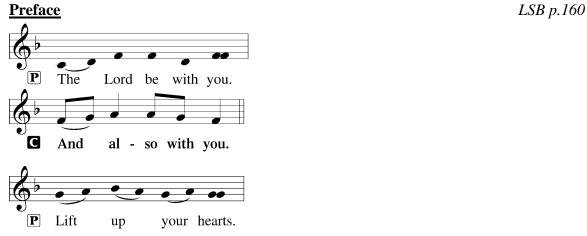
At the end of the prayers:
P ... for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.
C Amen.

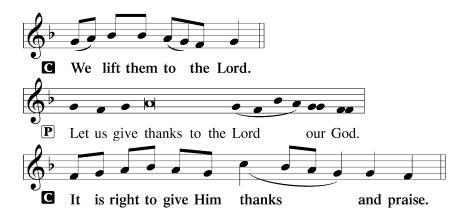
Offering



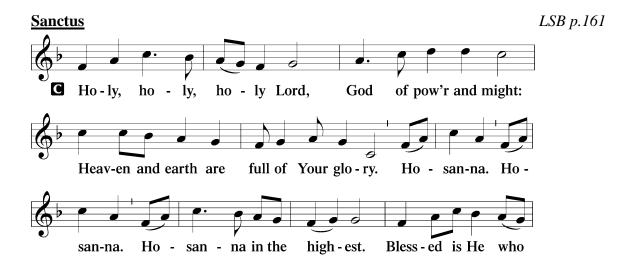


+ Service of the Sacrament +





It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:





Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

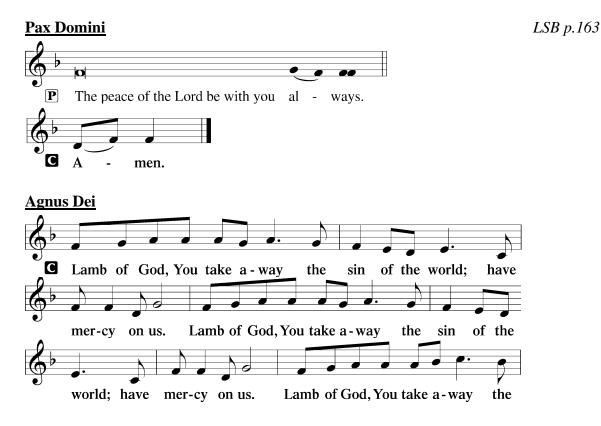
In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

- As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.
- **C** Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

Lord's Prayer

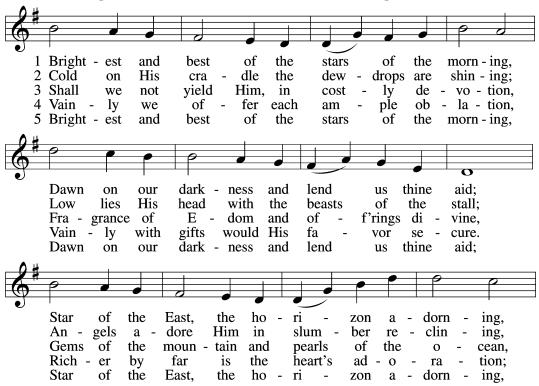
C Our Father who art in heaven hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the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



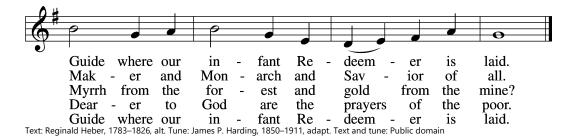


Sit Distribution

If you have not communed with us before, please see our statement of belief about communion on the inside front cover of the bulletin. If you prefer a gluten-free wafer, please ask the pastor for one. Also available in the center of the communion trays are two individual cups with water and a drop of wine.

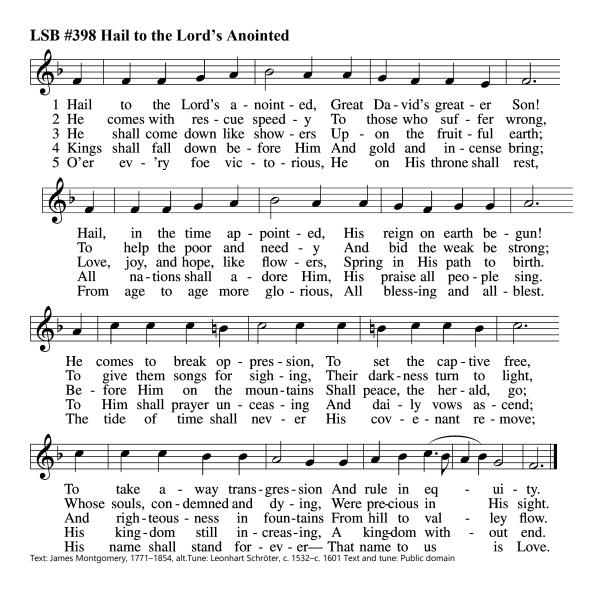


LSB #400 Brightest and Best of the Stars of the Morning



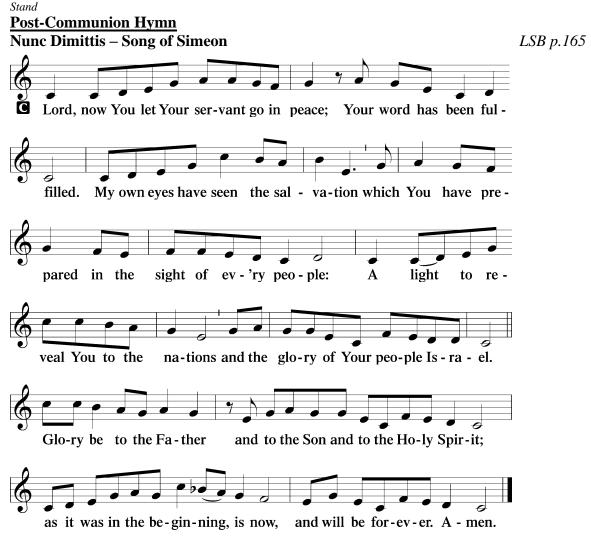
LSB #394 Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

1 Songs of thank - ful - ness and praise, Je - sus, Lord, to Thee we raise, Jor-dan's stream, Proph-et, Priest, and King 2 Man - i - fest at su-preme: 3 Man - i - fest in mak-ing whole Pal - sied limbs and faint - ing soul; 4 Sun and moon shall dark-ened be, Stars shall fall, the heav'ns shall flee; 5 Grant us grace to see Thee, Lord, Pres - ent in Thy ho - ly Word— Man - i - fest - ed by the То the sa - ges from a - far, star And at Ca - na wed - ding guest In Thy God-head man - i - fest; Man - i - fest in val - iant fight, Quell-ing all the dev - il's might; Christ will then like light - ning shine, All will see His glo-rious sign; Grace to im - i - tate Thee now And be pure, as pure art Thou; Branch of roy - al Da - vid's stem In Thy birth at Beth - le - hem: Man - i - fest in pow'r di - vine, Chang-ing wa - ter in - to wine; Man - i - fest in gra-cious will, Ev er bring-ing good from ill; will then the trum - pet hear, All All will see the Judge ap-pear; That we might be-come like Thee At Thy great e - piph - a - nyto Thee ad-dressed, God in man made man - i - fest. An - thems be An - thems be to Thee ad-dressed, God in man made man - i - fest. to Thee ad-dressed. God in man made man - i - fest. An - thems be Thou by wilt be con-fessed, God in man made man - i - fest. all And may praise Thee, ev - er blest, God in man made man - i - fest.



The Dismissal

- **C** Amen.



Post-Communion Collect

P Let us pray.

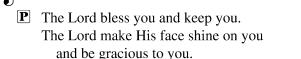
O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Benediction

O

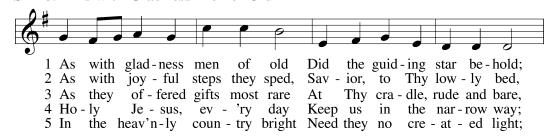
LSB p.166

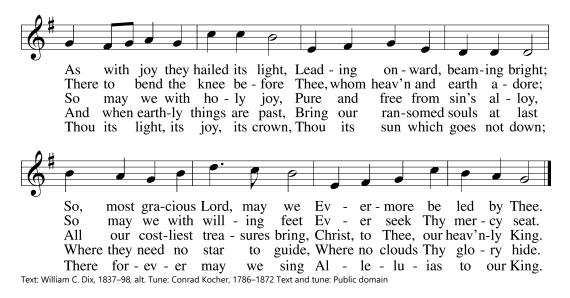


The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.



<u>Closing Hymn</u> LSB #397 As with Gladness Men of Old





Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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Silent Prayer & Postlude



NOTE to All Members: To connect your hearing aid to the **Listen Everywhere** feature you will need a smart phone. You can control the volume through your hearing aid volume buttons or the hearing aid app on your phone (if you have one



installed.)

- 1. On your phone, connect to the "BLC Guest" network with password Bethlehem1837.
- 2. Go to the app store and search "Listen Everywhere" and download.

3. Open the app and touch "Allow" when asked.

The 2025 Flower Chart is up in the narthex and awaiting your names for flowers for the narthex for this coming year. Any questions, please contact Lora. Thanking you in advance for your beautiful flowers.

Serving Next Sunday January 12, 2025

| Presiding Minister: | Rev. Dr. Jedidiah Maschke | |
|---------------------|----------------------------|--|
| Elder: | Jarvis Manning | |
| Ushers: | Hal Martin, Lonnie Karges, | |
| | Logan Garrett | |
| Acolytes: | Noah Manning | |
| Accompanist: | Ingrid Karges | |
| Altar Guild: | Kathy Jackson | |

Elders' Corner: If you have something you would like to discuss with your Elder concerning the church and your life, please don't hesitate to contact him. If there is no answer, please leave a voicemail and/or message.

| Members | Your Elder is: | |
|--------------------|----------------|--------------|
| Abbott – Davey | Bill Scott | 909-838-2129 |
| Dodd - Jenkins | Bob Spiker | 775-745-6316 |
| Jones-Magrath | Jarvis Manning | 775-461-3493 |
| Manning - Smith | Jimmy Poncsak | 760-792-9014 |
| Soderstrom – Zuber | Josh Karges | 775-230-6212 |

Upcoming Events

Today is Mite Box Sunday. The January mite offering will be used to help "wrap Them in God's Love", Grace Lutheran Church, San Mateo, CA. Grace Lutheran Church of San Mateo, CA has had a quilt ministry since 1924 providing quilts to the Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch (RSO) and adult and baby quilts to Seminary and Deaconess students. Costs are high to send the quilts out, and this grant would fund some shipping, a well as augment the funds for fabric, backing sheet, batting, and thread, so that the quilting group can continue this ministry. January 8th at 11:30am is the Ladies Luncheon at the Basil Thai restaurant in Carson City. Please come and bring a friend or two. RSVP to Lora in the office.

January 11th, 2025 Saturday, Women's Bible study resumes – we meet in the fellowship Hall at 9:30am. We are studying the Apostle Peter. We welcome new members,

January 12th – All ladies interested in helping Bethlehem Women in Mission are invited to a meeting following the church service on January 12^{th} to help plan events for the months of January thru May.

January 18th, Saturday at 2:00pm is the Ordination and Installation of Steven Tomac at Faith Lutheran Church in Yerington. Check with Lora or Pastor for more details.

Epiphany

Epiphany comes from the Greek word meaning 'to reveal' or 'the shining of a light'. It is both a day (Jan 6) and a season between the close of the Christmas celebration and ends with Transfiguration Sunday which is just before Ash Wednesday. The words of the Old Testament prophet Isaiah are heard again:

"Arise, shine for your light has come and the glory of the word has risen upon you" (Is 60:1).

This light being revealed is demonstrated by the visit of the Magi to the child Jesus. These Magi were not Jews, they were Gentiles whom God led to Jesus by a brilliant star in order to make manifest that His saving plan is indeed for both Gentiles and Jews.

"Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem" (Matt 2:1).

"The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light; they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shines" (Isa.9:2).

Weekly Prayer Page

"And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to His will He hears us." (1 John 5:14) Remember in Your Prayers – (New Additions noted in Bold print)

Jean Armer – medical issues DeAnna McDaniel Blomberg and her daughter & granddaughter medical issues Bruce – medical issues – friend of Stevens Judi Bugg – health issues (Delbert Bugg's mother) Joe Chambers – *medical issues* Mark de la Torre – medical issues (School parent) Grace Marie – medical issues (Lynn Tappan's great niece) Richard & Sandra Hartley medical issues Ernie Hernandez – *health issues* (Austin Stone's father-in-law) Ken Hiley – medical issues - friend of Stevens John Huss – brain tumor recovery (Maschke family's friend)

Robyn Izquierdo – medical issues (Jim Gansberg's daughter) Gale Jackson – medical issues Amanda Kilbourn – health issues (Heather Bugg's friend) Lisa Lariviere – (Rindi Fredlund's mother) Laurel & Ed – *medical issues* friends of Lora & Bob Spiker Marie - friend of Pat Stevens Darlene McClurg – medical issues Dianne Medlock – *medical issues* Norm Milz – medical issues (retired pastor of Shepherd of the Sierra) Mike Tappan – medical issues (Lynn Tappan's husband) Allyson Underwood - cancer Karen Woodmansee coping with medical issues Deacon Mike Hudson – Pastoral Training (Bethany Lutheran Church, Hawthorne, NV)

Guidelines for the Weekly Prayer Page

- 1) Anyone requesting prayers from the church must receive permission from the person before adding him/her.
- 2) People will be added to the prayer list for two weeks, after which they will be removed, or by contacting the Church Secretary, be included for another two weeks.

3) Prayers will be offered for the friends and family of the deceased until three weeks after the memorial/funeral service or burial. If you have any questions or concerns about these guidelines, please speak to your Elder, Lora Spiker, the Church Secretary, or Pastor Maschke. Please submit your prayer request with pertinent information to the Church Office by Wednesday.

Armed Forces:
Sgt. 1st Class Caleb Kern – Army (Colin & Kathleen Wigglesworth's nephew) Justin Jorstad (Sally & Wayne Allen's grandson) Jonathan Krenz – Navy – (David & Bonnie Krenz's son) MSgt (E-7) Benjamin Welter – 192nd Airlift Squadron