



## FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

7075 Pacific Avenue S.E.  
Lacey, WA 98503

[www.faithlutheranlacey.org](http://www.faithlutheranlacey.org)  
[www.flschool.org](http://www.flschool.org)

Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

### WORSHIP

8:15am – Traditional  
9:30am – Gather & Grow  
10:30am - Contemporary

### CONTACT

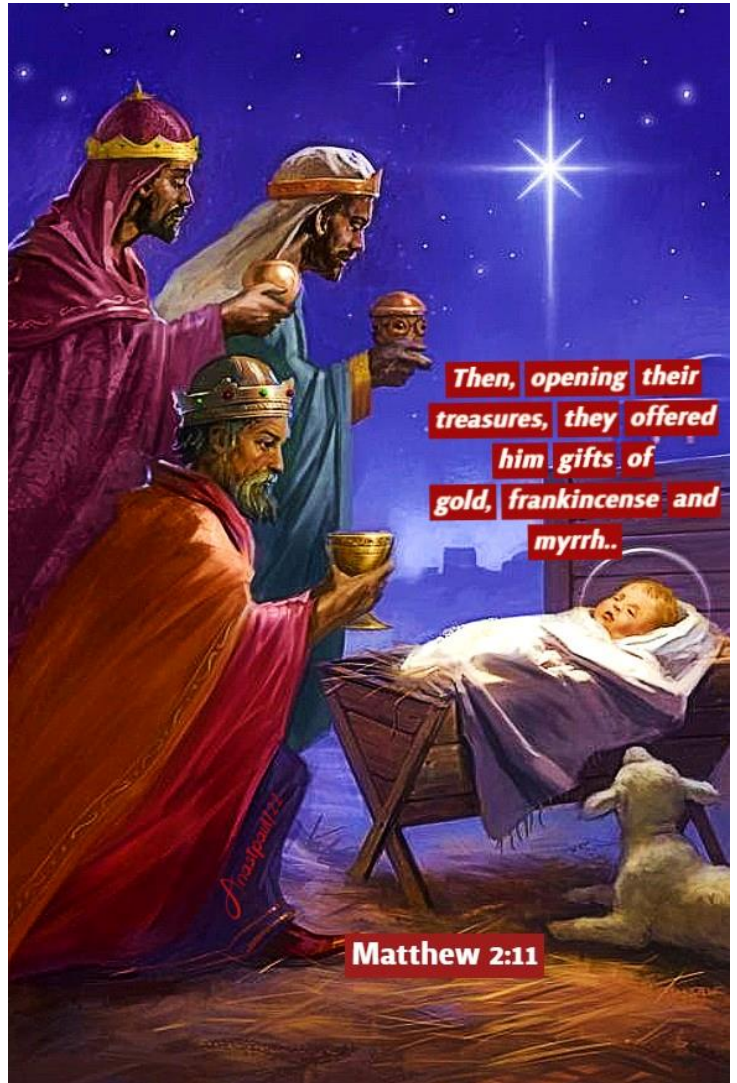
Church: 360-491-3552  
School: 360-491-1733  
Childcare: 360-491-1118  
Pastor: Greg Strand  
541-231-8166  
[pastorgreg@flschool.org](mailto:pastorgreg@flschool.org)

*"Raising Up  
Families and Followers  
of Jesus Christ"*

## The Epiphany of Our Lord

January 5, 2024

8:15 am



# SOAKED AND BLOODY: OUR LORD AND YOU

## AS WE GATHER

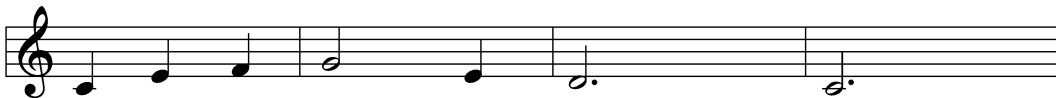
Have you ever received a surprise present, one that was out of your own price range to get? That, in a nutshell, describes Epiphany. The Wise Men came to give presents, and instead received one their wealth could not have bought. We are included in this. We are baptized for the forgiveness of sins by His blood on the cross that covers our sins, once for all. That water and blood give us the greatest—and most expensive—gift in the world. Here we see Jesus revealed, manifested, in a star, in the coming of the Magi and the gifts they bring.

### + PREPARATION +

## 411 I WANT TO WALK AS A CHILD OF THE LIGHT



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



I want to fol - low Je - sus.  
I want to look at Je - sus.  
I want to be with Je - sus.



God set the stars to give light to the world.  
Clear Sun of Righ - teous - ness, shine on my path,  
When we have run with pa - tience the race,



The star of my life is Je - sus.  
And show me the way to the Fa - ther.  
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 and tune: Kathleen Thomerson, 1934

Text and tune: © 1970, 1975 Celebration. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005394

## INVOCATION

Leader In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation Amen.

## OPENING SENTENCES *Colossians 1:15–20*

Leader He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation.

Congregation **For by Him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through Him and for Him.**

Leader And He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together.

Congregation **And He is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything He might be preeminent.**

Leader For in Him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,

Congregation **and through Him to reconcile to Himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of His cross.**

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Leader Let us confess our sins to God our Father.

Congregation **Most merciful God, I confess that I am by nature sinful and unclean. I have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed.**

Leader Do you recognize the truth—that you have not loved God with your whole heart nor loved your neighbor as yourself?

Congregation **I confess that I have failed to keep the two great commandments by what I have done and what we have failed to do. Heavenly Father, I don't deserve Your forgiveness, but ask for it because of the greatest love shown at the cross.**

Leader Hear the great news: God has used two common earthly elements—water and blood—to forgive your sins and make you His very own. Through the cross of Christ and the blood of Jesus shed there, and because you have been baptized, I forgive you all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Congregation Thank You, Lord, for revealing Your mercy and grace to me on this great day of Epiphany.**

Leader Lord Jesus, thank You for shedding Your blood and giving us the waters of Holy Baptism,

**Congregation by which You sacrificed Your life for ours and made us a part of Your family forever. Amen.**

### + WORD +

#### **INTROIT** *Psalm 45:6–8a*

Leader I will cause Your name to be remembered in all generations; therefore nations will praise You forever and ever.

**Congregation Your throne, O God, is forever and ever. The scepter of Your kingdom is a scepter of uprightness;**

Leader You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness.

**Congregation Therefore God, Your God, has anointed You with the oil of gladness beyond Your companions; 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.**

Leader I will cause Your name to be remembered in all generations;

**Congregation therefore nations will praise You forever and ever.**

#### **SALUTATION**

Leader The Lord be with you.

**Congregation And also with you.**

#### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Leader Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, our great High Priest,

**Congregation cleanse us by the power of Your redeeming blood that in purity and peace we may worship and adore Your holy name;**

Leader for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit,

**Congregation one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## OLD TESTAMENT 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 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. <sup>3</sup>And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising.

<sup>4</sup>Lift 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. <sup>5</sup>Then 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. <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 bring good news, the praises of the LORD.

Reader This is the Word of the Lord.

**Congregation Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM *Psalm 72:1–15*

Leader Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel,

**Congregation who alone does wondrous things.**

Leader Give the king Your justice, O God, and Your righteousness to the royal son!

**Congregation May He judge Your people with righteousness, and Your poor with justice!**

Leader Let the mountains bear prosperity for the people, and the hills, in righteousness!

**Congregation May He defend the cause of the poor of the people, give deliverance to the children of the needy, and crush the oppressor!**

Leader May they fear You while the sun endures, and as long as the moon, throughout all generations!

**Congregation May He be like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth!**

Leader In His days may the righteous flourish, and peace abound, till the moon be no more!

**Congregation May He have dominion from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth!**

Leader May desert tribes bow down before Him and His enemies lick the dust!

**Congregation May the kings of Tarshish and of the coastlands render Him tribute; may the kings of Sheba and Seba bring gifts! May all kings fall down before Him, all nations serve Him!**

Leader For He delivers the needy when he calls, the poor and him who has no helper.

**Congregation He has pity on the weak and the needy, and saves the lives of the needy.**

Leader From oppression and violence He redeems their life, and precious is their blood in His sight.

**Congregation Long may He live; may gold of Sheba be given to Him! May prayer be made for Him continually, and blessings invoked for Him all the day!**

Leader Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel,

**Congregation who alone does wondrous things.**

## **EPISTLE** *Ephesians 3:1–12*

<sup>1</sup>For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles— <sup>2</sup>assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God’s grace that was given to me for you, <sup>3</sup>how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. <sup>4</sup>When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, <sup>5</sup>which 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. <sup>6</sup>This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

<sup>7</sup>Of 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. <sup>8</sup>To 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, <sup>9</sup>and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things, <sup>10</sup>so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. <sup>11</sup>This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, <sup>12</sup>in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him.

Reader This is the Word of the Lord.

**Congregation Thanks be to God.**

## **VERSE** *Matthew 2:2b*

Leader Alleluia. Where is He who has been born king of the Jews?

**Congregation For we saw His star when it rose and have come to worship Him.  
Alleluia.**

## **HOLY GOSPEL** *Matthew 2:1–12*

Leader The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the second chapter.

**Congregation Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup>saying, “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.” <sup>3</sup>When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; <sup>4</sup>and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. <sup>5</sup>They 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, saying, “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.

Pastor This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Congregation Praise to You, O Christ.

## CHILDREN’S MESSAGE –

### 399 THE STAR PROCLAIMS THE KING IS HERE



1 The star pro - claims the King is here; But, Her - od,  
 2 The east - ern sa - ges saw from far And fol - lowed  
 3 With - in the Jor - dan’s sa - cred flood The heav’n - ly  
 4 And oh, what mir - a - cle di - vine, When wa - ter  
 Δ 5 For this Thy glad e - piph - a - ny All glo - ry,



why this sense - less fear? For He who of - fers heav’n - ly  
 on His guid - ing star; And, led by light, to light they  
 Lamb in meek - ness stood That He, of whom no sin was  
 red - dened in - to wine! He spoke the word, and forth it  
 Je - sus, be to Thee, Whom with the Fa - ther we a -



birth Seeks not the king - doms of this earth.  
 trod And by their gifts con - fessed their God.  
 known, Might cleanse His peo - ple from their own.  
 flowed In streams that na - ture ne’er be - stowed.  
 dore, And Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more.

## SERMON

### NICENE CREED

**Congregation** 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.

**OFFERING** <https://faithlutheranlacey.breezechms.com/give/online>  
or text to give, 360-732-8020.

### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

**Leader** Let us pray for the whole people of God and for all people according to their needs.

**Congregation** Almighty God, You revealed Your Son to Gentiles on the day of Epiphany.  
**Use us, we pray, to bring light and peace where there is none right now.**

**Leader** Lord Jesus, You were willing to shed Your blood on the cross for our forgiveness and have given us the hope of salvation.

**Congregation** **Thank You for shedding Your blood and giving us the waters of Holy Baptism to make us Your own sons and daughters through faith in You.**

**Leader** As You cared for the sick and still do, we remember before Your throne those among us who are sick and in need of Your care, [*especially . . .*].



**Congregation** As You did in Your earthly ministry, continue to love, care, touch, and heal them according to Your will.

Leader For Your kingdom, invisible to human eyes yet so very real, we lift up our voices in prayer.

**Congregation** We pray that You would use us by the working of Your Holy Spirit to open hearts and eyes to Your love and see Your kingdom.

Leader Merciful Father in heaven, You hold all authority and power in Your hands. Use those whom You have installed as rulers over us for our good and not our harm.

**Congregation** Use them to bring about blessing to those who are bringing justice and peace to our lands and to stop evildoers in their tracks.

Leader We also remember those who are persecuted for Your name.

**Congregation** For those who have to endure torture and persecution, give them the hope of their eternal reward.

Leader Almighty God, You are the fountain of all wisdom. You know what we need before we ever ask, even when we do not know what to ask or even how to ask.

**Congregation** We are but mortal men and women, but You are immortal, invisible, and wise. Look upon us with compassion, care for us, and meet our needs.

Leader These things we ask, almighty God, in Your name, trusting that in Your mercy and according to Your will, You will not only hear our prayers but answer them.

**Congregation** Amen.

## + SACRAMENT +

### PREFACE

Leader The Lord be with you.

**Congregation** And also with you.

Leader Lift up your hearts.

**Congregation** We lift them to the Lord.

Leader Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**Congregation** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

### PROPER PREFACE

Leader 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, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes

away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in 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:

## SANCTUS *LSB 161*



☐ Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo-ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -



san-na. 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.

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Leader

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.

Congregation **Amen.**

## THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Leader 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."

## PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

Leader As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

**Congregation Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Leader 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

**Congregation 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**

## PAX DOMINI

Leader The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**Congregation Amen.**

## + DISTRIBUTION HYMNS +

### 707 OH, THAT THE LORD WOULD GUIDE MY WAYS



1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways To keep His stat-utes still!  
2 Or - der my foot-steps by Thy Word And make my heart sin - cere;  
3 As - sist my soul, too apt to stray, A strict - er watch to keep;  
4 Make me to walk in Thy com-mands—'Tis a de - light - ful road—



Oh, that my God would grant me grace To know and do His will!  
Let sin have no do - min-ion, Lord, But keep my con-science clear.  
And should I e'er for - get Thy way, Re - store Thy wan-d'ring sheep.  
Nor let my head or heart or hands Of - fend a - gainst my God.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt. Tune: William H. Havergal, 1793–1870 Text and tune: Public domain

### 400 BRIGHTEST AND BEST OF THE STARS OF THE MORNING



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 of - fer each am - ple ob - la - tion,  
5 Bright - est and best of the stars of the morn - ing,



Dawn on our dark - ness and lend us thine aid;  
Low lies His head with the beasts of the stall;  
Fra - grance of E - dom and of - f'ring di - vine,  
Vain - ly with gifts would His fa - vor se - cure.  
Dawn on our dark - ness and lend us thine 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 heart's ad - o - ra - tion;  
 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: James P. Harding, 1850–1911, adapt. Text and tune: Public domain

## POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

**Leader** Let us pray.  
 Lord Jesus Christ, by Your blood, You have redeemed us from sin, death,  
 and Satan, and through the waters of Holy Baptism, You have made us  
 Your own people. Continue to guide us by Your Holy Spirit that You would  
 be revealed to us more each day though Your Word and Sacrament; for  
 You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and  
 forever.

**Congregation** Amen.

## BENEDICAMUS

**Leader** Let us bless the Lord.

**Congregation** Thanks be to God.

## BENEDICTION

**Leader** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
 The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
 The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.

**Congregation** Amen.

## 394 SONGS OF THANKFULNESS AND PRAISE



1 Songs of thank - ful - ness and praise, Je - sus, Lord, to Thee we raise,  
2 Man - i - fest at Jor - dan's stream, Proph - et, Priest, and King 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 star To the sa - ges from a - far,  
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;  
All will then the trum - pet hear, All will see the Judge ap - pear;  
That we might be - come like Thee At Thy great e - piph - a - ny



An - thems be to Thee ad - dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.  
An - thems be to Thee ad - dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.  
An - thems be to Thee ad - dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.  
Thou by all wilt be con - fessed, God in man made man - i - fest.  
And may praise Thee, ev - er blest, God in man made man - i - fest.

Text: Christopher Wordsworth, 1807–85, alt. Tune: George J. Elvey, 1816–93 Text and tune: Public domain

### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2024 Concordia Publishing House.

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series C, Quarter 1.

Copyright © 2024 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission.