



FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

7075 Pacific Avenue S.E.
Lacey, WA 98503

www.faithlutheranlacey.org
www.flschool.org

Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

W O R S H I P

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

C O N T A C T

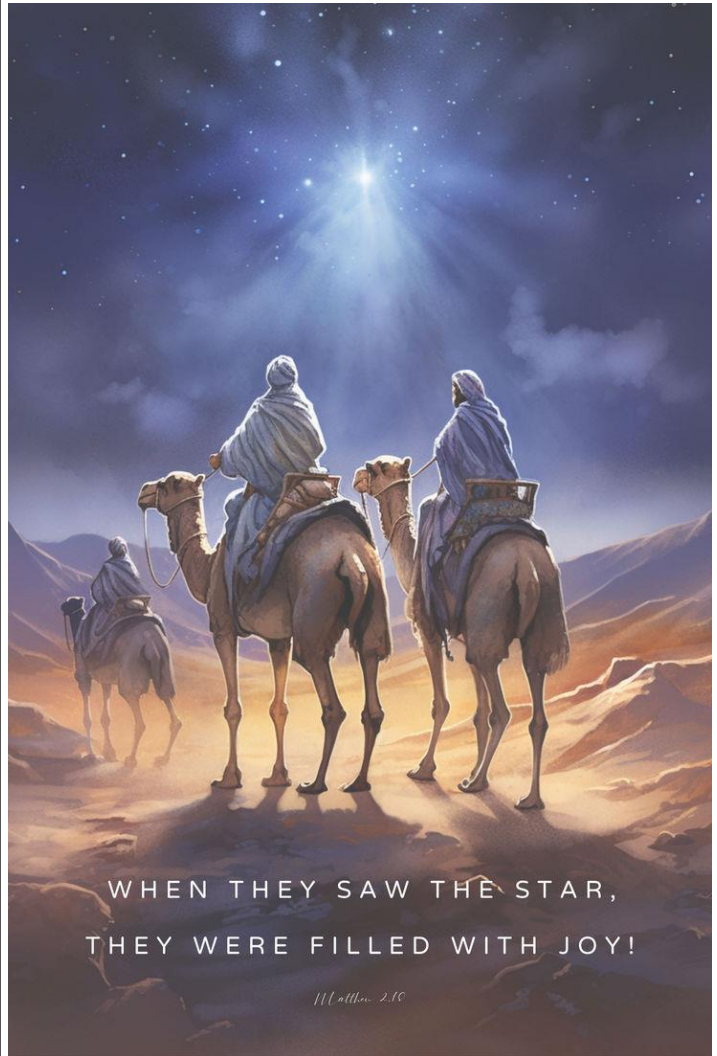
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*“Raising Up
Families and Followers
of Jesus Christ”*

The Epiphany of Our Lord

January 5, 2024

10:30 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.

WELCOME

Come Thou Fount Of Every Blessing (Nettleton)

Verse 1

Come Thou fount of ev'ry blessing
Tune my heart to sing Thy grace
Streams of mercy never ceasing
Call for songs of loudest praise
Teach me some melodious sonnet
Sung by flaming tongues above
Praise the mount I'm fixed upon it
Mount of Thy redeeming love

Verse 2

Here I raise mine Ebenezer
Hither by Thy help I'm come
And I hope by Thy good pleasure
Safely to arrive at home
Jesus sought me when a stranger
Wand'ring from the fold of God
He to rescue me from danger
Interposed His precious blood

Verse 3

O to grace how great a debtor
Daily I'm constrained to be
Let Thy grace Lord like a fetter
Bind my wand'ring heart to Thee
Prone to wander Lord I feel it
Prone to leave the God I love
Here's my heart Lord take and seal it
Seal it for Thy courts above

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.**

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.

Reader This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation Thanks be to God.

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.

Reader This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL *Matthew 2:1–12*

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

Congregation Glory to You, O Lord.

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, 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 – Pastor Greg

By Faith

By faith we see the hand of God
In the light of creation's grand design
In the lives of those who prove His faithfulness
Who walk by faith and not by sight
By faith our fathers roamed the earth
With the pow'r of His promise in their hearts
Of a holy city built by God's own hand
A place where peace and justice reign

Chorus

We will stand as children of the promise
We will fix our eyes on Him our soul's reward
Till the race is finished and the work is done
We'll walk by faith and not by sight
By faith the prophets saw a day
When the longed
for Messiah would appear
With the pow'r to break the chains of sin and death
And rise triumphant from the grave
By faith the church was called to go
In the pow'r of the Spirit to the lost
To deliver captives and to preach good news
In ev'ry corner of the earth

By faith the mountain shall be moved
And the pow'r of the gospel shall prevail
For we know in Christ all things are possible
For all who call upon His name

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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.

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."

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

Living Hope

Verse 1

How great the chasm that lay between us
How high the mountain I could not climb
In desperation I turned to heaven
And spoke Your name into the night
Then through the darkness Your loving-kindness
Tore through the shadows of my soul
The work is finished the end is written
Jesus Christ my living hope

Verse 2

Who could imagine so great a mercy
What heart could fathom such boundless grace
The God of ages stepped down from glory
To wear my sin and bear my shame
The cross has spoken I am forgiven
The King of kings calls me His own
Beautiful Savior I'm Yours forever
Jesus Christ my living hope

Chorus

Hallelujah praise the One who set me free
Hallelujah death has lost its grip on me
You have broken every chain
There's salvation in Your name
Jesus Christ my living hope

Verse 3

Then came the morning that sealed the promise
Your buried body began to breathe
Out of the silence the Roaring Lion
Declared the grave has no claim on me

(REPEAT)

Jesus Yours is the victory whoa

Ending

Jesus Christ my living hope
Oh God You are my living hope

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Hungry

Verse 1

Hungry I come to You for I know You satisfy
I am empty but I know Your love does not run dry

Pre-Chorus

So I wait for You
So I wait for You

Chorus

I'm falling on my knees
Offering all of me
Jesus You're all this heart is living for

Verse 2

Broken I run to You for Your arms are open wide
I am weary but I know Your touch restores my life

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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.**

King Of Kings

Verse 1

In the darkness we were waiting
Without hope without light
Till from Heaven You came running
There was mercy in Your eyes
To fulfil the law and prophets
To a virgin came the Word
From a throne of endless glory
To a cradle in the dirt

Chorus

Praise the Father
Praise the Son
Praise the Spirit three in one
God of Glory
Majesty
Praise forever to the King of kings

Verse 2

To reveal the kingdom coming
And to reconcile the lost
To redeem the whole creation
You did not despise the cross
For even in Your suffering
You saw to the other side
Knowing this was our salvation
Jesus for our sake You died

Verse 3

And the morning that You rose
All of heaven held its breath
Till that stone was moved for good
For the Lamb had conquered death
And the dead rose from their tombs
And the angels stood in awe
For the souls of all who'd come
To the Father are restored

Verse 4

And the Church of Christ was born
Then the Spirit lit the flame
Now this Gospel truth of old
Shall not kneel shall not faint
By His blood and in His Name
In His freedom I am free
For the love of Jesus Christ
Who has resurrected me

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