SOLOMON'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH 4856 WAYNE ROAD CHAMBERSBURG, PA 17202 (717) 267-2266

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"Solomon's Evangelical Lutheran Church, following the example of Jesus Christ, seeks to live in the confidence and fullness of God's grace; to preach the Good News boldly and truthfully; to support and serve others in faith; to work in harmony with all creation."

EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD JANUARY 8, 2023

January 8, 2023

Epiphany of Our Lord

The feast of Epiphany ("manifestation") concludes the Christmas season with a celebration of God's glory revealed in the person of Jesus Christ. In Isaiah and Ephesians, that glory is proclaimed for all nations and people. Like the light of the star that guided the magi to Jesus, the light of Christ reveals who we are: children of God who are claimed and washed in the waters of baptism. We are sent out to be beacons of the light of Christ, sharing the good news of God's love to all people.

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

For now, the offering plate will continue to be placed in the back of the church in front of the Baptismal Font. Thank you for your continuing support of the ministries of Solomon's as we join God in the work of sharing Christ's love.

LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES

BAPTISM OF GWENIVERE VIRGINIA HARDMAN

BAPTISMAL SONG Borning Cry (ELW 732) **Borning Cry**



- "When you heard the won-der of the Word I was there to cheer you on;
- the mid-dle a ges of your life, not too old, no lon ger young,



re - joiced the day you were bap-tized to see your life un - fold. were raised to praise the liv - ing Lord, to whom you now be - long. you were raised to praise the I'll be there to guide you through the night, com-plete what I've be - gun.



was there when you were but a child, with a faith to suit you well; you find some-one to share your time and you join your hearts as one, When the eve - ning gent - ly clos - es in and you shut your wea - ry eyes,



of light you wan-dered off to find where de-mons dwell." in a blaze I'll be there to make your vers - es rhyme from dusk till ris - ing sun." I have al-ways been, with just one more sur-prise." I'll be there as



4 "I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I'll be there when you are old.



I re-joiced the day you were bap-tized to see your life un - fold."

Text: John C. Ylvisaker, b. 1937 Music: WATERLIFE, John C. Ylvisaker Text and music © 1985 John Ylvisaker.

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GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

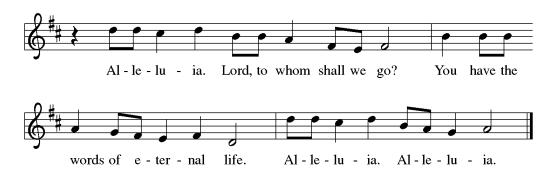
O God, on this day you revealed your Son to the nations by the leading of a star. Lead us now by faith to know your presence in our lives, and bring us at last to the full vision of your glory, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

DUET: CAROL OF HOPE

Peggi Norman & Judy Johnson

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: Matthew 2:1-12

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

God's promise shines bright in the night as magi follow a star to honor a new king. Strangers from a faraway land, they welcome the long-awaited messiah of Israel.

¹In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ²asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." ³When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

6'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,

are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;

for from you shall come a ruler

who is to shepherd my people Israel."

⁷Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." ⁹When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy.

¹¹On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON PASTOR BARB

INSTALLATION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

The following people have been *elected* by the congregation to be council members: Linda Berberich, Kathy Bowen, Ronald Coldsmith, Wayne Dale, Paul Kostreski, Janice McEntire, Larry Socks, Martha Veilleux, Phil Johnson, Wayne Norman and Frances Reichard.

The Treasurer is a part of council with a voice and no vote: Marjorie Dale

HYMN OF THE DAY What Child Is This (ELW 296)

What Child Is This



- 1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar-y's lap is sleep-ing?
- 2 Why lies he in such mean es-tate where ox and ass are feed-ing?
- 3 So bring him in cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas-ant, king, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet with an-thems sweet while shep-herds watch are keep-ing? Good Chris-tian, fear; for sin-ners here the si - lent Word is plead-ing. The King of kings sal-va-tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en-throne him.



This, this is Christ the king, whom shep-herds guard and an-gels sing; Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you; Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



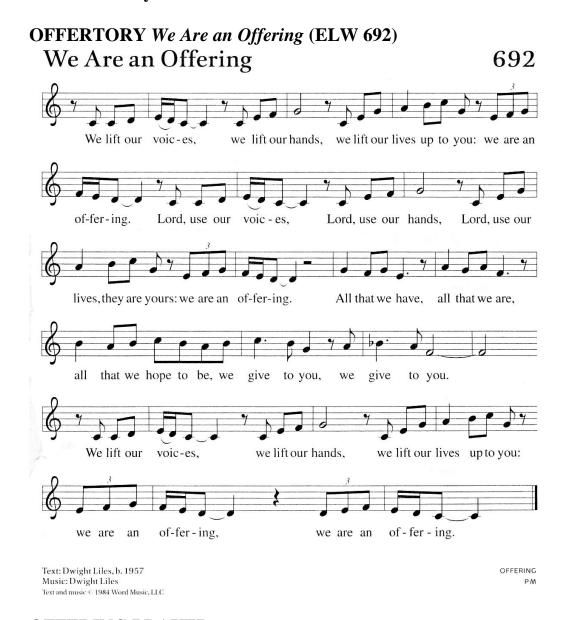
Text: William C. Dix, 1837–1898 Music: GREENSLEEVES, English ballad, 16th cent.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH (*Please respond.*)

P: God of grace, C: hear our prayer.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**



OFFERING PRAYER

Liberating God, you break the bonds of injustice and let the oppressed go free.
Receive these offerings in thanksgiving for all your works of merciful power, and shape us as people of your justice and freedom. You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior, Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

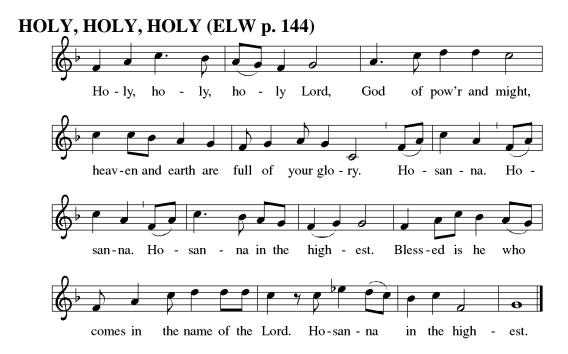
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

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:



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.

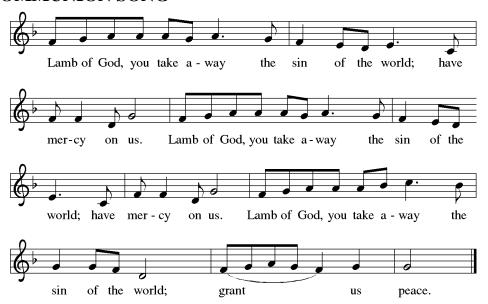
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come and taste the joy of God!

COMMUNION

Continuous - Please continue down center aisle at the direction of the usher. After you receive the bread, you may take a cup of red wine or white grape juice from the tray. Please place your empty communion cup in the basket. Gluten free wafers are available, ask the pastor when you come forward. Notify the Head Usher if you would appreciate receiving Communion at your seat rather than walking up to the altar, the Pastor and Communion Assistant will be happy to bring Communion to you.

COMMUNION SONG



HYMN DURING COMMUNION I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light (ELW 815)

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light



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

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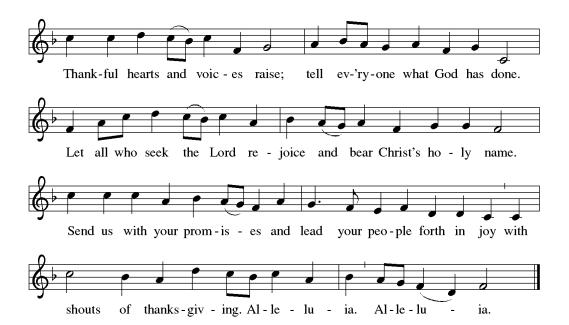
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HOMEBOUND TEAM BLESSING

COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

POST COMMUNION Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise (Hillert) (ELW 204) Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise



Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980 Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923 Text and music © 1978, 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

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PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Holy One,
we thank you for the healing
that springs forth abundantly from this table.
Renew our strength to do justice,
love kindness,
and journey humbly with you.

Amen.

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

Amen.

SENDING SONG *This Little Light of Mine* (ELW 677) This Little Light of Mine



Text: African American spiritual

Music: THIS JOY, African American spiritual

SENDING IN SERVICE

Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus.

Thanks be to God.

EXTINGUISHING THE CANDLE/SILENT PRAYER

POSTLUDE

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SERVING TODAY

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Norm Kuykendall
Edna Harris & Doug Mummert
Jerry & Ilona Laney
Jerry & Ilona Laney
Marjorie Dale
Marjorie Dale & Ilona Laney
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

The altar flowers this morning are placed to the Glory of God in memory of our son John Kindall's birthday on December 11th given with love from his family.

Welcome Visitors! We welcome you to our worship service. We hope your visit with us will be a time of blessing. If you have any concerns, please talk to the Head Usher. We invite you to worship with us again!

Prayer requests for the following Family and friends of Bob Brown, Mary Ellen Bower, Bernie Harris, Kathy Wishard, Peggi Norman, John Fickling, Doc Ensinger, Chole, Jan Horst, Sr. Barbara Barry, Greg Steinour, Betty Amt, Tana Vance, Jim and Carole Darr, Tracy Fredericks, Lanny Haugh, Heather Carman Shull, Jenny Barnes, Ray Rotz, Matthew, Lexi and Brooke Bowen, Sarge and Barb Weaver, Patricia Furry, Tina Smith, Nancy Marshall, Milissa Fogle, Marie Dovey, Beth Floyd, Jean Jackson, David Johnson, Joe and Karen Wolfinger, Jennie Matthews, Patricia Yetter, Carol Locke, Linda Wepking, Frances Kramer, Darrell Veilleux, Ukrainian Nation, Peace for the World. If anyone has a prayer request, please call Janice McEntire. Please Be Aware: At the beginning of the year, the Prayer Request List will start anew. If you would like to remain listed on the next month's list, or if you would like to have your name removed from the list before the end of the month, please call the office.

Office Hours for Pastor Barb are Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 9:00 a.m. until 12 noon or call for an appointment.

Service in case of inclement weather - The Worship and Music team asked that a service be taped in the event worship needs to be cancelled due to inclement weather. You are invited to join members of the choir on **Wednesday**, **January 11 at 10AM**, for taping the service. This will be in place of Bible Study. A bulletin entitled "Bulletin for Inclement Weather" will be added to the website in case of a cancelled service. If the need arises, the service will be downloaded to Facebook and YouTube.

Cancellation Notification: In the event of inclement weather, Solomon's will announce worship services are cancelled on the following platforms: Solomon's Facebook page, Solomon's Website, and on the church voicemail **BY 7:30 AM**. Remember for events like Mid-Week Bible Study, if the schools are closed for weather, then the event is cancelled. Please always use your own judgement about whether you feel safe driving given the road conditions in your neighborhood. One part of the county may be cleared while another is not!

Spiritrust Lutheran Chambersburg Auxiliary has Discount Cards available for \$3.00 each. The cards are good through June 30, 2023. If interested see Becky Pecha.

Youth Party Sunday January 29, 2023 - We will have a Youth Party after Church on January 29th. Lunch Menu: Make your own pizzas, chips, veggie tray, cookies, chocolate covered pretzel rods and drink. We will make a craft. There will be a sign-up sheet on the table in the Sunday School room.

Apple Butter - We still have Apple Butter for sale. Please see Zoe Mummert if you're interested.

2023 Altar Flower Chart is posted in the cloakroom off the church entryway. The cost of the two vases will be \$50.00 per week. You will continue to provide Kimberly with the information for the bulletin prior to the week before the Sunday you choose. Include the cost of \$50.00 with the bulletin information. If you would like to save money by asking someone else to share the cost, you are welcome to do so. When you sign-up for a Sunday, you will be responsible to obtain the bulletin information for you and your friend and forward it to Kimberly.

Power Pack Meals: The Power Pack Meal program at New Franklin Elementary School is up and running. Currently 24 students are being sent home each Friday with food to last them through the weekend. The need for donations is great. Any <u>individual size</u> container of vegetables, fruit, breakfast items, meals (mac & cheese, Chef Boyardee, etc.), juice pouches, Yahoo chocolate drink, 8 oz. bottle water are welcome. Please place your donation in the gray Social Ministry tote in the Sunday School room. Monetary donations are welcome, make your check payable to Solomon's with Power Pack Meals in the memo line.

Hurricane Relief: In response to Hurricane Ian, Lutheran Disaster Response (LDR) is partnering with the Florida-Bahamas, Southeastern, North Carolina and South Carolina synods, as well as Lutheran Services Carolinas, to provide both immediate and long-term support. LDR anticipates relief will include water, food supplies, tarps, cleaning materials and other needs for those who have lost or damaged homes. Please hold the victims and relief workers daily in your prayers. Pray that God will deliver comfort to those who mourn and strength to those working diligently to provide aid. Prayerfully consider a generous donation to provide tangible support. Make your check out to Solomons Lutheran Church with the memo space clearly marked "Hurricane Relief." If you are using cash, clearly mark the envelope. Thank you for your care and support of God's people.

Choir Practice - Thursdays at 7:00PM.

Sunday School is in Session - Adult Sunday School classes begin at 9:00 a.m. in the Sunday School room. Children's Church will be held during morning worship and will meet downstairs at 10:20 a.m. Confirmation Class will be held at 9:00 a.m. in the Conference Room in the Fellowship Center.

Sign-up Sheets for worship assistants for 2023 are on the side table in the Sunday School room. Communion: bread, set-up, clean-up, and assistant will be on a monthly basis. If you can't commit to the entire month, please see if you can share the month with someone else. Acolytes and Lectors are on a weekly basis. If you find you can't fulfill a chosen date, please call someone to take your place. Let Kimberly in the office know so the bulletin and newsletter info stays up to date. Thank you for your commitment to help provide opportunities for meaningful worship at Solomons. Kimberly will publish the schedule for each month in the newsletter.

Bulletin Announcement Forms are in both pamphlet racks. Please submit all bulletin announcements to the office by the Wednesday prior to the Sunday for inclusion in the bulletin.

Council Minutes, Monthly Financial Statement and Committee Minutes are available in the library for anyone to read.

JANUARY 8, 2023 EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD



Jesus brings people of different backgrounds together.

EPIPHANY BIBLE READINGS

Take time to read and reflect on these Bible passages as part of your Epiphany celebration.

Friday

Matthew 2:1-12 The magi worship Jesus

Isaiah 60:1-6 The glory of God shines on the people

Ephesians 3:1-12 Paul's ministry to the Gentiles

Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14 Prayer for guidance

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR EPIPHANY

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: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. **Ephesians 3:5-6 (NRSV)**

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for Epiphany:

Dear God, through wise men from the East, you reveal your plan to bring all the nations of the world together in Christ. Guide your church to live and teach that message today. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

God of the nations, we thank you for this food and ask that all people be given enough to eat so that together our lives may flourish through your grace. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the promise of Christ Jesus bless you to live in peace with all people.

CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- To what teams, schools, or groups do you claim to have a loyalty?
- How can loyalty to only a certain group of people be hurtful to others?

HYMN FOR EPIPHANY

This is My Song

DEVOTIONS



Read: Ephesians 3:1-12.

Epiphany points to Jesus and God's plan for all the world. That plan is like a mystery that is now revealed through the work of Christ for the world. The mystery is the power of God's grace (undeserved kindness) to bring together diverse people, people as far apart as Jews and Gentiles (non-Jews). Paul wrote to the church of this mystery because the people were still divided and opposing one another on the basis of being Jewish or Gentile. The work of the church is to reveal God's plan in Christ, the plan to unite all people under one rule, the merciful rule of God in Christ. In Ephesians we learn that in Christ we are all now "fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel" (v. 6). Epiphany, therefore, has become a message of repentance for the church. It represents a call to return to the mystery of Christ and refrain from divided loyalties by nation, by race, and by various Christian creeds and practices.

Discuss: How can the church today show acceptance of all people, regardless of nation, ethnicity, gender or race?

Pray: Gracious God, in Christ you have made us one. Give us the will and the power to overcome divisions so that we may point to the mystery of Christ's love for us all. Amen.

SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings for this day, how might you help others experience a sense of belonging?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Epiphany is celebrated 12 days after Christmas. Countries around the world have different traditions on this day. From cakes to carols to candles to gifts, it is a time remembered when the wise men visited Jesus. A star led them to Jesus. Tell the story of the wise men's visit in your own words. Then draw or cut out the shape of a star. Write the name of a person in the star who has led you to Jesus. Display it in a visible place in your home as a reminder.

Pray: Dear God, the wise men were led to Jesus. You have placed someone wise in my life. Thank you for [name in star]. I pray that I, too, may point the way for someone in my life to be led to you. Amen.