FAMILY OF CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH AND EARLY EDUCATION CENTER

WELCOME TO THE FAMILY!

"And going into the house they saw the child with Mary, His mother, and they fell down and worshiped Him."

WEDNESDAY EPIPHANY SERVICE

JANUARY 6, 2021

PASTOR'S GREETING

SERVICE OF LIGHT

P: Jesus Christ is the Light of the world,

C: the light no darkness can overcome.

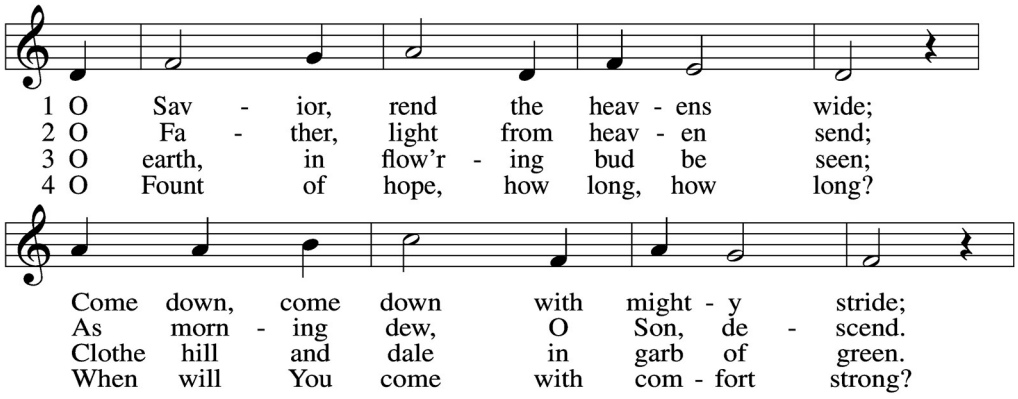
P: Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening,

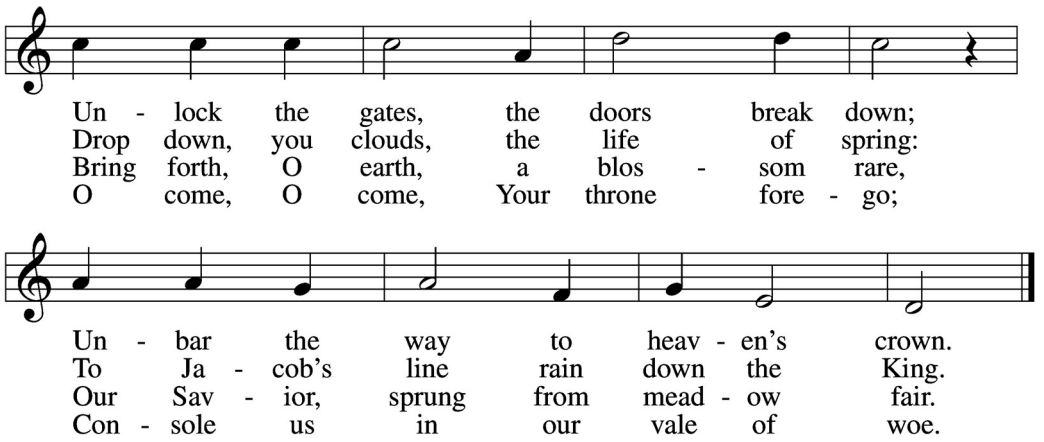
C: and the day is almost over.

P: Let Your light scatter the darkness

C: and illumine Your Church.

HYMN OF INVOCATION O SAVIOR, REND THE HEAVENS WIDE *LSB 355 STS.1-4*





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PHOS HILARON (HYMN OF LIGHT) *LSB 244*

P: Joyous light of glory:

C: of the immortal Father; heavenly, holy, blessed Jesus Christ. We have come to the setting of the sun, and we look to the evening light. We sing to God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit: You are worthy of being praised with pure voices forever. O Son of God, O Giver of life: the universe proclaims Your glory.

INTROIT *Psalm 45:6–8a; antiphon: v. 17*

P: I will cause your name to be remembered in all generations; therefore nations will praise you forever and ever. Your throne, O God, is forever and ever.

C: The scepter of Your kingdom is a scepter of uprightness; You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness. 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.

All: 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.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

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.

C: Amen

Old Testament Reading

R: A reading from the Old Testament book of Isaiah 60:1–6

R: Arise, shine, for Your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon You. 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. And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of Your rising. 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. 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. 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.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

The Gradual

Revelation 7:14; Psalm 84:5

P: These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

C: Blessed are those whose strength is in You, in whose heart are the highways to Zion.

The Holy Gospel

P: A reading of the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew 2:1–12

P 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, 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." When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:

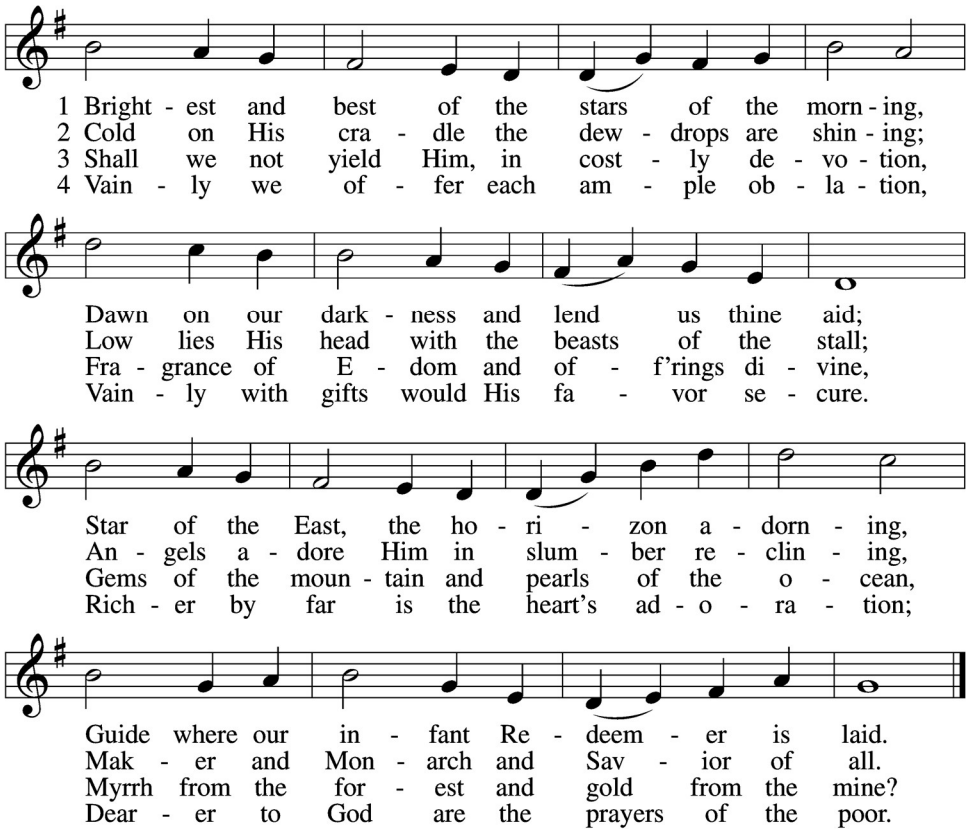
> "'And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.'"

Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. And 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." After 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. When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. And 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. And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

P: In many and various ways, God spoke to His people of old by the prophets.

C: **But now in these last days, He has spoken to us by His Son.**

HYMN BRIGHTEST AND BEST OF THE STARS *LSB 400 STS 1-4*

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PASTOR'S WORDS OF REFLECTION

LITANY *LSB 249*

P: In peace let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For all pastors in Christ, for all servants of the Church, and for all the people, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For our President, Governors, and elected officials, for all public servants, for the government and those who protect us, that they may be upheld and strengthened in every good deed, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For those who work to bring peace, justice, health, and protection in this and every place, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For those who bring offerings, those who do good works in this congregation, those who toil, those who sing, and all the people here present who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For Gerri, Inge, the Bakers, Jane and her family, Pastor Wirtz, Karen Salotti, _____; let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the faithful who have gone before us and are with Christ, let us give thanks to the Lord:

C: Alleluia.

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Defend us gracious Lord.

P: Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ, our Lord:

C: To You, O Lord.

LORD'S PRAYER *LSB 251*

P: Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:

All: 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.

BENEDICAMUS *LSB 252*

P: Let us bless the Lord.

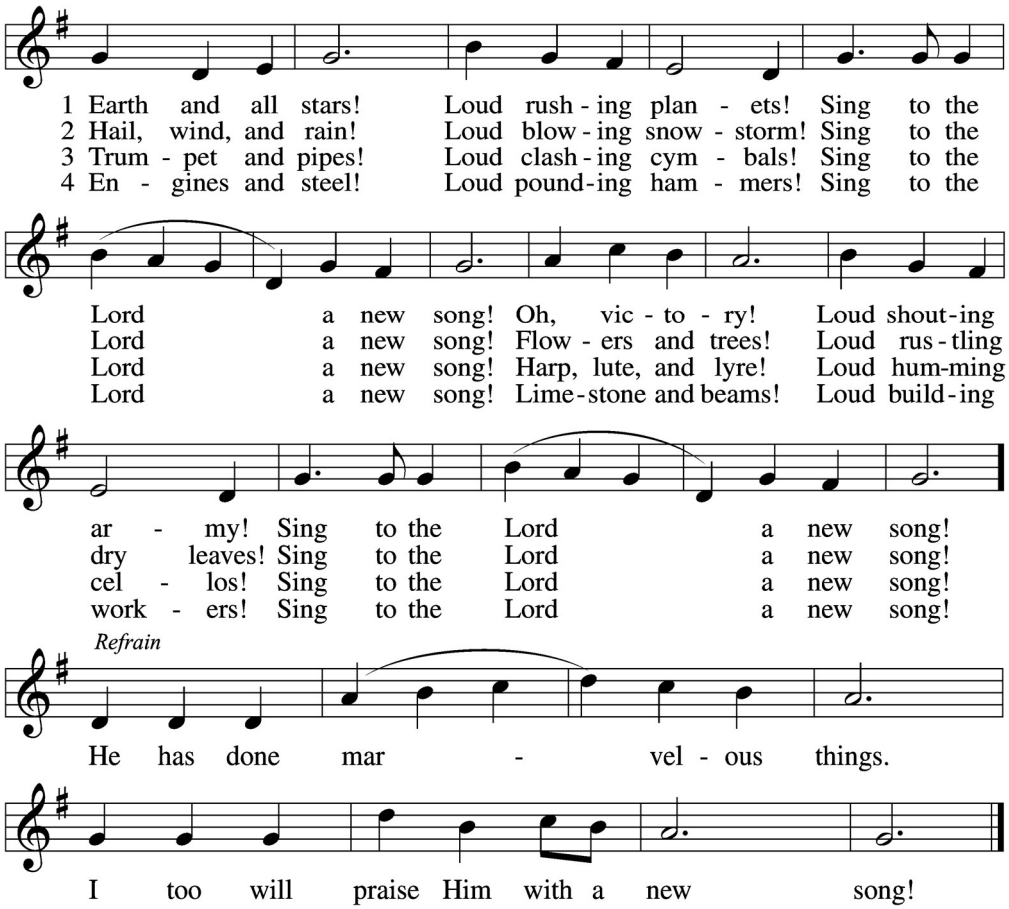
C: Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION *LSB 252*

P: The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✝ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

C: Amen.

DEPARTING HYMN **EARTH AND ALL STARS** ***LSB 817 STS. 1-7***



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5 Classrooms and labs! Loud boiling test tubes!
Sing to the Lord a new song!
Athlete and band! Loud cheering people!
Sing to the Lord a new song! *Refrain*

6 Knowledge and truth! Loud sounding wisdom!
Sing to the Lord a new song!
Daughter and son! Loud praying members!
Sing to the Lord a new song! *Refrain*

7 Children of God, Dying and rising,
Sing to the Lord a new song!
Heaven and earth, Hosts everlasting,
Sing to the Lord a new song! *Refrain*

Family of Christ Lutheran Church and Early Education Center

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Prayer@FamilyOfChristLutheranAZ.org

Offerings can be mailed to the church or sent via Zelle® directly from your bank to:

familyofchristaz@gmail.com

This Week at Family of Christ

1/6– 1/13

Wednesday

6:00PM Midweek Prayer Service for Epiphany

Thursday

5:30PM Confirmation Class at the Church

Friday

6:30AM Men's Bible Study in Leviticus

Next Sunday

9:30AM Divine Worship with Installation of Officers
Presentation from LCEF representative after service

11:00AM Bible Study on Large Catechism

PLEASE NOTE*: Church Services and Bible Studies are currently offered in person and via Zoom. In-person meetings follow all CDC-recommended protocols.*

Pastor is available upon request for: *(call the Church office or Pastor's cell to schedule)*

- ✝ Individual Confession and Absolution
- ✝ Home, hospital or nursing home visits
- ✝ Communion
- ✝ Prayer

Please see the Bulletin Insert (attachment) for information on the LCMS Foundation's ***Lifetime Plan for Giving™*** training sessions on January 19-20.