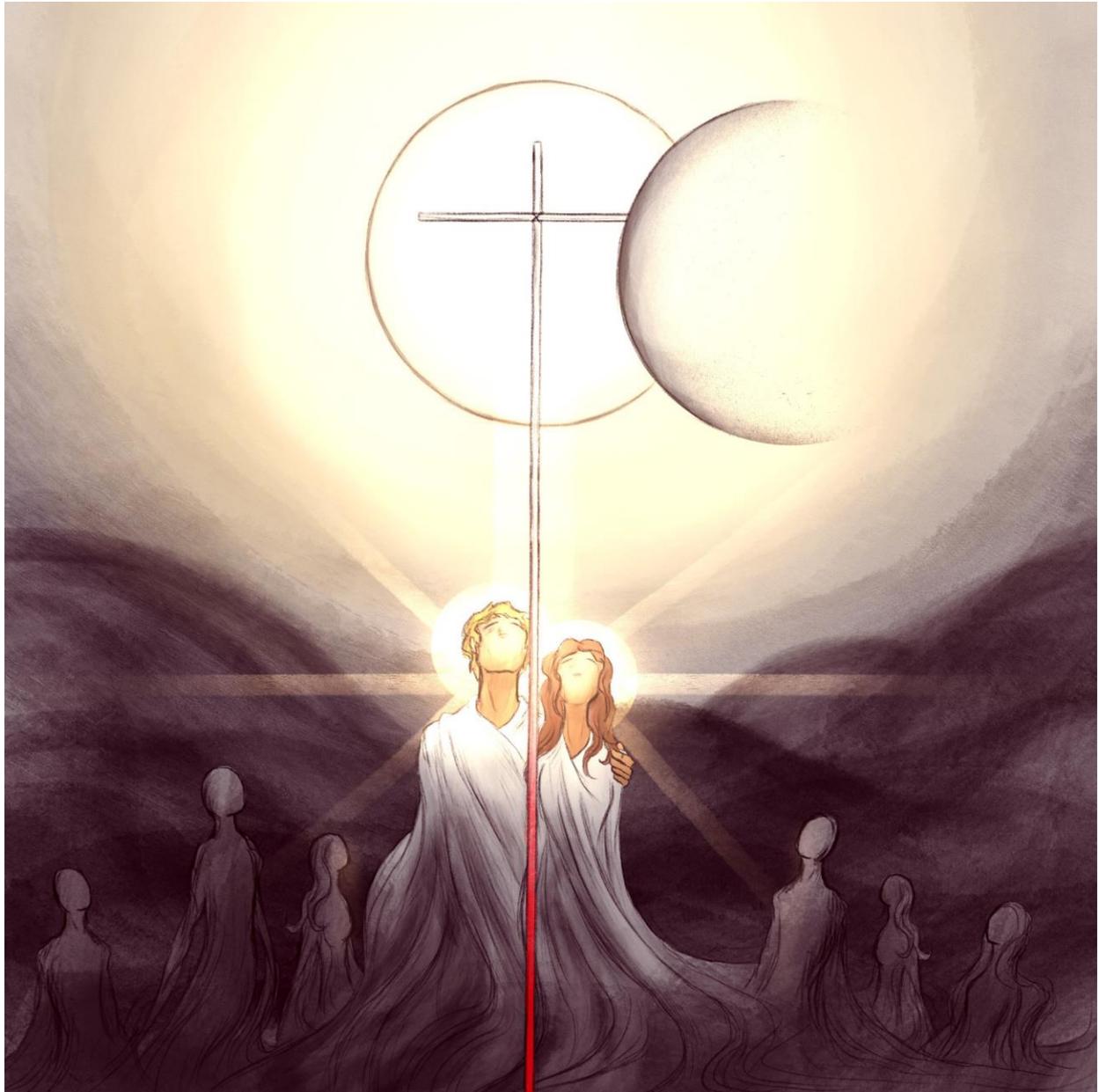


# Prince of Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church



## The Savior Rises and Shines

Epiphany

January 8, 2023



*“Learning and sharing the gospel of Christ the Prince of Peace.”*

Prince of Peace  
Evangelical Lutheran Church  
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## **WELCOME!**

Welcome to Prince of Peace Lutheran Church. We pray that the time spent here in God's house helps you to appreciate how dearly God loves you! He invested the life blood of his one and only Son into your salvation and offers the blessings of that sacrifice to us through Word and Sacrament! May God bless our worship today!

## **THEME FOR TODAY**

The light of God's love has appeared among us, and therefore God tells us to rise and shine the light of God's glory into all the darkness around us. The Church is a beacon of God's glory that pierces the darkness. In the glow of this light, Isaiah points Israel to what God is accomplishing through them: Gentiles are streaming to them. As the Church shines her light into the world, Israel can see the promise to Abraham fulfilled: all nations are blessed.

## **THE EPIPHANY SEASON**

### **Promises in Action**

The Epiphany season of the church year is all about Jesus making himself known as the Savior. The promises talked about in Advent, the promises fulfilled at Christmas, are now shown in action in the life of Jesus as he reveals himself as Savior in word and deed.

- Jan 8 — The Savior rises and shines (Isaiah 60:1-6)
- Jan 15 — The Savior is anointed (Isaiah 42:1-7)
- Jan 22 — The Savior calls a people to himself (Isaiah 49:1-6)
- Jan 29 — The Savior brings light to those in darkness (Isaiah 9:1-4)

*Stand*

In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

## **Confession**

CW 154

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.  
**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just  
and will forgive us our sins  
and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**Holy God, gracious Father,**

**I am sinful by nature**

**and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.**

**I have not loved you with my whole heart;**

**I have not loved others as I should.**

**I deserve your punishment both now and forever.**

**But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins**

**with his innocent suffering and death.**

**Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

*Silence for meditation and reflection*

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## **Lord, Have Mercy**

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

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

**Lord, have mercy.**

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.

**Lord, have mercy.**

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

**Lord, have mercy.**

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

**Amen.**

## Glory Be to God

CW 157



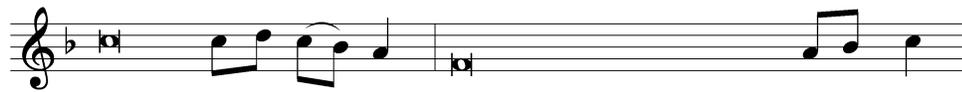
Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.



We praise you, we bless you, we wor-ship you, we glorify you,



we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,



God the Fa-ther Al-mighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;



O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sin of the world;



have mercy on us. You take away the sin of the world; re-ceive our prayer.



You sit at the right hand of God the Father; have mercy on us.



For you on-ly are holy; you on-ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the



Ho-ly Spirit, are most high in the glory of God the Father. A-men.

# The Word

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

## Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Lord God, by the leading of a star, you once made known to the nations your one and only Son. Guide us, also, who know him now by faith to come at last to the perfect joy of your heavenly glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*Be seated*

## First Reading

*Isaiah 60:1–6*

*The light of God's love has appeared among us, and therefore God tells us to rise and shine the light of God's glory into all the darkness around us. As the Church shines her light into the world, Israel can see the promise to Abraham fulfilled: all nations are blessed.*

<sup>1</sup>“Arise, shine, for your light has come,  
and the glory of the LORD rises upon you.

<sup>2</sup>See, darkness covers the earth  
and thick darkness is over the peoples,  
but the LORD rises upon you  
and his glory appears over you.

<sup>3</sup>Nations will come to your light,  
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

<sup>4</sup>Lift up your eyes and look about you:  
All assemble and come to you;  
your sons come from afar,  
and your daughters are carried on the hip.

<sup>5</sup>Then you will look and be radiant,  
your heart will throb and swell with joy;  
the wealth on the seas will be brought to you,  
to you the riches of the nations will come.

<sup>6</sup>Herds of camels will cover your land,  
young camels of Midian and Ephah.

And all from Sheba will come,  
bearing gold and incense  
and proclaiming the praise of the LORD.

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## **72A Lord, Every Nation on Earth Will Adore You**

*Psalm 72A*

### **Second Reading**

*Ephesians 3:2–12*

*The people of Israel knew that the Gentiles had a place in the Old Covenant. The mystery, however, lay in exactly what kind of place they would have in the New Covenant. The Jews did not understand that God intended the Gentiles to have an equal place. The coming of the magi marked the beginning of wave after wave of Gentiles who would come to faith in Christ. God wanted them to be equal partners with the sons of the covenant.*

<sup>2</sup>Surely you have heard about the administration of God's grace that was given to me for you, <sup>3</sup>that is, the mystery made known to me by revelation, as I have already written briefly. <sup>4</sup>In reading this, then, you will be able to understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, <sup>5</sup>which was not made known to people in other generations as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to God's holy apostles and prophets. <sup>6</sup>This mystery is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members together of one body, and sharers together in the promise in Christ Jesus.

<sup>7</sup>I became a servant of this gospel by the gift of God's grace given me through the working of his power. <sup>8</sup>Although I am less than the least of all the Lord's people, this grace was given me: to preach to the Gentiles the boundless riches of Christ, <sup>9</sup>and to make plain to everyone the administration of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things. <sup>10</sup>His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms, <sup>11</sup>according to his eternal purpose that he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord. <sup>12</sup>In him and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence.

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

## Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 2:2



Refrain



Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews?  
We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.

Refrain

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## Gospel

Matthew 2:1–12

*When the Son of God entered our race, the world barely seemed to notice. God, however, set out to display the glory of his Son born in the flesh. He placed his sign in the heavens, and Gentile magi came to acknowledge the birth of Israel's king and thus fulfill the prophecy of Isaiah. In that, they were a picture of all the Gentiles who would come to faith in Christ: converted by the Spirit and worshipping the true King of the Jews and Savior of the Nations.*

<sup>1</sup>After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem <sup>2</sup>and asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.”

<sup>3</sup>When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. <sup>4</sup>When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. <sup>5</sup>“In Bethlehem in Judea,” they replied, “for this is what the prophet has written:

<sup>6</sup>“But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;  
for out of you will come a ruler  
who will shepherd my people Israel.”

<sup>7</sup>Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup>He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him.”

<sup>9</sup>After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was.

<sup>10</sup>When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. <sup>11</sup>On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. <sup>12</sup>And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to you, O Christ!**

*Be seated*

## **370 How Lovely Shines the Morning Star**

CW 370

### **Sermon**

*Isaiah 60:1–6*

The Light Has Come

- I. It shines in the darkness
- II. It draws nations to itself

*Stand*

### **Apostles' Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended into hell.  
The third day he rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*Be seated*

## Prayer of the Church

*Brief intercessory prayers may be added in a fitting place.*

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God and Mary's Son, in the fullness of time you came into our world to save us from sin and death.

**You ushered in the day of grace so long foretold.**

Beloved Son of the Father, revered by the Magi, baptized by John, you came preaching and teaching, healing and comforting, forgiving and encouraging:

**You brought the light of life to those walking in darkness, and the joy of salvation to those doomed to death.**

Prince of peace, shine like a beacon for us and the people of our world. Let the good news of salvation be heard in the remotest corners of the earth. Open our own lips to speak your name to those around us who still live without faith or hope:

**Arouse us and our missionaries to flood the world with the light of your gospel.**

Lord of the Church, let your peace rule our hearts that we may use our gifts to serve you and each other in willing gratitude and joy. Watch over our loved ones near and far, that they may remember your love and rejoice in your salvation. Strengthen the faith of the sick and the disheartened. [We pray especially for...*here name the person and the cause of the petition.*] Give hope to those in despair and comfort those who mourn.

**Be gracious to all and lead us to reflect your love in everything we say and do.**

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

*Silent prayer*

Finally, bring us and all your believers to the heavenly home where we will stand in the full light of your glory and with all your saints and angels sing the everlasting song of triumph.

**Amen.**

## Offering

**721 What a Friend We Have in Jesus**

CW 721

*Stand*

*One of the following prayers or another prayer is spoken:*

Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart that, being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

## **Lord's Prayer**

**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.**

## **Blessing**

The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look on you with favor and ✠ give you peace.  
**Amen.**

**376 Rise Up and Shine**

CW 376

## **Acknowledgments**

Setting One from Christian Worship

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**THE WEEK AHEAD**

<b>MONDAY</b>	6:30 pm Catechism
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	10:15 am Bible Class 6:00 pm Bible Class
<b>THURSDAY</b>	5:00 pm Board of Christian Education Meeting
<b>SATURDAY</b>	10:00 am Women's Bible Study
<b>SUNDAY</b>	9:15 am Bible Class & Sunday School 10:30 am Worship w/Lord's Supper

**CHANCEL FLOWERS**

Terry and Ann Wendt provided the chancel flowers today in honor of Terry's and their son's birthday! We join them in wishing Terry & Rodney a happy birthday. We pray that they, along with all of us, will never forget that Jesus Christ has made life truly worth living. He gives us reasons each day to thank him for his grace and goodness to us! God bless you, Terry & Rodney!



**WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY**

Women's Bible study will be held this coming Saturday, January 12<sup>th</sup>, 10:00am in the church fellowship hall. The theme of the Bible study will be, "Are you Winterized?" a Bible study that teaches us how to be strengthened by Scriptures to endure the harsh "Winter" seasons of life when we are confronted by hardships and troubles.

**MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY**

Don't forget, Midweek Bible class is back! We're about to enter into the concluding sections of Revelation that speak about Judgement Day and the glory of heaven. Midweek Bible Class opportunities are at 10:15am and 6:00pm every Wednesday. See you there!

<u>Operating Offerings</u>		<u>Attendance</u>		<u>Mortgage Progress</u>	
1/1/23	\$2,935.00			1/1/23	\$160.00
Month to Date	\$2,935.00	1/1/23	34	Month to Date	\$160.00
YTD	\$2,935.00			YTD	\$160.00
Budget YTD	\$3,707.00			Budget YTD	\$573.00
2022 YTD	\$3,046.00			2022 YTD	\$681.00
<b>Weekly needs January Operating Offering</b>				<b>\$</b>	<b>3,707.00</b>
<b>Monthly Mortgage Payment</b>				<b>\$</b>	<b>2,867.00</b>