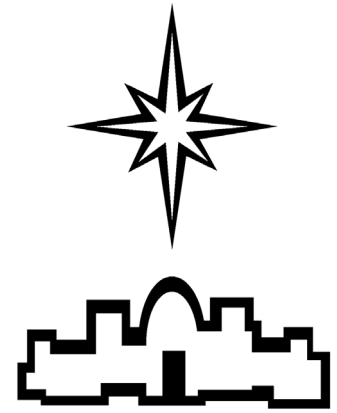


Day of Epiphany

January 6, 2025

Day of Epiphany (Year C)

The Light of the World has come as promised, casting out darkness and sin. God has revealed his salvation through the birth of his one and only son, Jesus. The prophets spoke of him long ago, assuring God's people that the glory of the Lord would shine upon them. For those who have waited in despair, the thrill of His radiance will fill their hearts. This message is for all to hear — wise and foolish alike.



THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURE TEXTS

First Lesson: Isaiah 60:1-6

Lift Up Your Eyes and See!

Just as the sun rises in the morning, so the Son of Righteousness rises over God's people. The Light of the world has come to us, dispelling all darkness and shadow. His glory shall illuminate the land and the lives of all who believe. Men will come from far off bringing expensive gifts of gold and frankincense to honor him.

Psalm 72:1-11 (12-15)

A Righteous King Will Reign

Solomon prayed for the gift of being able to judge justly for Israel. A righteous king looks after those in need and cares for the weak and vulnerable. This is the Lord to whom the kings of the earth will bow down and worship. Under his rule, peace will reign and he will defend the cause of the poor.

Second Lesson: Ephesians 3:1-12

Mystery Made Known through Revelation

Paul wrote to the Ephesians explaining that the mystery of Christ is that the Gentiles have become fellow heirs of the promises of God. The apostle explained that it was the Holy Spirit who gave him this knowledge so that all might be saved by God's grace. Those who were once outside of God's family are now full members.

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 2:1-12

The Search for a Newborn King

The Shepherd king will come out of the smallest clan of Judah. Out of the home town of King David shall rise a leader who will free God's people from oppression. When King Herod sent some wise men to find the child under the pretense of a desire to worship him.

Suggestions for the Day:

- Liturgical Color: White
- Use the Kyrie and Hymn of Praise on the Festival Day of Epiphany.
- Use the Nicene Creed during this time of waiting and watching for the return of Christ.
- "Incarnation" is often a word that people hear in church but don't necessarily know the exact meaning. Consider breaking that word down for the worshipping community to help them better understand what God did when he came to earth in human form. [carn = flesh]
- There is a tradition of marking doorways during Epiphany as a blessing for the house. Read more about this here: <http://www.crivoice.org/cyepiph.html>

SUGGESTED HYMNS FOR WORSHIP

Hymn Titles:

	LBW	WOV	LSB	ELW	REC	Sola
Arise Your Light Has Come	---	652	---	314	---	---
Rise, Shine, You People	393	---	825	665	---	---
Shine, Jesus, Shine	---	651	---	671	---	---
We Three Kings	---	646	---	---	130	130
All Depends on Our Possessing	447	---	732	589	194	194
All People That on Earth Do Dwell	245	---	791	883	17	17
Be Thou My Vision	---	776	---	793	230	230
Breathe on Me, Breath of God	488	---	---	---	217	217
Come, Thou Almighty King	522	---	905	408	247	247
Here, O My Lord, I See Thee	211	---	631	---	---	web

The hymn suggestions above can be found in: LBW=Lutheran Book of Worship, WOV=With One Voice, ELW=Evangelical Lutheran Worship (Augsburg Fortress); LSB=The Lutheran Service Book (Concordia Publishing), REC=The ReClaim Hymnal for Church and Home (ReClaim Resources), and *** means you can find it on SOWeR at "Hymns and Music."

CONTEMPORARY SONGS

Praise Song Titles:

Marvelous Light
(CCLI# 4491002)
Light of the World
(CCLI# 7023299)
This Little Light of Mine
(CCLI# 34680)
Raise a Hallelujah
(CCLI# 7119315)
The Blessing
(CCLI# 7147007)

The contemporary song suggestions above are noted by their CCLI number. To print these songs, a congregation must have a CCLI license.