

Zion Lutheran Church, Aberdeen, SD
First Sunday After Epiphany
zionlutheranaberndeen.org



INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

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.

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING SONG

Here I Am to Worship

So here I am to worship, here I am to bow down,
Here I am to say that You're my God,
You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy,
Altogether wonderful to me.

Light of the World, You stepped down into darkness,
Opened my eyes, let me see.
Beauty that made this heart adore You,
Hope of a life spent with You.

So here I am to worship, here I am to bow down,
Here I am to say that You're my God,
You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy,
Altogether wonderful to me.

King of all days, oh so highly exalted,
Glorious in heaven above.
Humbly You came to the earth You created,
All for love's sake became poor.

So here I am to worship, here I am to bow down,
Here I am to say that You're my God,
You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy,
Altogether wonderful to me.

So here I am to worship, here I am to bow down,
Here I am to say that You're my God,

You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy,
Altogether wonderful to me.

INVOCATION

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, the Word made flesh, our life and our salvation.
Amen.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Trusting the goodness and lovingkindness of God our Savior, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of life,
as we move into this season of Epiphany,
we confess that we have chopped our world into pieces,
accepting some parts and rejecting others.
We have made ourselves the judges
of which hopes, which people, which nations are acceptable,
forgetting that you are the only judge.

We have denied, repressed, ignored or condemned
all the pieces of your world that we don't like.
In our souls and on earth we have left brokenness
where you created wholeness.
Merciful God, forgive us our sins.
Amen.

Neither this world nor your life is so broken
that God cannot restore it to wholeness.
This is why Jesus Christ was born as a babe in Bethlehem
Trust and believe that, after separation,
reconciliation is possible.
God does show us the way home.
In the name of ☩ Christ Jesus,
your sins are forgiven.
Amen.

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.

SONG OF PRAISE

How Majestic

O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!
O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!
O Lord, we praise your name!
O Lord, we magnify your name.
Prince of Peace, Mighty God, O Lord God Almighty!

O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!
O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!
O Lord, we praise your name!
O Lord, we magnify your name.
Prince of Peace, Mighty God, O Lord God Almighty!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together: Everlasting God, the radiance of all faithful people, you brought the nations to the brightness of your rising. Fill the world with your glory, and show yourself to all the world through him who is the true light and the bright morning star, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

KIDS' TIME

Pastoral Assistant Sandra

FIRST READING

Isaiah 60:1-6

¹Arise, shine; for your light has come,
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.
²For darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples;
but the LORD will arise upon you,
and his glory will appear over you.
³Nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.
⁴Lift up your eyes and look around;
they all gather together, they come to you;
your sons shall come from far away,
and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms.
⁵Then you shall see and be radiant;
your heart shall thrill and rejoice,
because the abundance of the sea shall be brought 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 proclaim the praise of the LORD.

PSALM

Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14

(read responsively)

- ¹Give the king your justice, O God,
and your righteousness to a king's son.
- ²**May he judge your people with righteousness,
and your poor with justice.**
- ³May the mountains yield prosperity for the people,
and the hills, in righteousness.
- ⁴**May he defend the cause of the poor of the people,
give deliverance to the needy,
and crush the oppressor.**
- ⁵May he live while the sun endures,
and as long as the moon, throughout all generations.
- ⁶**May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass,
like showers that water the earth.**
- ⁷In his days may righteousness flourish
and peace abound, until the moon is no more.
- ¹⁰**May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles
render him tribute,
may the kings of Sheba and Seba
bring gifts.**
- ¹¹May all kings fall down before him,
all nations give him service.
- ¹²**For he delivers the needy when they call,
the poor and those who have no helper.**
- ¹³He has pity on the weak and the needy,
and saves the lives of the needy.
- ¹⁴**From oppression and violence he redeems their life;
and precious is their blood in his sight.**

SECOND READING

Ephesians 3:1-12

¹This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles — ²for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, ³and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, ⁴a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. ⁵In 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: ⁶that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

⁷Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. ⁸Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, ⁹and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; ¹⁰so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹This was in accordance with the eternal purpose

that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹²in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

Word of God. Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA

Alleluia (I Am the Light of the World)

Alleluia, Alleluia, I am the light of the world.

Alleluia, Alleluia, I am the light of the world.

Those who follow me will not walk in darkness.

Those who follow me will have the light of life.

Alleluia, Alleluia, I am the light of the world.

Alleluia, Alleluia, I am the light of the world.

Those who follow me will not walk in darkness.

Those who follow me will have the light of life.

Alleluia, Alleluia, I am the light of the world.

Alleluia, Alleluia, I am the light of the world.

The holy gospel according to Matthew, the second chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL

Matthew 2:1-12

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 Jim Holthus

SONG OF THE DAY

Open the Eyes of My Heart

Open the eyes of my heart Lord. Open the eyes of my heart.
I want to see you. I want to see you.
Open the eyes of my heart Lord. Open the eyes of my heart.
I want to see you. I want to see you.

To see you high and lifted up, shining in the light of your glory.
Pour out your pow'r and love as we sing holy, holy, holy.

Open the eyes of my heart Lord. Open the eyes of my heart.
I want to see you. I want to see you.
Open the eyes of my heart Lord. Open the eyes of my heart.
I want to see you. I want to see you.

To see you high and lifted up, shining in the light of your glory.
Pour out your pow'r and love as we sing holy, holy, holy.

Holy, holy, holy. Holy, holy, holy. Holy, holy, holy.
I want to see you.
Holy, holy, holy. Holy, holy, holy. Holy, holy, holy.
I want to see you.

Open the eyes of my heart Lord. Open the eyes of my heart.
I want to see you. I want to see you.
Open the eyes of my heart Lord. Open the eyes of my heart.
I want to see you. I want to see you.

APOSTLES' CREED

God has made us His people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.

On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

With wonder and thanksgiving for Christ's coming into the world, we pray for the church, the life of the earth, and the whole human family.

Prayer response: God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Pondering the mystery of eternal love made flesh in Christ Jesus, we commend all for whom we pray to the mercy of God. **Amen.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

OFFERING

We glorify God in our giving. Our offering is an act of worship that makes the ministries of this congregation possible. We encourage everyone to give. We encourage you to consider giving a gift online at zionlutheranaberdeen.org/giving or by mail as you are able. If you would like, use the QR code scanner on your smart phone to give online.



OFFERING SONG

We Bow Down

You are Lord of creation and Lord of my life,
Lord of the land and the sea.
You were Lord of the heavens before there was time.
And Lord of all lords You will be.

We bow down and we worship You Lord.
We bow down and we worship You Lord.
We bow down and we worship You Lord.
Lord of all lords You will be.

You are King of Creation and King of my life,
King of the land and the sea.
You were King of the heavens before there was time,
And King of all kings You will be.

We bow down and we crown You the King.
We bow down and we crown You the King.
We bow down and we crown You the King,
King of all kings You will be.

We bow down and we worship You Lord.
We bow down and we worship You Lord.
We bow down and we worship You Lord,
Lord of all lords You will be. You will be.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together: **God of abundance, receive and bless these gifts we have offered. Join our hearts with the song of the angels, and gather us at your table of celebration. Strengthen us to share with all the world the abundance of your grace upon grace, poured out in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. 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.

LITANY

Each of us is broken by sin and less than God has created us to be, but this does not disqualify us from being touched by God and serving God in any capacity, large or small, broken as we are.

God uses broken things. It takes broken clouds to give rain, broken ground to give grain, broken grain to give bread, broken bread to give strength.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

Let us pray in confidence the words our Savior gave 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

Glory to God in the highest! Come to the table of peace.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

*All who believe that our Lord Jesus Christ is truly present in the bread and wine of The Lord's Supper bringing to us
the gift of forgiveness and the promise of eternal life, are welcome to gather at the Lord's Table.*

COMMUNION SONG

The Heart of Worship

When the music fades, all is stripped away, and I simply come;
Longing just to bring something that's of worth that will bless your heart.
I'll bring you more than a song, for a song in itself is not what You have required.
You search much deeper within through the way things appear;
You're looking into my heart.

I'm coming back to the heart of worship, and it's all about You,
It's all about You, Jesus.
I'm sorry, Lord, for the thing I've made it,
When it's all about You, it's all about You, Jesus.

King of endless worth, no one could express how much You deserve.
Though I'm weak and poor, all I have is Yours, ev'ry single breath.
I'll bring You more than a song, for a song in itself is not what You have required.
You search much deeper within through the way things appear;
You're looking into my heart.

I'm coming back to the heart of worship, and it's all about You,
It's all about You, Jesus.
I'm sorry, Lord, for the thing I've made it,
When it's all about You, it's all about You, Jesus.

I'm coming back to the heart of worship, and it's all about You,
It's all about You, Jesus.
I'm sorry, Lord, for the thing I've made it,
When it's all about You, it's all about You, Jesus.

BLESSING

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together: **God our redeemer, you have fed us at this table with gifts of grace, truth, and life. As you have gathered us in joy, send us forth as messengers of your peace. Make us shine with the good news of your glory, born to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

BENEDICTION

God bless you and keep you,
✠ Jesus grant you grace and truth,
and the Spirit send peace upon your hearts,
now and forever.
Amen.

SENDING SONG

Rise Up and Praise Him

Let the heavens rejoice. Let the earth be glad.
Let the people of God sing His praise all over the land.
Everyone in the valley come and lift your voice.
All those on the mountaintop, be glad and shout for joy.

Rise up and praise Him, He deserves our love.
Rise up and praise Him, worship the holy one.
With all your heart, with all your soul, with all your might
Rise up and praise Him.

Let the heavens rejoice. Let the earth be glad.
Let the people of God sing His praise all over the land.
Everyone in the valley come and lift your voice.
All those on the mountaintop, be glad and shout for joy.

Rise up and praise Him, He deserves our love.
Rise up and praise Him, worship the holy one.
With all your heart, with all your soul, with all your might,
Rise up and praise Him.

Rise up and praise Him, he deserves our love.
Rise up and praise Him, worship the holy one.

With all your heart, with all your soul, with all your might,
Rise up and praise Him.

SENDING WORDS

Christ the Savior is born! Go in peace. Proclaim this good news.
Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE