



A reading from Isaiah.

Arise, shine; for your light has come,  
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon  
you. For darkness shall cover the earth,  
and thick darkness the peoples; but the  
Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will  
appear over you. Nations shall come to  
your light, and kings to the brightness of  
your dawn. Lift 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. Then 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.  
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  
proclaim the praise of the Lord.

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

**Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14**

A reading from Ephesians.

*(Not Printed)*

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

The holy gospel according to Matthew.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was  
born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men  
from the East came to Jerusalem, asking,  
"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." When King Herod heard this, he  
was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him;  
and calling together all the chief priests  
and scribes of the people, he inquired of  
them where the Messiah was to be born.  
They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for  
so it has been written by the prophet: '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.'" Then  
Herod secretly called for the wise men and  
learned from them the exact time when  
the star had appeared. Then 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." When 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. When they saw  
that the star had stopped, they were  
overwhelmed with joy. On entering the  
house, they saw the child with Mary his  
mother; and they knelt down and paid him  
homage. Then, opening their treasure  
chest, they offered him gifts of gold,  
frankincense, and myrrh. And 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.**

## EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD



*"As with gladness men of old  
did the guiding star behold;  
as with joy they hailed its light,  
leading onward, beaming bright;  
so, most gracious Lord, may we  
evermore be led by thee."*

WILLIAM C. DIX, ELW 302



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*Sunday*  
**January 5, 2020**  
**8:00 & 9:30 am**

## GATHERED TO WORSHIP

*Setting 4: Pgs. 147-154*

### GATHERING

**Confession and Forgiveness** p. 94

**Gathering Song** **No. 303**

*"Brightest and Best of the Stars"*

**Greeting**

**Kyrie** p. 147

**Canticle of Praise** p. 148

*"Glory to God"*

**Prayer of the Day**

**Children's Sermon—9:30**

### WORD

Isaiah 60:1-6

Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14

Ephesians 3:1-12

**Gospel Acclamation** p. 151

**Gospel** Matthew 2:1-12

**Sermon**

**Hymn of the Day** **No. 300**

*"The First Noel"*

**Nicene Creed** p. 104

**Prayers of Intercession**

**Peace**

### MEAL

**Offertory Prayer**

**Great Thanksgiving** p. 152

**Holy, Holy, Holy** p. 153

**Words of Institution**

**Lord's Prayer** p. 154

**Communion Distribution**

**Lamb of God** p. 154

**Distribution Hymns** **No. 815**

*"I Want to Walk as a Child  
of the Light"*

**No. 483**

*"Here is Bread"*

**Post-Communion Prayer**

### SENDING

**Blessing**

**Sending Song** **No. 302**

*"As with Gladness Men of Old"*

**Dismissal**

## SENT TO SERVE

## WELCOME

### Visiting Today

If you are visiting today, thank you. If you wish, please fill out a "Visitor Card" located in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate.

### The Worship Service

The bold "No." on the front of your bulletin are hymn numbers. The Psalm can be found by turning the hymnal to the side and looking for the stripe. The small numbers marked with a "p." are at the bottom of the page at the front of the hymnal.

### Holy Communion

All are welcome. Distribution is by intinction, taking a piece of bread, dip it in the wine, and receive both elements at once. There is a gluten-free/grape juice option available near the baptismal font.

### Offerings

Thank you for all who contribute and share in the work of Christ's church. Please place your offering in the offering plate.

### Altar Flowers

The flowers in the sanctuary this morning are given in thanksgiving for Joy Mitchell and in memory of Barb Kinney.

### "Christ In Our Home" Devotional

The 2020 first quarter of "Christ In Our Home" devotional is available in the Narthex. Please take a copy for your family.

### "Giving Tree"

Look for "Giving Tree" displays in the Fellowship Hall to choose local to global giving options during this season of Christmas - Blessings in a Backpack, hats and mittens, ELCA Good Gifts.

## Exploring Faith Through the Small Catechism

**Begins Saturday, January 18**

**Worship: 8:30; Class: 9-10:30**

*New to the faith? Curious about baptism? Never went through confirmation? Just want to know more about what it means to be Lutheran and a disciple of Christ?*

Lay School is offering an opportunity for those who are interested to take a deep dive into the Small Catechism using the *By Heart* curriculum. This study will engage students in an exploration of the commandments, the creeds, the Lord's Prayer, the sacraments, and life together as members of the body of Christ. No Prior Knowledge Required! Materials for the study are being provided by the synod, and there is **no cost** to you! The study will meet once a month when the lay school meets: **January 18, February 15, March 21, April 18 and May 9**. If interested or you want to learn more, please call Pastor Jen Hoffman at 715-581-7378, or email her at [pastorjenhoffman@sslcwausau.com](mailto:pastorjenhoffman@sslcwausau.com).

### Do You Have SALC Photos?

Do you have SALC photos from 2019? From the past 40 years? We would like to include them in the annual meeting and as a part of the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration next year. All photos can be submitted through the SALC website 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary page. If you have printed copies you would like to share, please e-mail [jenna@salc-wausau.org](mailto:jenna@salc-wausau.org) to coordinate a time to drop them off.

### OWLS

The OWLS will take a winter break in January. Watch the bulletin and Network for the next activity.



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
[www.salc-wausau.org](http://www.salc-wausau.org)

## THIS WEEK AT SALC

### Sunday, January 5

8:00 am **WORSHIP**

9:30 am **WORSHIP**

9:30 am Adult Bible Study

9:45 am Sunday School

10:45 am Youth Summer Trip  
Informational Meeting

### Monday, January 6

7:00 pm AA, Alanon & Alateen

7:00 pm Dartball vs Mount Olive

### Tuesday, January 7

9:00 am Reading Reflections

6:30 pm Ministry Night Meetings

### Wednesday, January 8

6:45 am Son Riser's Bible Study

9:30 am Wonder? Women

Lectionary Bible Study

10:00 am Men's Bible Study

11:00 am Art Devo

5:15 pm Handbell Reh.

6:15 pm 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Conf.

6:30 pm Chancel Choir

### Thursday, January 9

12:15 pm **WORSHIP**

6:15 pm **WORSHIP**

### Mid-Winter Retreat

**Who:** 3-6 Grade Students (& Parent chaperones)

**What:** Time at camp in God's beautiful creation to play and explore in the snow, study bible stories, sing and play games around a theme focused on faith and life.

**When:** **Friday, January 24** (drop off: 6:30-7:00 pm) — **Sunday, January 26** (pick up: 11:00 am)

**Where:** Crossways Waypost Camp in Hatley, WI

**Cost:** \$50 (will need to provide your own transportation.)

Register by **January 12**—online ([www.salc-wausau.org](http://www.salc-wausau.org)) or at the Information Desk in the Narthex. Please see Jenna, Faith Formation Coordinator, with questions.

## WORSHIP WORD

### Chalking the doors: An Epiphany Tradition

January 6 is the day we celebrate Epiphany, the day the Magi arrived with gifts for Jesus. A centuries old tradition of Epiphany practiced all over the world is chalking the doors. It is a time of a family asking God's blessing on their home and on those who live in it or visit. It is also an invitation for Jesus to be a daily guest in your home and in your daily routines.

The traditional way to chalk your door is to write **20 + C + M + B + 20** above the entrance to your home. The letters C, M, B have two meanings: They are the initials of the traditional names of the three wise men: Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar. They also abbreviate the Latin Words *Christus mansionem benedicat*, "May Christ bless this house." The "+" signs represent the cross and 20 the millennium and last 20, the year.

### Prayer

O God, please bless this house and all those who enter. Peace be to this house and all who live here. May all who come to our home this year find Jesus living among us. Holy Spirit, fill us with your love so that our concern for others may reflect your love. Amen.

*Chalk is available in the narthex to take with you to share this blessing.*

## SERVING IN WORSHIP

Pastor	Jenn Collins
Pianist	Joel Freiberg
Ushers	Team B
Lectors	8:00 am—Cheryl Allen 9:30 am—Mark Clark
Greeters	Dotseth Family Rusinek Family
Altar Guild	Team 6

JANUARY 5, 2020  
SECOND SUNDAY  
OF CHRISTMAS



*The Christmas message is full of grace and truth.*

### DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	John 1:1-18	The Word became flesh
Monday	Jeremiah 31:7-14	The joyful return of the exiles
Tuesday	Ephesians 1:3-14	Spiritual blessings in Christ
Wednesday	1 Peter 5:1-11	Tending the flock of God
Thursday	Genesis 50:14-21	Joseph's promise to his brothers
Friday	2 Corinthians 12:1-10	Visions from the Lord
Saturday	Psalms 147:12-20	Sing and praise the Lord
Sunday	Matthew 3:13-17	The baptism of Jesus

### SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.  
**John 1:14 (NRSV)**

### PRAYERS AND BLESSING

#### A Prayer for the Week:

God of grace and truth, give us faith to believe and to live with joy, for you have entered our world and our lives as the light that shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. Amen.

#### Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, just as you give us our daily bread, give us the joy of knowing the Bread of Life who brings light to all people. Amen.

#### A Blessing to Give:

May the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ bless you with grace and joy.



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JANUARY 5, 2020

### HYMN OF THE WEEK

*Hark the Herald  
Angels Sing*



### WEEKLY MILESTONES

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

### CARING CONVERSATIONS

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

- The twelve days of Christmas have not ended. Why do you think some people take their decorations down early?
- What is so amazing about the Christmas story?
- Why is the message of Christmas so important to hear again and again?

### DEVOTIONS

*Read: John 1:1-18.*

After the celebrations, it is hard to remember that we are still in the season of Christmas, a time to focus on the power, meaning, and joy of Christ's birth. This is when "the Word became flesh and lived among us" (v. 14). It is good to know that we are children of God. Ephesians lifts this up by noting that we are adopted. The Greek text makes it clear that we are adopted like a son. At that time, it was the son who inherited all that the father had. We, as those adopted by God, are heirs to all that God has (Ephesians 1:14). What an amazing message, filled with "grace and truth." John uses the word grace (undeserved kindness) four times in this text, but never again. The rest of the Gospel gives us examples of this grace through light, bread, wine, vines, water, and more. The Christmas message is worthy of an entire season to envision and digest again and again. God comes in human form to touch us with "grace upon grace" (v. 16) that we may know that we are children and heirs of all that God can give us. How can you continue to celebrate and live the message of Christmas in daily life?

*Pray: O God of Christmas joy, remind us of your grace and truth that makes us heirs of eternal gladness through the Word that became flesh and now still lives among us. Amen.*

### SERVICE

The twelve days of Christmas begin on December 25th and end on January 5th, the day before Epiphany. We often increase giving and donations to support those in need the weeks before Christmas but seldom the days after. Sing or listen to *The Twelve Days of Christmas* song. It is about giving. For each verse of the song the giving increases. In what ways can you increase your giving of time, talents, and treasures this coming year?

### RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

"The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it" (John 1:5). Jesus is the light that shines in the darkness. Take time this week to think about what this means. Sit in a room after dark and turn the lights out. How does it feel to be in the dark? Then light a candle and think about the difference between light and darkness. What does the light provide that darkness does not? Say a prayer of thanks to Jesus for being the light that darkness cannot overcome.



In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: [www.milestonesministry.org](http://www.milestonesministry.org)

JANUARY 6, 2020  
EPIPHANY OF OUR  
LORD



*God's light shines through Jesus.*

### EPIPHANY BIBLE READINGS

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

<b>Monday</b>	<b>Matthew 2:1-12</b>	<b>The wise men worship Jesus</b>
	<b>Isaiah 60:1-6</b>	<b>The glory of God shines on the people</b>

### SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR EPIPHANY

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. **Isaiah 60:1 (NRSV)**

### PRAYERS AND BLESSING

#### **A Prayer for Epiphany:**

Dear God, in Jesus you show your glory to the nations. Come, Holy Spirit, bless all the nations of the world with peace, joy, and love. Amen.

#### **Mealtime Prayer:**

Lord God, as the star shone over Bethlehem to reveal the presence of your Son, may this meal remind us that this food is a gift of your love. Amen.

#### **A Blessing to Give:**

May the light of Christ bring you peace and joy.



JANUARY 6, 2020

### HYMN FOR EPIPHANY

*Rise, Shine, You People!*



### EPIPHANY MILESTONES



Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

### CARING CONVERSATIONS



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

- Why do some people fear other people they don't know?
- How does the light of Christ help us to conquer our fears?
- A star led the wise men to Jesus. What leads you to Jesus?

### DEVOTIONS



*Read:* Matthew 2:1-12.

People of another religion and another part of the ancient world used astrology to guide them to Jesus, and it worked. God wants the world to be blessed by the light of Christ that shines from Bethlehem to Jerusalem and on to the ends of the earth. It is God's powerful light that has entered the darkness of fear. Not only is King Herod frightened by the message that a king has been born to the Jews, so are all the people of Jerusalem (v. 3). That is, even the people faithful to God's reign are fearful. A new day that brings astonishing news is feared by all. We easily fear change, even if it has come to benefit us. The moment something new happens to us, we lose a sense of control. It is no longer about us. In this instance, the change is about God's rule, God's ways, and God's love that shines brightly into a darkened world. Thanks be to God for the light that breaks into the dark corners of our world and of our lives. It is the only light and only hope that really matters. Is change easy or difficult for you? How do you ask God for help?

*Pray:* **Dear Jesus, bless us to see in you the one who takes our fears and worries and turns them into joy and gladness. Amen.**

### SERVICE



Epiphany, also known as Three Kings Day, is a time when an age-old Christian tradition of blessing homes takes place around the world. It is a custom to inscribe 20+C+M+B+20 with chalk on the door. C, M, and B between the year 2020 are the initials of the Magi but also stand for a Latin phrase meaning bless this house. The + symbolizes the cross. Our homes are places where daily spiritual practices take place (i.e., reading scripture, praying, or blessing others). Visit a person today who is homebound and pray with them. Conclude with the Lord's Prayer.

### RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



The wise men followed a star to find Jesus. We still need something to guide us to Jesus. Take a moment to stand with your legs spread slightly and your arms stretched out. Just as a star has five points, imagine your head, hands, and feet being the points of a star. When you think about the awesome role you have as a star, leading others to Jesus, imagine how you can do that. Talk about, draw a picture, or make a list of ways you can lead others to Jesus through your actions and words.

