



**Epiphany of Our Lord
LBW Setting One without Holy Communion
Sunday, January 2, 2022**

**Advent Lutheran Church
3232 Washington Road
Augusta, GA 30907
706-860-0439
www.adventaugusta.org**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING FOR A HOME

GREETING

P May peace be to this house and to all who enter here. By wisdom, a house is built and through understanding it is established; through knowledge its rooms are filled with rare and beautiful treasures. (*Proverbs 24:3-4*)

READING

P As we prepare to ask God's blessing on this household and all households of faith, let us listen to the words of scripture. In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being, and the life was the light of all people. 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. From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. (*John 1:1-4, 14, 16*)

DIALOGUE

(The candles are lit)

P Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord—Jesus born of Mary—shall be revealed.

C **And all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken it.**

P O God of light, bless this house and our church family. May this be a place of peace and health. May each member of this family cultivate the gifts and graces you have bestowed, dedicating our talents and works for the good of all, and for your glory.

C **As the wise men once sought your brilliant light, O Lord, so may we seek to live and work in your splendor.**

P Make this house a shelter in the storm and a haven of rest for all in need of your warmth and care. And when we go out from this place, may we never lose sight of that Epiphany star.

C **As we go about our work, our study, our play, keep us in its light and in your love.**

P Lord Jesus, through your incarnation and birth in true human form, you have made all the earth holy. We now ask your blessing upon this simple gift of your creation—chalk. We use it as a tool to teach our children, and they use it as a tool in their play and games. Now, with your blessing, may it become a tool for us to mark the doors of our home with the symbols of your wise servants who, so long ago, came to worship and adore you in your first home.

C **Amen.**

INSCRIPTION

This inscription is made with chalk above the entrance:

20 ✚ C M B ✚ 22

Write the appropriate character while speaking the text (right).

P The magi of old, known as
C Caspar,
M Melchior, and
B Balthasar,
followed the star of God's Son who came to dwell among us
20 two thousand
22 and twenty-two years ago.
✚ Christ, bless this house,
✚ and remain with us throughout the new year.

PRAYER OF BLESSING

P O God, you revealed your Son to all people by the shining light of a star. We pray that you bless this home and the homes of all your faithful people. May your love be our inspiration, your wisdom our guide, your truth our light, and your peace our benediction; In the name of the Father, + and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
C **May we be Christ's light to the world. Amen.**

HYMN

We Three Kings of Orient Are



1 We three kings of O - ri - ent are; bear - ing gifts we tra - verse a - far,
2 Born a king on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I bring to crown him a - gain;
3 Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I; in - cense owns a de - i - ty nigh;
4 Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a life of gath - er - ing gloom;
5 Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise, King and God and Sac - ri - fice;



field and foun - tain, moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.
king for - ev - er, ceas - ing nev - er, o - ver us all to reign.
prayer and prais - ing, glad - ly rais - ing, wor - ship - ing God Most High.
sor - rowing, sigh - ing, bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the stone - cold tomb.
heav'n sings al - le - lu - ia: al - le - lu - ia the earth re - plies.

*Refrain*

Oh, star of won - der, star of night, star with roy - al beau - ty bright;



west - ward lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - fect light!



GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

LITANY

P O Come, Let us Adore Him, Christ the Lord!

C **The Star in the dark sky heralded His Coming.**

P Led by the light of the Star, the Wise Ones came to pay homage.

C **We, too, come to the stable, seeking the infant King.**

P Come, Arise! Shine! The Light has come.

C **God's Light of love is shining upon us.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray together,

C **O God, you revealed your Son to the nations by the leading of a star. Lead us now by faith to know your presence in our lives, and bring us at last to the full vision of your glory, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

FIRST LESSON: ISAIAH 60:1-6

L A reading from Isaiah.

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.

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

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

L ¹Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the king's son;

C ²**that he may rule your people righteously and the poor with justice;**

- L ³that the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, and the hills, in righteousness.
- C ⁴**Let him defend the needy among the people, rescue the poor, and crush the oppressor.**
- L ⁵May he live as long as the sun and moon endure, from one generation to another.
- C ⁶**Let him come down like rain upon the mown field, like showers that water the earth.**
- L ⁷In his time may the righteous flourish; and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.
- C ¹⁰**May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles pay tribute, and the kings of Sheba and Seba offer gifts.**
- L ¹¹May all kings bow down before him, and all the nations do him service.
- C ¹²**For the king delivers the poor who cry out in distress, the oppressed, and those who have no helper.**
- L ¹³He has compassion on the lowly and poor, and preserves the lives of the needy.
- C ¹⁴**From oppression and violence he redeems their lives, and precious is their blood in his sight.**

SECOND LESSON: EPHESIANS 3:1-12

- L A reading from Ephesians.

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.

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (SPOKEN)

C **Alleluia. We have observed his star at its rising, and have come to worship him. Alleluia.**

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 2:1-12

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the First chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

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.

P The Gospel of the Lord.
C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit

SERMON

Pastor Petersons

Stand

HYMN

As with Gladness Men of Old



1 As with glad - ness men of old did the guid - ing star be - hold;
 2 As with joy - ful steps they sped, Sav - ior, to thy low - ly bed,
 3 As they of - fered gifts most rare at thy cra - dle, rude and bare,
 4 Ho - ly Je - sus, ev - 'ry day keep us in the nar - row way;
 5 In the heav'n - ly coun - try bright need they no cre - a - ted light;

as with joy they hailed its light, lead - ing on - ward, beam - ing bright;
 there to bend the knee be - fore thee, whom heav'n and earth a - dore;
 so may we with ho - ly joy, pure and free from sin's al - loy,
 and when earth - ly things are past, bring our ran - somed souls at last
 thou its light, its joy, its crown, thou its sun which goes not down;

so, most gra - cious Lord, may we ev - er - more be led by thee.
 so may we with will - ing feet ev - er seek thy mer - cy seat.
 all our cost - liest trea - sures bring, Christ, to thee, our heav'n - ly king.
 where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glo - ry hide.
 there for - ev - er may we sing al - le - lu - ias to our king.

Text: William C. Dix, 1837–1898, alt.
 Music: DIX, Conrad Kocher, 1786–1872

NICENE CREED

P With the whole church, we confess our faith.

C We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son, he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen

PEACE

P Peace of the Lord be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

OFFERING “Medley of We Three Kings/As with Gladness”
Schram

The Offering is received and presented to the Lord.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P Let us pray, Gracious God,

C **your Word-made-flesh brings harmony to the earth. As we offer ourselves and these your gifts, prepare us to receive the grace and truth you offer at this table and renew in us the song of your salvation, in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

THE PRAYERS

P Joining our voices with the heavenly host and Christians throughout time and space, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

P God of wanderers, you sent the magi from afar to witness the mystery and majesty of your birth. Send us into the world with your will in our hearts and on our lips. Lord in your mercy,

C **Hear our Prayer.**

P You created heaven and earth. Through your Spirit send your all-encompassing love over the cosmos. Bless the stars that guide our way and the night sky that invites the earth into slumber. Lord in your mercy,

C Hear our Prayer.

P You sent the magi to follow the star into an uncertain future. May all leaders and peoples seek your face, especially when paths are not clear, conflicts rage, tyrants oppress, and fear abounds. Lord in your mercy,

C Hear our Prayer.

P You come to us through people whom the world forgets. The Magi and an imprisoned Paul spread your good news. Send your Spirit to all who are imprisoned, struggling with addiction, unwell, or in any need this day especially...and all others we name aloud or in the silence of our hearts... Lord in your mercy,

C Hear our Prayer.

P You sent the holy family to seek safety in a new land. Protect all who make similar journeys. Send your guiding Spirit to asylum seekers, refugees, and all who journey toward safety. Lord in your mercy,

C Hear our Prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P Your glory is shown to the saints. We give thanks for those whose earthly journey has ended and now dwell with you forever. Give us signs of your continual presence until that day when we arise in you. Lord in your mercy,

C Hear our Prayer.

P Rejoicing in your Word made flesh among us, we commend these prayers to you, confident of your grace and love made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

C **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

P Almighty God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

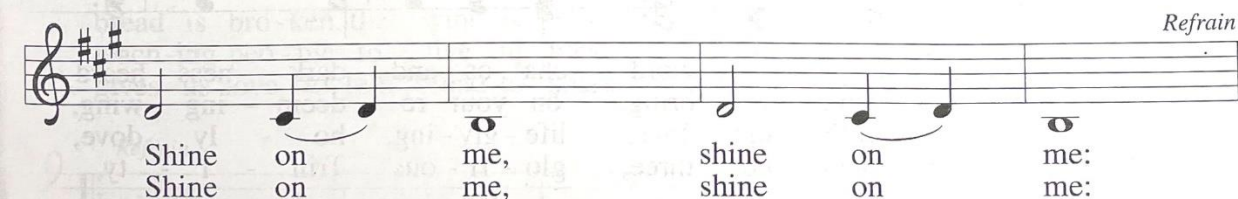
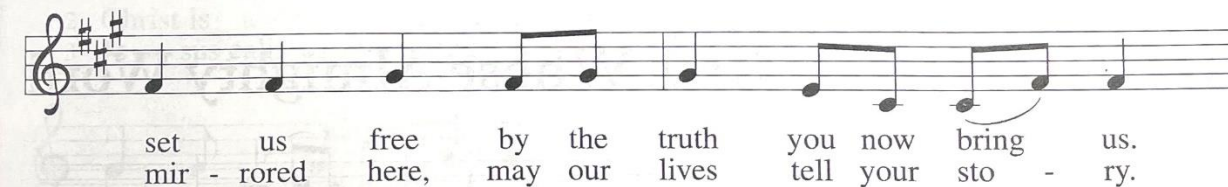
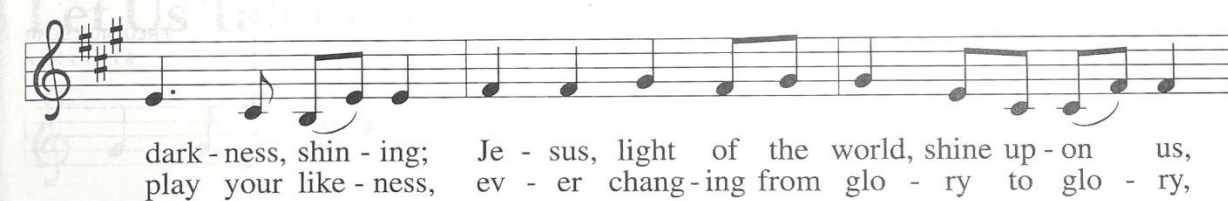
C **Amen**

HYMN

WITNESS

Shine, Jesus, Shine

671



DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Share the light of Christ.

C **Thanks be to God.**

UPCOMING EVENTS

**Pastors are on vacation 1/3-1/10, celebrating their 20th
Wedding Anniversary**

Jan. 9 – 9:30am ZOOM Worship

Guest Pastor: Rev. Fred Bartelt

No Sunday School or Confirmation

Jan. 12 – 6:30pm Advent Covid Task Force Meeting

*The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness,
generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.”*
(Galatians 5:22)

We pray this week that GENEROSITY grows in us.

WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastors

Rev. Andrea Windsor-Peterson & Rev. Jason Peterson

Organist

Melinda East

Lector

Paul Filpus-Luyckx

Zoom Operator

Tara Schafer/Kate Peterson