Peace Lutheran Church
Menomonie , WI
Service of Word & Sacrament
January 7th 2024

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.

GATHERING

WELCOME

PRESENTATION FOR BAPTISM:

Adalynn Linda Flanscha
Parents: Cory and Kelsey Flanscha
Sponsors: Nathan & Kari Wirth

PM: God who is rich in mercy……
PM: People of God, do you promise to support *Adalynn* and pray for her in her new life in Christ?
WA: We do.

The assembly stands.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

PM: I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.
PM: Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God,
the powers of this world that rebel against God,
and the ways of sin that draw you from God?
WA: I renounce them.
PM: Do you believe in God the Father?
WA: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
PM: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?
**WA: 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.**
PM: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?
**WA: 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.**

THANKSGIVING AT THE FONT

PM: The Lord be with you. **WA: And also with you.**
PM: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **WA: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

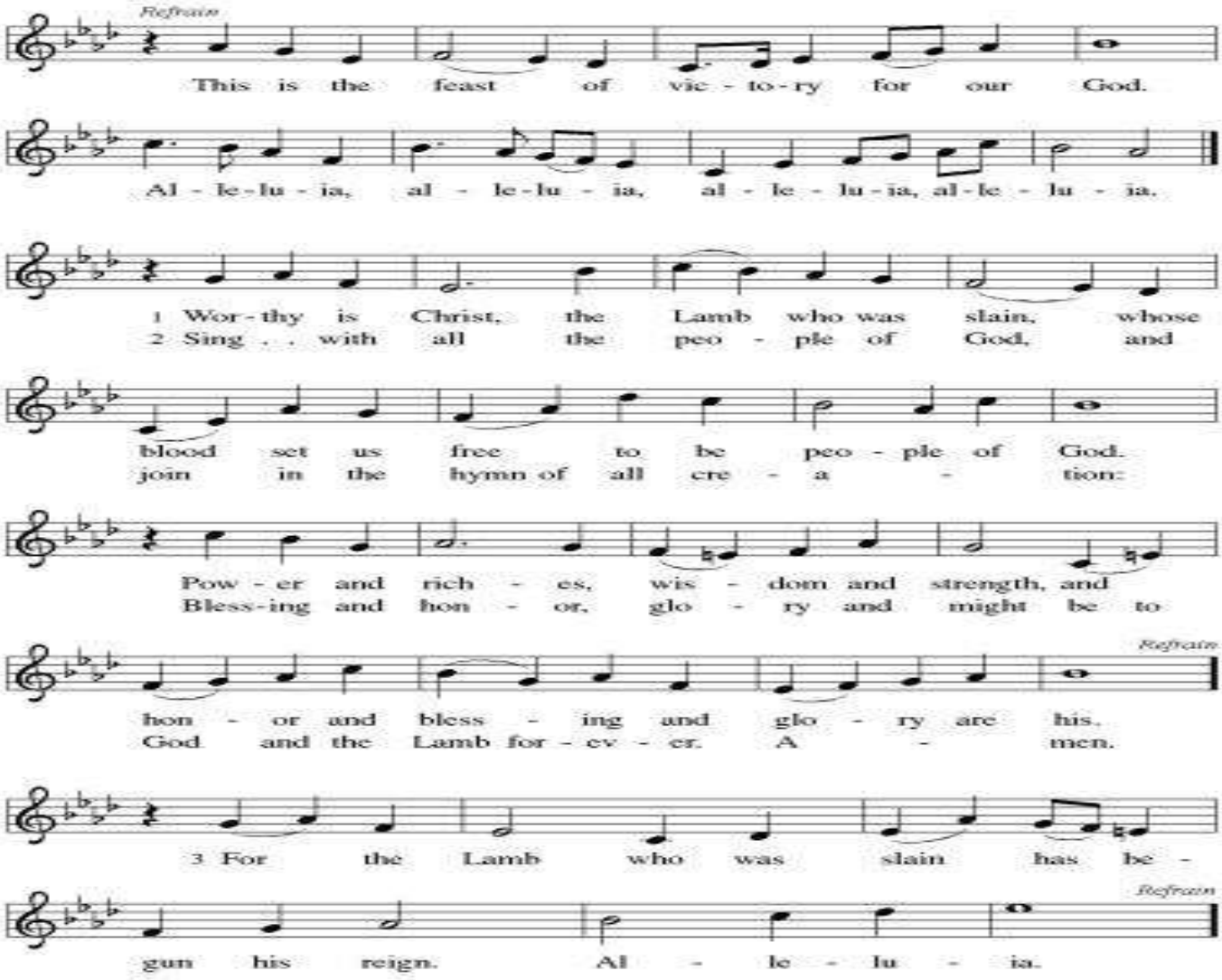
BAPTISM

WELCOME

PM: Let us welcome the newly baptized.
**WA: We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share:
join us in giving thanks and praise to God
and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.**

GATHERING SONG: ELW #442, "All Who Believe and are Baptized"

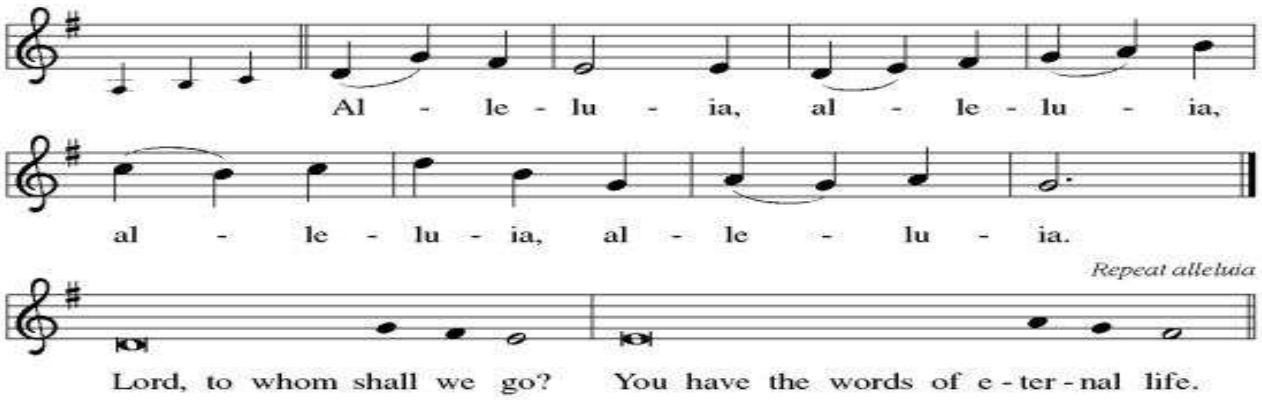
GREETING:
PM: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christy, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
WA: And also with you.

CANTICLE of PRAISE

PRAYER of the DAY:
WA: Holy God, creator of light and giver of goodness, your voice moves over the waters. Immerse us in your grace, and transform us by your Spirit, that we may follow after your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

First Reading: Acts 19:1-7
In Ephesus, Paul encounters people who had received John's baptism of repentance but had never heard of the Holy Spirit or of baptism in the name of Jesus. After Paul baptizes them, the Holy Spirit comes upon them and empowers them with gifts of the Spirit.

[1]While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. [2]He said to them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?” They replied, “No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.” [3]Then he said, “Into what then were you baptized?” They answered, “Into John’s baptism.” [4]Paul said, “John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus.” [5]On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. [6]When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied—[7]altogether there were about twelve of them.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: p102 Setting 1

Gospel: Mark 1:4-11

Mark’s gospel reports the story of Jesus’ baptism with some irony: the one on whom the Spirit descends is himself the one who will baptize others with the Holy Spirit.

[4]John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. [5]And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. [6]Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. [7]He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. [8]I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

[9]In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. [10]And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. [11]And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

MESSAGE

Hymn of the Day: “ We Three Kings”

We three kings of Orient are;
bearing gifts we traverse afar,
field and fountain, moor and mountain,
following yonder star.

[Refrain]:
O star of wonder, star of light,
star with royal beauty
bright, westward leading, still proceeding,
guide us to thy perfect light.

Born a King on Bethlehem's plain,
gold I bring to crown him again,
King forever, ceasing never,
over us all to reign.

[Refrain]
O star of wonder, star of light,
star with royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding,
guide us to thy perfect light.

Glorious now behold him arise;
King and God and sacrifice:
Alleluia, Alleluia,
sounds through the earth and skies.

[Refrain]
O star of wonder, star of light,
star with royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding,
guide us to thy perfect light

Offering Prayer

MEAL

Prayers of Intercession

PM: As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God's blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

PM: God of grace,

WA: receive our prayer.

GREAT THANKSGIVING:

PM: The Lord be with you. **WA: And also with you.**

PM: Lift up your hearts. **WA: We lift them to the Lord.**

PM: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **WA: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

WORDS of INSTITUTION

Lord's Prayer (Contemporary)

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

Invitation to Communion

DISTRIBUTION

Prayer after Communion

SENDING

Blessing

PM: God who names you, Christ who claims you, and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you, ✠ bless you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG: ELW# 301 "Bright and Glorious Is the Sky"

Dismissal

PM: Go in peace. You are God's beloved. **WA: Thanks be to God.**