



*"And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man." Luke 2:52*

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# THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD (OBSERVED) \_\_\_\_\_ January 3, 2021

\* Congregation Stands

## AS WE GATHER

We consider the mysteries highlighted by the Readings for the Feast of the Epiphany. The Wise Men, or Magi, mysteriously show up in Jerusalem, and these strangers are looking for the King of the Jews. The King of the Jews is mysteriously an infant, born to a humble family in Bethlehem, not in Jerusalem. And this King of the Jews mysteriously invites all people from all nations into His kingdom. These mysteries, hidden for the ages, is revealed in Jesus, the Light of the world.

## OPENING HYMN

As With Gladness Men of Old

LSB 397, vs. 1, 3, 5



1 As with glad-ness men of old Did the guid-ing star be-hold;  
3 As they of-fered gifts most rare At Thy cra-dle, rude and bare,  
5 In the heav'n-ly coun-try bright Need they no cre-at-ed light;



As with joy they hailed its light, Lead-ing on-ward, beam-ing bright;  
So may we with ho-ly joy, Pure and free from sin's al-loy,  
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.  
All our cost-liest trea-sures bring, Christ, to Thee, our heav'n-ly King.  
There for-ev-er may we sing Al-le-lu-ias to our King.

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## \*INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

## \*OPENING SENTENCES

P Arise, shine, for your light has come!

C **Jesus Christ is the Light of the world.**

P All the nations shall come to the light of Christ.

C **Kings shall bring Him gifts.**

P For Christ reveals the mystery hidden through the ages,

C **that all nations are partakers of the promise in Jesus Christ.**

## \*CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P Through the Gospel, all people are fellow heirs of salvation and members of the same Body. Yet there have been times when we have failed to live in unity, when we have failed to treat our brothers and sisters in Christ with respect and honor. Our heavenly Father invites us to return to Him and ask for His forgiveness.

*Silence for reflection.*

P Heavenly Father,

**C we confess that we have not loved You with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have created division and discord. We have hidden the light of Christ from others. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us with the light of Christ, that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways. Amen.**

P Almighty God in His mercy sent His Son, Jesus, into our world to shine as a light for all people, including You. Jesus has died for your sins and is risen for your righteousness. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen. We are partakers of the promise. We are forgiven in Christ.**

## \*HYMN OF PRAISE

The Star Proclaims the King is Here

LSB 399, vs. 1, 5



1 The star pro - claims the King is here; But, Her - od,  
△ 5 For this Thy glad e - piph - a - ny All glo - ry,



why this sense - less fear? For He who of - fers heav'n - ly  
Je - sus, be to Thee, Whom with the Fa - ther we a -



birth Seeks not the king - doms of this earth.  
dore, And Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more.

Text and tune: Public domain

## \*KYRIE

**C Lord, have mercy upon us.  
Christ, have mercy upon us.  
Lord, have mercy upon us.**

## \*SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.

**C And also with you.**

## \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

O God, by the leading of a star You made known Your only-begotten Son to the Gentiles. Lead us, who know You by faith, to enjoy in heaven the fullness of Your divine presence; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

## OLD TESTAMENT READING

*Joshua 6:1–5*

<sup>1</sup>Now Jericho was shut up inside and outside because of the people of Israel. None went out, and none came in. <sup>2</sup>And the LORD said to Joshua, "See, I have given Jericho into your hand, with its king and mighty men of valor. <sup>3</sup>You shall march around the city, all the men of war going around the city once. Thus shall you do for six days. <sup>4</sup>Seven priests shall bear seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark. On the seventh day you shall march around the city seven times, and the priests shall blow the trumpets. <sup>5</sup>And when they make a long blast with the ram's horn, when you hear the sound of the trumpet, then all the people shall shout with a great shout, and the wall of the city will fall down flat, and the people shall go up, everyone straight before him."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM

*Psalms 72:1–11; antiphon: v. 18*

<sup>1</sup>Give the king your justice, O God,  
and your righteousness to the royal son!  
<sup>2</sup>May he judge your people with righteousness,  
and your poor with justice!  
<sup>3</sup>Let the mountains bear prosperity for the people,  
and the hills, in righteousness!  
<sup>4</sup>May he defend the cause of the poor of the people,  
give deliverance to the children of the needy,  
and crush the oppressor!  
<sup>5</sup>May they fear you while the sun endures,  
and as long as the moon, throughout all generations!  
<sup>6</sup>May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass,  
like showers that water the earth!  
<sup>7</sup>In his days may the righteous flourish,  
and peace abound, till the moon be no more!  
<sup>8</sup>May he have dominion from sea to sea,  
and from the River to the ends of the earth!

<sup>9</sup>May desert tribes bow down before him  
and his enemies lick the dust!  
<sup>10</sup>May the kings of Tarshish and of the coastlands  
render him tribute;  
may the kings of Sheba and Seba bring gifts!  
<sup>11</sup>May all kings fall down before him,  
all nations serve him!

## **EPISTLE**

*Hebrews 9:11–14*

<sup>11</sup>When Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) <sup>12</sup>he entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption. <sup>13</sup>For if the sprinkling of defiled persons with the blood of goats and bulls and with the ashes of a heifer sanctifies for the purification of the flesh, <sup>14</sup>how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to serve the living God.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

### **\*VERSE**

*Matthew 2:2b*

Alleluia. Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him. Alleluia.

### **\*HOLY GOSPEL**

*John 1:1–5, 9–14*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the second chapter.

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

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup>All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. <sup>4</sup>In him was life, and the life was the light of men. <sup>5</sup>The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

<sup>9</sup>The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. <sup>10</sup>He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup>He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. <sup>12</sup>But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, <sup>13</sup>who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

<sup>14</sup>And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C Praise to You, O Christ.**

**SERMON HYMN****O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright****LSB 395, vs. 1, 4, 6**

1 O Morn - ing Star, how fair and bright! You shine with God's  
 4 Al - might - y Fa - ther, in Your Son You loved us when  
 6 What joy to know, when life is past, The Lord we love



own truth and light, A - glow with grace and mer - cy!  
 not yet be - gun Was this old earth's foun - da - tion!  
 is first and last, The end and the be - gin - ning!



Of Ja - cob's race, King Da - vid's son, Our Lord and mas -  
 Your Son has ran - somed us in love To live in Him  
 He will one day, oh, glo - rious grace, Trans - port us to



ter, You have won Our hearts to serve You on - ly!  
 here and a - bove: This is Your great sal - va - tion.  
 that hap - py place Be - yond all tears and sin - ning!



Low - ly, ho - ly! Great and glo - rious, All vic - to - rious,  
 Al - le - lu - ia! Christ the liv - ing, To us giv - ing  
 A - men! A - men! Come, Lord Je - sus! Crown of glad - ness!



Rich in bless - ing! Rule and might o'er all pos - sess - ing!  
 Life for - ev - er, Keeps us Yours and fails us nev - er!  
 We are yearn - ing For the day of Your re - turn - ing!

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**SERMON**

God Before Me

Rev. Tim Schaekel, Guest Preacher

**\*NICENE CREED**—see *projection***\*PRAYER OF THE CHURCH***Response from LSB 400:1*

P Lord Jesus Christ, You are the Light of the world,

**C dawn on our darkness and lend us Thine aid.**

Each petition ends with:

P Light of the world,

**C dawn on our darkness and lend us Thine aid.**

## **OFFERING**

Place your gift in the plates as you exit or give online at [www.trinityloneoak.org/giving](http://www.trinityloneoak.org/giving)

### **\*PREFACE**

P The Lord be with you.

**C And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

**C We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

### **\*SACRAMENT OF THE ALTAR**

**\*LORD'S PRAYER** —*see projection*

### **\*PAX DOMINI**

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C Amen.**

## **DISTRIBUTION**

## **DISMISSAL**

### **\*POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING**

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

### **\*BENEDICTION**

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

**C Amen.**

**HYMN TO DEPART**

## Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

**LSB 394, vs. 1, 5**

1 Songs of thank - ful - ness and praise, Je - sus, Lord, to Thee we raise,  
 5 Grant us grace to see Thee, Lord, Pres - ent in Thy ho - ly Word—



Man - i - fest - ed by the star To the sa - ges from a - far,  
 Grace to im - i - tate Thee now And be pure, as pure art Thou;



Branch of roy - al Da - vid's stem In Thy birth at Beth - le - hem:  
 That we might be - come like Thee At Thy great e - piph - a - ny



An - thems be to Thee ad - dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.  
 And may praise Thee, ev - er blest, God in man made man - i - fest.

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Dear TLO Congregation and TLO School Community,

Thank you for the cards, gifts, prayers and messages of hope that you shared with our family and Church and School Staff this Christmas season. What joy to celebrate with you the gift God gave at the birth of Christ Jesus our Savior and Lord. What a blessing to worship with you in person and online this Christmas season. The Lord God is worthy of glory and praise. The peace and joy Jesus gives is not diminished by the darkness of this world and the temptations and challenges we face. God's love has overcome the darkness by sending the perfect gift, Jesus, the Light of the world. In Christ Jesus we have been given forgiveness of sins, life, salvation and eternal peace and joy. May the Lord renew your faith in the waters of baptism and by the power of His holy Word guard you and keep you in body and soul each day in the coming year.

With sincere gratitude,  
 Pastor Jim and Lynn Kroonblawd

### Serving our Lord this week

		January 3, 2021	January 10, 2021
Musician		Diane Streich	Diane Streich
Cantor		Andy Koch	Dave Workman
Altar Guild		Sharon Drews and Connie Kohn	Sharon Drews and Connie Kohn
Elder(s)	8am	Jon Peterson	Andy Olson
	10:30am	Jim Nicklas	Sam Erdman
Reader	8am	Peter Olsen	Andy Olson
	10:30am	Pastor Schaekel	Kurt Vallin
Usher Team	8am	Gary Sheets	Andy Olson
	10:30am	Open	Rich Cliff
Greeter(s)	8am	Leonard and Arlene Perron	Open
	10:30am	Open	Open
Acolyte	8am	Open	Selma Olsen
	10:30am	Jacob Seeman	Henry Bruggemann; Eve Bruggemann
Projection	8am	Peter Olsen	Peter Olsen
	10:30am	Matt Seeman	Matt Seeman
Cleaner	8am	Open	Open
	10:30am	Open	Kristin Halverson

### WEEKLY DEPOSIT: December 27, 2020

General Fund Income:			
	Current and Mission Weekly Offering	\$	16,669.00
(Our Weekly Offering budget is \$7,692.00 per week)			
	Building Reserve Fund	\$	115.00
(Our Weekly Offering budget is \$635.00 per week)			
	Sunday school	\$	N/A
	1883 School Annual Fund	\$	2,050.00
	Acorn Scholarship Fund	\$	1,050.00
	Tuition	\$	10,616.45
	Church and school fees	\$	3,389.86
	<b>Subtotal General Fund Income</b>	\$	<b>33,890.31</b>
Special Purpose Income (not available for general fund spending)			
	YTF2	\$	5,975.00
	YI Stamps through LCEF	\$	N/A
	<b>Subtotal Special Fund Income</b>	\$	<b>5,975.00</b>

<b>COMING UP THIS WEEK – January 3, 2020 — January 10, 2020</b>		
<b>EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD</b>		
Sun	8:00am	Worship with Holy Communion in sanctuary
	9:15am	Education Hour for all ages; meet in gym
	10:30am	Worship with Holy Communion in sanctuary
		worship online at <a href="http://www.trinityloneoak.org">www.trinityloneoak.org</a>
Mon		School resumes
	10:00am	Bible Study
Tue	6:00pm	Board of Elders
	7:00pm	Board of Trustees
Wed	6:30am	Men's Bible study
	3:30pm	Midweek Confirmation
	6:30pm	A New Year; A New You Bible study led by Pastor Lessing via zoom
Fri	9:00am	WOW Bible study
	6:00pm	"undecorating" the church—all welcomed to participate!
<b>BAPTISM OF OUR LORD</b>		
Sun	8:00am	Worship in sanctuary
	9:15am	Education Hour for all ages; meet in gym
	9:15am	Everyone His Witness study begins, led by Pastor Krooblawd
	10:30am	Worship in sanctuary
		worship online at <a href="http://www.trinityloneoak.org">www.trinityloneoak.org</a>
	12noon	Holy Communion by appointment at <a href="http://www.trinityloneoak.org">www.trinityloneoak.org</a>



#### WINTER WEATHER CLOSING

When winter weather forces closure of TLO Church, notice will be communicated in these ways:

- A notice will be posted on the home page of TLO's website, [www.trinityloneoak.org](http://www.trinityloneoak.org).
- A recorded message at TLO's church number, 651-454-7235, will announce closure.
- An email will be sent. To check if you're on our email distribution list, contact Jean.
- Personal phone calls will be made to folks with limited computer access. Contact Jean in the church office, 651-454-7235, to be placed on the list to receive a phone call regarding winter weather closure.

## Remember in Prayer

Richard and Corrine, Jenna Arnold's dad and step mom. Corrine receives low level chemo every two weeks making her ill. Family requests continued prayers for healing and comfort.

Eddie Burdick, Pam's husband, overall health in dealing with on-going concerns

Rich Cliff, recovering from eye surgery

Ginny Flo, thanksgiving she's recovering so well

Dan Jones, brother of David Jones and Julie Casby, hospitalized and very ill

Chris Krauss, son of John, diagnosed with prostate cancer

Cory Kroonblawd - completing final year of pastoral education at CTS - Ft. Wayne, IN

Joseph Labhart (Flannery's grandson) ongoing health concerns

Dan Linse recovering from heart surgery

Brian Motz - prayers for continued healing

Marvin Rahn for strength and good health while living at Brookdale in Eagan

Billy D. Swain, ongoing health concerns.

Char Timm; prayers for sight to return to her left eye

Robert Vail, brother of Barbara, diagnosed with pancreatic cancer and working through treatment

Glenn Vierling, hospitalized with serious complications from covid

Diane Vierling, home from the hospital and struggling with full recovery from covid

Laverne Ziebell, prayers requested as he works through ongoing health problems

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## Birthdays this week

Jan 3 Vern Schaaf

Jan 5 Ayantu Benya, Larry Willmott

Jan 6 Samuel Guion, Gladys Motz, Tyler Nadeau, Matt Weierke

Jan 8 Greg Zinnel

Jan 9 Steve Barnes, Xander Estrada

## Anniversaries this week

Jan 8 Tim and Julie Morris

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## Every One His Witness Study Group

Starts January 10, 2021 | 9:15am | TLO Gym

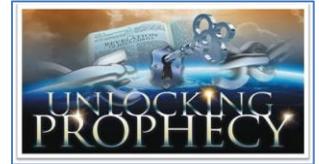
The *Every One His Witness*® Lutheran evangelism program considers your place as a witness of Christ within your daily context. It connects sound doctrine with practical ways to share the faith with those who don't know Christ. *To ensure TLO has plenty materials, please sign up for the class through the church office or our website.*

## Biblical Prophecy: Are We Living in the Last Days?

Pastor Lessing, Seminar Leader

Saturday, January 16 | 9am-3pm | in person AND via zoom

In the midst of ongoing terrorism and chaos, pandemics and crazy politics, millions of people are looking for answers to so many questions. Questions will be answered and comfort and hope in Christ will abound. Invite your friends! Register to attend in person or zoom at [trinityloneoak.org](http://trinityloneoak.org) or through the church office.



### A NEW YEAR! A NEW YOU!

January 6–February 10, 2021 | 6:30pm | via Zoom

Begin the new year with a new you! In his Small Catechism Martin Luther writes this about baptism. “It indicates that the Old Adam in us should by daily contrition and repentance be drowned and die with all sins and evil desires, and that a new person should daily emerge and arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.” In baptism God gives a new you. In this Bible Study we will discuss these topics:

- **Balancing** our New Life
- A New **Heart**
- A New **Mind**
- New **Relationships**
- A New **Body**

St. Paul writes in Romans 6:4, “We were buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.” Plan now to rediscover a new you for a new year. Sign up today for the Zoom class led by Pastor Lessing!



### GodConnects classes return

Saturdays, Jan. 23 & 30 and Feb. 6, 2021

9:00am - 12:00noon

Trinity Lone Oak is offering a faith exploration class designed for those who are interested in learning or reviewing the foundations of the Christian faith. Attendance at the class may lead to membership in our church, but there are no obligations.

We can accommodate both in-person and Zoom communication; please let us know your preference. Join us as TLO Senior Pastor, Rev. James Kroonblawd hosts GodConnects!