

The Congregation at Prayer

For the week of *The Epiphany of Our Lord*

Sunday, January 6, 2019 *through* Saturday, January 12, 2019

“The Lord God is Manifested in the Incarnate Son”

Isaiah 60:1-6; Ephesians 3:1-12; Matthew 2:1-12

The Feast of the Epiphany centers in the visit of the Magi from the East. In that respect, it is the “Thirteenth Day” of Christmas; and yet, it also marks the beginning of a new liturgical season. While Christmas has focused on the Incarnation and Nativity of our Lord—that is, on God becoming and being born in the flesh—the season of Epiphany emphasizes the manifestation or revelation of God in that same flesh of Christ. The Lord Himself has entered our darkness and risen upon us with the brightness of His true light (Isaiah 60:1–2). He does so chiefly by His Word of the Gospel, which He causes to be preached within His Church on earth—not only to the Jews but also to Gentiles (Ephesians 3:8–10). As the Magi were guided by the promises of Holy Scripture to find and worship the Child with His mother in the house (Matthew 2:5–11), so does He call disciples from all nations by the preaching of His Word, to find and worship Him within His Church (Isaiah 60:3–6). With gold they confess His royalty; with incense, His deity; and with myrrh, His priestly sacrifice (Matt. 2:11).

INVOCATION (*make the sign of the holy cross and say*)

In the Name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

THE APOSTLES CREED

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into Heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the ✠ life everlasting. Amen.

PSALM Psalm 24

THE AUGSBURG CONFESSION

Article XI: Confession

See *Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions*, pp. 35-37, 155-157

DAILY READINGS

Sunday, January 6: Isaiah 66:1-20

Luke 3:21-38

Monday, January 7: Ezekiel 1:1-28 [*Habakkuk 1:1-3:19*]

Romans 1:1-17

Tuesday, January 8: Ezekiel 2:1-11:25

Romans 1:18-32

Wednesday, January 9: Ezekiel 12:1-21:32

Romans 2:1-16

Thursday, January 10: Ezekiel 22:1-31:18

Romans 2:17-29

Friday, January 11: Ezekiel 32:1-33:20

Romans 3:1-18

Saturday, January 12: Ezekiel 34:1-24

Romans 3:19-31

HYMN

O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright

LSB 395:1,5

O Morning Star, how fair and bright!

You shine with God's own truth
and light,

Aglow with grace and mercy!

Of Jacob's race, King David's son,

Our Lord and master, You have won

Our hearts to serve You only!

Lowly, holy! Great and glorious,

All victorious, rich in blessing!

Rule and might o'er all possessing!

O let the harps break forth in sound!

Our joy be all with music crowned,

Our voices gladly blending!

For Christ goes with us all the way—

Today, tomorrow, ev'ry day!

His love is never ending!

Sing out! Ring out! Jubilation!

Exultation! Tell the story!

Great is He, the King of Glory!

PRAYERS

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. Amen.

O Lord, look down from Heaven. Behold, visit, and relieve Your servants who stand in need of our prayers: **[insert the names of family members, friends, church members, government officials, those in need, etc.]** Look upon them with the eyes of Your mercy. Grant them comfort and sure confidence in You. Defend them from all danger, and keep them in perpetual peace and safety, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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.

MORNING PRAYER

I thank You, my Heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your Dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

EVENING PRAYER

I thank You, my Heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your Dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins, where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

BLESSING

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit † be with us all. Amen.

LOOKING FORWARD TO NEXT SUNDAY: *The Baptism of Our Lord*

Joshua 3:1-3, 7-8, 13-17 Psalm 85 1 Corinthians 1:26-31 Matthew 3:13-17
Hymn of the Day *Songs of Thankfulness and Praise* LSB 394