

Resurrection Lutheran Church

New Life in the Living Word + For Now + Forever

1735 E Main Street - Mankato, MN | 507-345-4455 | www.resurrectionmankato.org

THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD | Sunday, January 1, 2023

WELCOME *and* **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

If you haven't already, please consider signing the friendship pad at the end of your pew.

GATHERING HYMN: The Bells of Christmas - vss. 1,3,4 and 6 *(see back of the bulletin)*

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS OF SIN

Our service begins by invoking the name of the one who claimed us in Baptism. As an assembly of sinners, we come before God each Sunday morning to admit our faults, failures, and guilt. The word of absolution speaks the Gospel into our ears and assures that because of Christ's death at Calvary, every one of our sins is covered.

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

C: Amen.

P: Beloved in the Lord, let us draw near to God our Father with a true heart to confess our sins and ask him in the name of our Lord Jesus to forgive us. For Christ himself bore our sins in his body on the cross so that, free from sin, we might live in righteousness; by his wounds we have been healed.

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination

P: Eternal God,

C: Have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and are held by the power of sin. Forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of Jesus, your sins are forgiven. May Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that the promise of Christ's forgiveness may live in your hearts through faith.

C: Amen!

THE HYMN OF GLORY

These words are a response to the gracious and steadfast mercy of God, who pours out his love on undeserving sinners. Together we lift our voices in a song of praise to the trinity – Father, Son and Holy Spirit – for the gift of salvation and new life.



1. To you a-lone God's on-ly Son, the lamb of
2. Who takes a-way the sins of all, have mer-cy
3. For you a-lone the ho-ly one, and you a-



G - od the cho - sen one; to you a - lone our
Lo - rd and hear our call; who sits at God's right
lone the wor - thy one; with God the spi - rit



heav'n - ly King, the mor - tals and the an - gels sing.
hand on high, have mer - cy Lord and hear our cry.
e - ver near, oh keep us, Lord from guilt and fear.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

FIRST READING: Isalah 60:1-6 (ESV)

The prophet said that Israel will rise out of the darkness of their exile as the glory of the Lord has risen upon them. No longer will darkness be their reality; radiant light will cover them as exiles return home to Jerusalem and families are reunited.

¹Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. ²For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you. ³And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. ⁴Lift up your eyes all around, and see; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from afar, and your daughters shall be carried on the hip. ⁵Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and exult, because the abundance of the sea shall be turned 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 bring good news, the praises of the Lord.

R: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 72:1-11 (ESV)

The psalmist prayed for wisdom for the king so that he might rule the people in righteousness, look out for the needy, and punish cruel tyrants. This king is empathetic with his people.

R: Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the royal son!

C: May he judge your people with righteousness, and your poor with justice!

R: Let the mountains bear prosperity for the people, and the hills, in righteousness!

C: May he defend the cause of the poor of the people, give deliverance to the children of the needy, and crush the oppressor!

R: May they fear you while the sun endures, and as long as the moon, throughout all generations!

C: May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth!

R: In his days may the righteous flourish, and peace abound, till the moon be no more!

C: May he have dominion from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth!

R: May desert tribes bow down before him, and his enemies lick the dust!

C: May the kings of Tarshish and of the coastlands render him tribute; may the kings of Sheba and Seba bring gifts!

R: May all kings fall down before him, all nations serve him!

R: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

SECOND READING: Ephesians 3:1-12 (ESV)

Paul explained the mystery of Christ that was unknown to people before Jesus — that the Gentiles are fellow heirs of the promises of God. The promises of Jesus are extended to all nations, and those who were once strangers are now fellow members of the body.

¹For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles— ²assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for you, ³how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. ⁴When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, ⁵which was not made known to the sons of men in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy

apostles and prophets by the Spirit. ⁶This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. ⁷Of this gospel I was made a minister according to the gift of God's grace, which was given me by the working of his power. ⁸To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, ⁹and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God, who created all things, ¹⁰so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹²in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him.

R: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 2:1-12 (ESV)

P: The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew, the 2nd Chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

¹Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, ²saying, "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." ³When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. ⁵They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet: ⁶"And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.'" ⁷Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. ⁸And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him." ⁹After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. ¹¹And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. ¹²And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

P: This is the Gospel of our Lord!

C: Praise to you, O Christ!

SERMON

OFFERING and OFFERING RESPONSE

As the usher brings forward the offering, please stand to sing:

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures here below.
Praise Him above ye heav'nly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen*

THE NICENE CREED

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.

P: God has made us his people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in this peace and in community with one another, let us confess our faith:

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 Christian 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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Each petition ends with the words Lord, in your mercy. Respond by saying Hear our prayer.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

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.

P: It is indeed right and salutary, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks to you, O Lord, Holy Father, for in the night of his betrayal...

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE HYMN OF TRIUMPH

With the company of all heaven and earth we join the angel choir in the ongoing and eternal worship of the Lamb Jesus who was slain and now comes to join our meal of bread and wine with his body and blood, forgiveness and grace, peace and love.



1. This is the feast of vic - to - ry We share with him
2. Wor - thy is Christ who has been slain; whose blood has set



who set us free Al - le - lu - ia Al - le - lu - ia!
us free a - gain. Al - le - lu - ia Al - le - lu - ia!

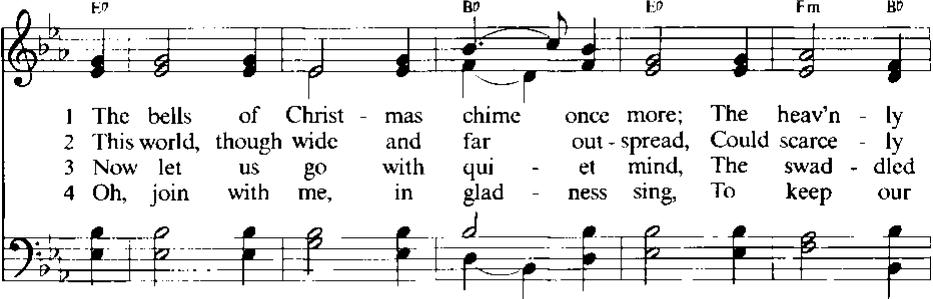


The lamb of God who once was slain. A - rose and now
Then sings with all the hosts of Light with blessings, ho -



gives life a - gain. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
nor, pow'r and might. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

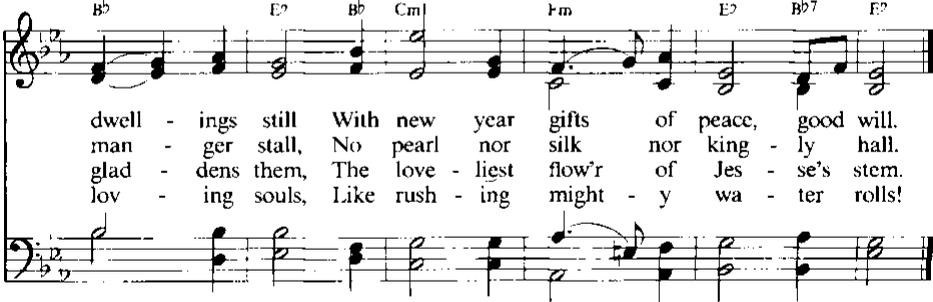
The Bells of Christmas



1 The bells of Christ - mas chime once more; The heav'n - ly
 2 This world, though wide and far out - spread, Could scarce - ly
 3 Now let us go with qui - et mind, The swad - dled
 4 Oh, join with me, in glad - ness sing, To keep our



guest is at the door. He comes to earth - ly
 find for you a bed. Your cra - dle was a
 babe with shep - herds find, To gaze on him who
 Christ - mas with our king, Un - til our song, from



dwel - lings still With new year gifts of peace, good will.
 man - ger stall, No pearl nor silk nor king - ly hall.
 glad - dens them, The love - liest flow'r of Jes - se's stem.
 lov - ing souls, Like rush - ing might - y wa - ter rolls!

- 5 O patriarchs' Joy, O prophets' Song,
 O Dayspring bright, awaited long,
 O Son of Man, incarnate Word,
 Great David's Son, great David's Lord:
- 6 Come, Jesus, glorious heav'nly guest,
 And keep your Christmas in our breast;
 Then David's harpstrings, hushed so long,
 Shall swell our jubilee of song.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to Worship! Resurrection Lutheran Church is a Christ-centered and cross-focused member congregation of Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ. To learn more about our association of churches please visit www.lcmc.net. Members and visitors are encouraged to sign the **friendship pad** at the end of your pew before the service begins or during announcements.

Tithes and Offerings: Thank-you for your generous financial gifts to further the mission of Resurrection Lutheran Church. An offering plate is located in the narthex.

We welcome **Rev. Julie Smith** to lead worship at Resurrection Lutheran this morning. Julie serves on the national LCMC staff as Coordinator for Districts and Fellowships. Pastors Aaron and Sarah will return from vacation this afternoon.

Mankato and North Mankato ACT on Alzheimer's presents **Singing Hills Chorus *Midnight Melodies Concert*** featuring special Guest the Melodia Choir. This event will be held on Saturday, January 7th at 1:00pm at Hosanna Lutheran Church. General admission tickets are being sold for \$10. For tickets email katoactonalz@gmail.com. For more information visit www.singinghillschorus.org.

Get involved at RLC in 2023! Monday prayer group resumes tomorrow at 10:00am. Men's Bible Study resumes on Thursday. Women's Bible Study will gather for the first time of the new year next Wednesday the 11th and choir will meet again on February 1st.

Anyone who would like to take a **poinsettia plant** with them this morning, can do so after worship.

THIS WEEK AT RESURRECTION LUTHERAN

Sunday	January 1	9:30am	Worship
		10:30am	Fellowship
Monday	January 2	10:00am	Morning Prayer
Tuesday	January 3	11:00am	E/E/O Meeting
Wednesday	January 4	Noon	Lectionary Lunch
		1:15pm	Worship Committee
Thursday	January 5	8:00am	Men's Bible Study
Sunday	January 8	9:30am	Worship
		10:30am	Fellowship