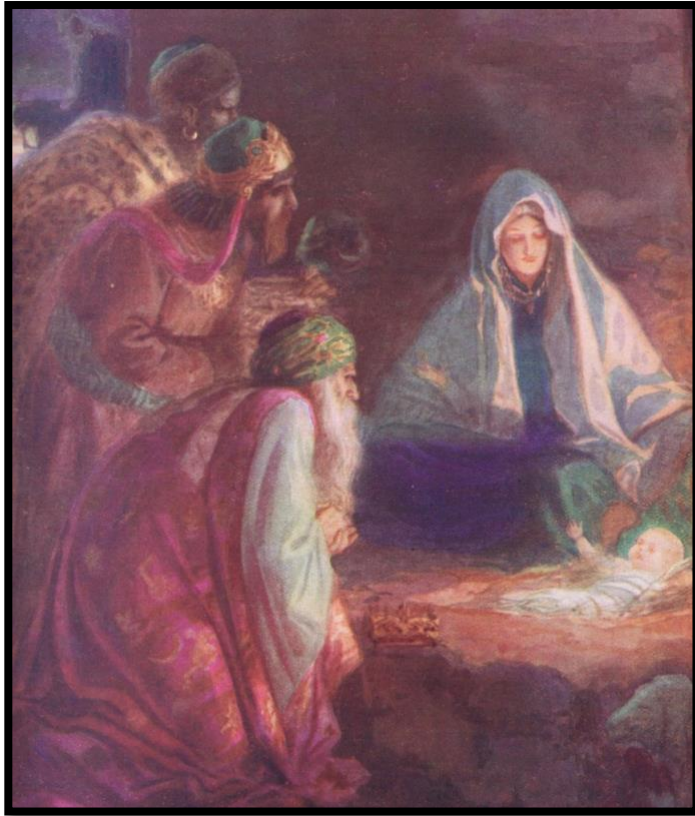


Resurrection Lutheran Church

1735 East Main Street – Mankato, MN 56001

+ *New Life in the Living Word* +



The Epiphany of Our Lord

Sunday, January 4, 2026 | 9:30am

The revelation of Jesus Christ is good news for all nations. Light pervades the season of Epiphany as God shows many times over who his Son is and why he came to humanity as one of us in the flesh. As the wise men bring precious gifts to the child, we are reminded of the danger of the situation. God's word to the Magi kept the infant Jesus safe for a time, but there will always be enemies of the Gospel.

Welcome *and* Announcements

Please sign the welcome pad at the end of your pew

Prayer of the Day

P: We gather in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray:

C: O God, by the leading of a star, you revealed your only-begotten Son to the nations. Mercifully grant that we, who know you by faith, may be brought to contemplate the beauty of your majesty; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

What Child Is This

Reclaim No. 113

Confession and Forgiveness of Sin | *Based on Ephesians 3:12 and Psalm 72:11*

P: In Christ, we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him.

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

P: In repentant faith, we come before our Lord in confession.

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination

P: Almighty God, King of all,

C: we confess to you that we are sinful by nature. We have lived in darkness rather than light. Our selfish thoughts, harmful words, and faithless actions reveal our sinfulness. But for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, who became flesh for us, we pray, forgive us our sins. Amen.

P: God's grace is revealed in the birth, life, suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. He has brought light to this world darkened by sin. In the stead and by the command of Jesus, I announce to you the full forgiveness of all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Thanks be to God!

Hymn of Praise

A song of thanksgiving for the forgiveness we have in Jesus Christ

Glory be to God in heaven, Peace on earth, good will and grace;

We rejoice and sing thanksgiving, Hearts uplifted, songs of praise!

Lord, we bless You, Lord, we thank You, God Almighty, strong and true;

Lamb of God, our sin You carry, Grant us peace, our hearts renew.

You alone, O Christ, are holy, You alone the Lord Most High,
With the Spirit ever reigning, In the Father's glory nigh.
Now we sing our adoration, Praise resounds from shore to shore;
Glory, honor, power, blessing Be to God forevermore!

Children's Sermon

First Reading | Isaiah 60:1-6

Pew Bible Pg. 718

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.

Responsive Reading | Psalm 72:1-11

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

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!

Second Reading | Ephesians 3:1-12

Pew Bible Pg. 1130

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 Christ are extended to all nations through the saving Gospel, and those who were once strangers are now fellow members of the body.

R: Word of God; Word of life.

C: Thanks be to God!

Gospel Acclamation

Thy word is a lamp upon my feet and a light unto my path. *(Repeat)*

Gospel Reading | Matthew 2:1-12

Pew Bible Pg. 933

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

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

the Gospel text is read

P: This is the Gospel of our Lord!

C: Praise to you, O Christ!

Sermon

We Three Kings of Orient Are (vss. 1-4)

Reclaim No. 130

Offering Presentation

We give thee but thine own, whate'er the gift may be;
All that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.

May we thy bounties thus as stewards true receive
And gladly, as thou blessest us, to thee our first fruits give.

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

Communion Acclamation

A prayer of adoration to the one who died and rose again to take away our sin

O Lamb of God, you take away our sin.

Have mercy, Christ, and make your home within.

O Lamb of God, you take away our shame.

Grant us your peace, O Lord, in Jesus' name.

The Lord's Prayer

P: Lord Jesus, as often as we eat of this bread and drink of this cup, we proclaim your death until you come again. 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.

Communion Distribution

Resurrection Lutheran's communion practices can be found on the "Come To The Table" instructional in your pew. If you are a visitor or guest, please consider referencing this card.

Benediction

Blessed Be the God of Israel



1 Blessed be the God of Is - ra - el who comes to set us free
2 With prom - ised mer - cy will God still the cov - e - nant re - call,
3 My child, as proph - et of the Lord you will pre - pare the way,



and rais - es up new hope for us: a Branch from Da - vid's tree.
the oath once sworn to A - bra - ham, from foes to save us all;
to tell God's peo - ple they are saved from sin's e - ter - nal sway.



So have the proph - ets long de - clared that with a might - y arm
that we might wor - ship with - out fear and of - fer lives of praise,
Then shall God's mer - cy from on high shine forth and nev - er cease



God would turn back our en - e - mies and all who wish us harm.
in ho - li - ness and righ - teous - ness to serve God all our days.
to drive a - way the gloom of death and lead us in - to peace.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944, based on Luke 1:68-79

Music: FOREST GREEN, English folk tune

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Dismissal

P: Go in peace, loving and serving in the name of our crucified and risen Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

Announcements

Welcome to Worship! Resurrection Lutheran Church is a Christ-centered and cross-focused member congregation of Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ and the Augustana District, LCMC. To learn more about our association of churches, please visit www.lcmc.net.

Thank-you for your **tithes and offerings** to help further the mission of Resurrection Lutheran Church. An offering plate has been placed by the entrance doors into the Sanctuary for your convenience. Venmo users can scan the QR code found in the pew racks.

Do you have **Bibles** at home that you're hesitant to donate, can't bring yourself to discard, but would love to see read and cherished? Beginning this morning and running throughout the month of January, we invite you to bring those Bibles to church for donation to *Love Packages*, a nonprofit ministry that ships Bibles to missionaries around the world.

January Service Project: Each year, 4.2 million young people experience homelessness in the United States. That reality is especially troubling during Minnesota's cold winter months. Last year alone, the Youth Resource Center in Mankato served 470 youth from our community. Beginning this morning and running throughout the month of January, Resurrection Lutheran will host a supply drive to support the Youth Resource Center and the young people who rely on its care. You are invited to bring any of the following items during the month: granola or protein bars, scarves/hats/gloves, personal hygiene items (toothbrush, toothpaste, shampoo, body wash, lotion), kleenex or baby wipes.

Madagascar Health and Water is a clean-water initiative coordinated by Resurrection Lutheran Church member Andry Ranaivoson. With persistent famine causing widespread malnutrition and death throughout much of Madagascar, this ministry works to locate clean water deep beneath the surface and provide remote villages with safe drinking water, sanitation, and agricultural tools. Resurrection Lutheran raised over \$1,800 for this mission in the month of November. To help us learn more about this life-saving ministry, Andry will offer a presentation on Sunday, January 18th at 3:00pm. Pie and coffee will be served.

Please note that the **January calendar** slowly adds back in programming, but not all at once. Sunday School returns this morning. Men's and Women's Bible Study will not begin meeting again for a few more weeks. Choir will not meet this month. A new Adult Forum series will begin in February.

Birthdays this week: Matt Wills (6th), Ruth Deutsch (7th), and Bob Spiegler (9th)

A New Year's Prayer

REMEMBER US, O GOD, FROM AGE TO AGE FOR YOU ARE OUR TRUE AND ONLY COMFORTER. YOU HAVE GIVEN US THE WONDER OF TIME, BLESSINGS IN DAYS AND NIGHTS, SEASONS AND YEARS. BLESS YOUR CHILDREN AT THE TURNING OF THE YEAR AND FILL THE MONTHS AHEAD WITH THE BRIGHT HOPE THAT IS OURS IN THE COMING OF CHRIST. HELP US TO PUT ASIDE ANXIETY ABOUT THE FUTURE AND THE PAST, SO THAT WE MIGHT LIVE IN PEACE WITH YOU NOW AND ALWAYS, FOR YOU ARE OUR GOD, LIVING AND REIGNING, FOREVER AND EVER. AMEN.

Those Serving Today

Pastor: Rev. Aaron L. Deutsch

Reader: Jim Lambert

Greeters: Jim and Carolyn Lambert

Communion Assistants: Pat and Karen McGregor

Tech Team: Doug Krahmer, Mike Youngerberg, Vicki Youngerberg and Nancy Heinze

Keyboardist: Nikki Basel

Ushers: Brad Matthes and Kevin Leffel

Communion Set Up: Tony and Becky Miller

This Week at Resurrection Lutheran

Sunday	January 4	9:30am	Worship
		10:30am	Fellowship/Sunday School
Monday	January 5	10:00am	Morning Prayer
Wednesday	January 7	Noon	Lectionary Bible Study
		1:00pm	Worship Committee
Thursday	January 8	11:00am	EEO Committee
Sunday	January 11	9:30am	Worship
		10:30am	Fellowship/Sunday School

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