

# *Epiphany of Our Lord*

January 5, 2025 9:30AM



**Jefferson Prairie Lutheran Church**

*As a community called by Christ, we live our faith by loving and serving all creation*

**Epiphany of Our Lord**  
January 5, 2025 9:30AM

**Prelude**  
**Welcome**

*Please stand as you are able*

**GATHERING** *The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God*

**Confession and Forgiveness**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
whose steadfast love is everlasting.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.  
God-with-us,

**we confess that we have turned away those seeking shelter,  
claiming there is no room when we have plenty.**

**We have made power and wealth our idols,  
while you show us true glory: a baby in a manger.**

**We have overlooked the shepherds,  
expecting good news in prettier packaging.**

**Too often, we have valued violence instead of your peace.**

**Turn us from our ways to your ways.**

**Grant us the grace to begin again.**

**Free us from all that keeps us bound, and forgive our sin,  
through Jesus Christ, who gives himself for us. Amen.**

. . . freed to respond in joy. **Amen.**

**Gathering Hymn**

**"The First Noel"**

**#300**

**Greeting**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

**Canticle of Praise**

**"Glory to God"**

Song Sheet

**Prayer**

. . . one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*Please be seated*

**WORD** *God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

**First Reading**

**Isaiah 60:1-6**

page 676

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**

**Anthem**

**Follow**

**Choir**

**Second Reading**

**Ephesians 3:1-12**

page 1065

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**

## Children's Message

*Please stand as you are able*

### Gospel

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, chapter 2.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

**Matthew 2:1-12**

page 877

### Response to Gospel

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated*

### Sermon

**Pr. Linda Winkelman**

**Silence for Meditation** *We pause in contemplation of God's word, preparing to respond with song*

*Please stand as you are able*

### Message Response

**"Brightest and Best of the Stars"** vs. 1,3-5

**#303**

### Nicene Creed

Living together in trust and hope, we 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,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.**

**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,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic 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 Intercession

Petition response: **receive our prayer.**

. . . Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**MEAL** *God feeds us with the presence of Christ*

**Offerings** Place offerings in the plate at the sanctuary entrance, mail to the church, or give through our website or Tithe.ly App. Thank you for your financial support of our ministry.

**Presentation of Gifts** "What Child Is This" vs. 1, 3

**#296**

What child is this who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?

Whom angels greet with anthems sweet while shepherds watch are keeping?

This, this is Christ the king, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;

haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary!

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, peasant, king, to own him.

The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone him.

Raise, raise the song on high, the virgin sings her lullaby;

joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary!

## Offering Prayer

God of heaven and earth,

**from the beginning, you have called forth life, in which you take delight. The trees, the fields, and the seas sing for joy. Bless now these gifts, received from your bounty, that we may join the chorus of creation to tell of your salvation from day to day. Amen.**

## Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

. . . and join their unending hymn:

## Holy, Holy, Holy

Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

p. 153

## Words of Promise

## Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

*Please be seated*

## Communion

Communion Hymns	"What Feast of Love"	#487
	"Drawn to the Light"	#593
	"As with Gladness Men of Old"	#302

*Please stand as you are able*

## Post Communion Blessing & Prayer

**SENDING** *God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world*

### Blessing

The God of love, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,  
lavish you with grace,  
illumine your path,  
and increase your joy,  
today and always. **Amen.**

## Bell Toll

Sending Hymn	"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"	#815
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## Dismissal

Go in peace. The Word of God dwells in you richly.  
**Thanks be to God.**

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††††††††

### Worship Leaders

Tom and Linda Medine – Ushers/Greeters  
Kris Sanderson – Reader  
Barb and Jim Grenawalt – Communion Assistants  
Steve Mentele – Choir Director  
Robin Hoefler – Pianist  
Linda Winkelman - Pastor

## The First Noel

1 The first No - el the an - gel did say was to  
 2 They look - ed up and saw . . a star shin - ing  
 3 And by the light of that . . same star three . .  
 4 This star drew near to the . . north - west, o'er . .  
 5 Then en - tered in those wise . . men three, full . .

cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay; in fields where  
 in . . . the east . . be - yond . . them far; and to the  
 wise . . men came . . from coun - try far; to seek for a  
 Beth - le - hem . . it took . . its rest; and there it  
 rev - 'rent - ly . . . up - on . . their knee, and of - fered

they lay, keep - ing their sheep, on a cold win - ter's  
 earth it gave . . . great light, and . . so it con -  
 king was their . . . in - tent, and to fol - low the  
 did both stop . . . and stay right . . o - ver the  
 there in his . . . pres - ence their . . gold, . . . and

*Refrain*

night that was so deep.  
 tin-ued both day and night.  
 star wher - ev - er it went. No - el, No - el, No -  
 place where Je - sus lay.  
 myrrh, and frank - in - cense.

el, No - el! Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

# Glory to God

S 148



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer



For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



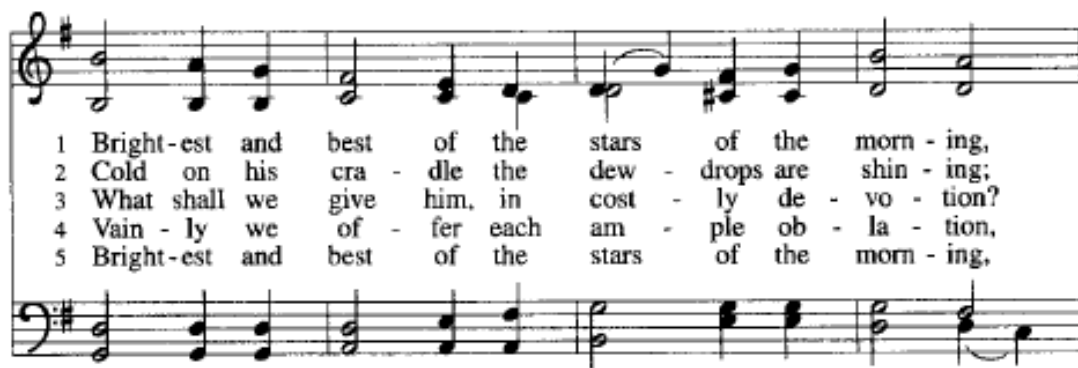
you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



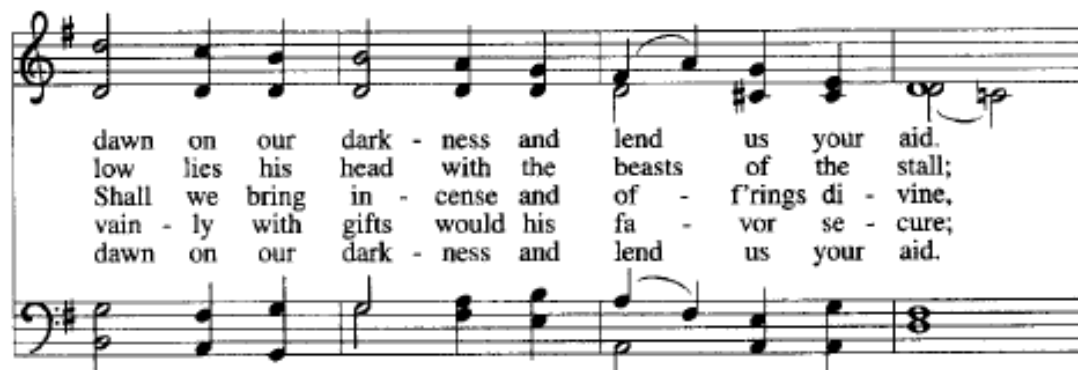
in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men.



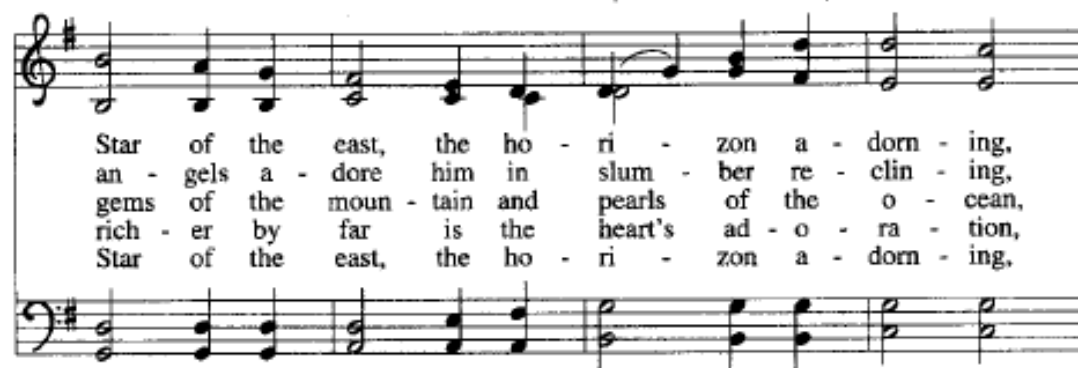
## Brightest and Best of the Stars



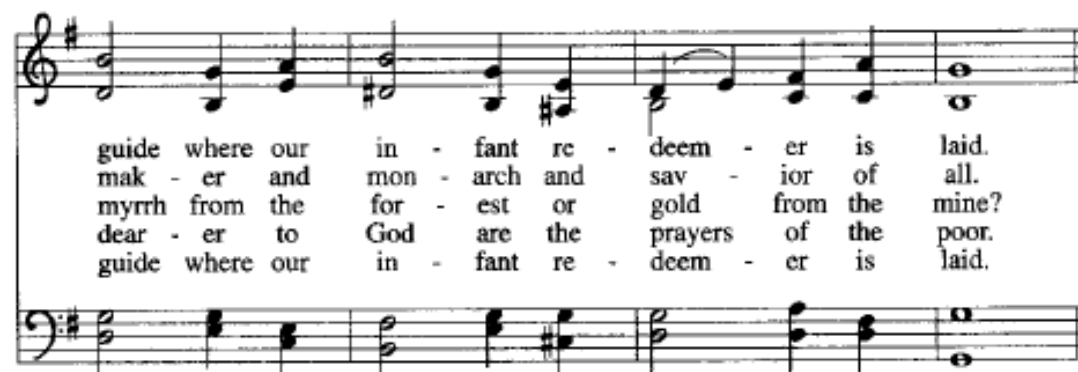
1 Bright-est and best of the stars of the morn - ing,  
 2 Cold on his cra - dle the dew - drops are shin - ing;  
 3 What shall we give him, in cost - ly de - vo - tion?  
 4 Vain - ly we of - fer each am - ple ob - la - tion,  
 5 Bright-est and best of the stars of the morn - ing,



dawn on our dark - ness and lend us your aid.  
 low lies his head with the beasts of the stall;  
 Shall we bring in - cense and of - f'rings di - vine,  
 vain - ly with gifts would his fa - vor se - cure;  
 dawn on our dark - ness and lend us your aid.



Star of the east, the ho - ri - zon a - dorn - ing,  
 an - gels a - dore him in slum - ber re - clin - ing,  
 gems of the moun - tain and pearls of the o - cean,  
 rich - er by far is the heart's ad - o - ra - tion,  
 Star of the east, the ho - ri - zon a - dorn - ing,



guide where our in - fant re - deem - er is laid.  
 mak - er and mon - arch and sav - ior of all.  
 myrrh from the for - est or gold from the mine?  
 dear - er to God are the prayers of the poor.  
 guide where our in - fant re - deem - er is laid.

1 What feast of love is of-fered here, what ban-quet come from heav-en?  
 2 What light of truth is of-fered here, what cov-e-nant from heav-en?  
 3 What wine of love is of-fered here, what crim-son drink from heav-en?

What food of ev-er-last-ing life, what gra-cious gift is giv-en?  
 What hope of ev-er-last-ing life, what won-drous word is giv-en?  
 What stream of ev-er-last-ing life, what pre-cious blood is giv-en?

This, this is Christ the king, the bread come down from heav-en.  
 This, this is Christ the king, the sun come down from heav-en.  
 This, this is Christ the king, the sweet-est wine of heav-en.

Oh, taste and see and sing! How sweet the man-na giv-en!  
 Oh, see and hear and sing! The Word of God is giv-en!  
 Oh, taste and see and sing! The Son of God is giv-en!

# Drawn to the Light

593



1<sup>1</sup> Peo - ple who walk in dark - ness have sought a light in the  
2 How can we tell a heav - en from hell if ev - 'ry - one  
3 Where is the sun? Oh, there will be none! The Lamb is the



heart of the dark - est night. Just when we thought all would be  
dwells in the dark of night? Morn - ing dis - pels, gent - ly com -  
one who is shin - ing bright, bids us to come! Life has be -



lost, we were drawn to the light of God.  
pels, and we're drawn to the light of God.  
gun when we're drawn to the light of God.

## *Refrain*



Dawn is in sight! Gone is the night, drawn to the



light and the morn - ing. Glo - rious and bright, oh, what a



sight to be drawn to the light of God.

Text: John C. Ylvisaker, b. 1937

Music: John C. Ylvisaker

Text and music © 1990 John C. Ylvisaker

LA CROSSE

9 10 88 and refrain



1 As with glad - ness men of old did the guid - ing star be - hold;  
 2 As with joy - ful steps they sped, Sav - ior, to thy low - ly bed,  
 3 As they of - fered gifts most rare at thy cra - dle, rude and bare,  
 4 Ho - ly Je - sus, ev - 'ry day keep us in the nar - row way;  
 5 In the heav'n - ly coun - try bright need they no cre - a - ted light;



as with joy they hailed its light, lead - ing on - ward, beam - ing bright;  
 there to bend the knee be - fore thee, whom heav'n and earth a - dore;  
 so may we with ho - ly joy, pure and free from sin's al - loy,  
 and when earth - ly things are past, bring our ran - somed souls at last  
 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.  
 so may we with will - ing feet ev - er seek thy mer - cy seat.  
 all our cost - liest trea - sures bring, Christ, to thee, our heav'n - ly king,  
 where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glo - ry hide.  
 there for - ev - er may we sing al - le - lu - ias to our king.



## 815 I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to  
 2 I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God. I want to  
 3 I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ. I want to

fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give  
 look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ - teous - ness.  
 be with Je - sus. When we have run . . . with

light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.  
 shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.  
 pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

*Refrain*

In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the

day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the

cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

## Announcements for January 5, 2025

**Welcome!** We are happy to have you worship with us today!

- **Large Print Bulletins and Hymns** are available in the narthex in a red binder. Ask the ushers!
- **Activity Bags for young children** are available in the narthex. Take one for use during the service.
- **Visitors:** Please fill out a visitor card located in the narthex. Pick up a visitor's bag!

**Keep in prayer:** Christopher Bendixen (friend of Ginny Erickson), Judy Clark (daughter-in-law of Ruth Clark), Tammy Eckley (sister of Teresa Sommers), Cindy Hoekman, Craig Knutson, Brad Pfaff (son-in-law of Mary Jane Tracy), Jim Thompson, Lynn Tracy, and Mary Jane Tracy.

**Sunday School** resumes TODAY! There will be no SS on January 26 due to the annual meeting.

**Confirmation classes** resume on January 8.

**JPLC Annual Meeting** will be held on January 26, 2025, immediately following worship. If worship is canceled on January 26, the meeting will be held on February 2. **Committee reports for the Annual Meeting Report** are due in the office by January 7.

**Bible Study** resumes January 10. We will meet on Fridays at 10am to study *Our Community Now and in God's Future*. All are welcome. Come whenever you are able.

An invitation to **Altar Guild:** a brief informational meeting will be held next Sunday, January 12 following worship for all interested in preparing the sanctuary for Sunday services. Please consider being part of this important ministry.

**A Neighborhood Meal** will be offered at JPLC on Wednesday, January 22 from 4:30-6:30pm. Invite your neighbors to join you for a free meal and fellowship! **Want to help?** Food sign-ups are in the connecting room; talk to Carrie Morelock (815) 315-7773 if you want to help with food prep.

**Belated thanks** to everyone who helped with our Thanksgiving meal!!

Sign-up sheets for **Livestreaming** and for **Readers** are on the connecting room board. Sign-up sheet is in the fellowship hall to provide food/coffee for **Fellowship**. Please consider serving in these ways!

**Sharing Your Offering:** Thank you for your generosity that supports our ministry here at Jefferson Prairie and our mission partners. There are multiple options for sharing your offering.

- **Offering plates** are located on stands by the entrance to the sanctuary.
- **Give online** at [www.jplchurch.org](http://www.jplchurch.org). Click on the GIVE tab at the top to be directed to Tithe.ly.
- **Use the Tithe.ly App.** Click on GIVE on our website [www.jplchurch.org](http://www.jplchurch.org), download the Tithe.ly App at the bottom of the screen. Once installed, search for Jefferson Prairie and start giving using the App.
- **Mail** your check to church: 23184 Bergen Rd. Poplar Grove, IL 61065

**Online worship** available at: <https://www.facebook.com/jeffersonprairie/live/> and [www.jplchurch.org](http://www.jplchurch.org) homepage. Click on Sermons on the website to watch previous worship services. The bulletin is under Sermon Notes.

**NOTE:** This worship service is being livestreamed.

**Inclement weather cancellations** will be posted to the JPLC Facebook page and the JPLC website under News. Emails will be sent to members, and you can also check WCLO/WJVL radio or WREX Channel 13 TV stations for status information. Pastor Linda will provide a livestream service on Facebook if in-person worship is cancelled.

### This Week's Calendar

Tuesday, January 7	9am	Quilting
Wednesday, January 8	6:30pm	Confirmation Class
Thursday, January 9	6pm	Worship Team Meeting
Friday, January 10	10am	Bible Study
Sunday, January 12	9:30am	Worship/Baptism of Our Lord SS/Fellowship Altar Guild Meeting