



Concordia Lutheran Church
of Pickerel Lake
Online Worship
January 10, 2021

Welcome to Concordia Lutheran Church of Pickerel Lake

We welcome everyone who is worshipping with us today. We are a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, located in rural Albert Lea, MN. If you would like to be in touch, please send us an email at office@concordiapickerellake.com

Family and friends who need our prayers. We include in the bulletin a written list of family members, friends and congregation members who need prayers so that you may pray for them during the week. It is important to ask the person for permission to be included prior to offering their name for publication. We include prayers for safety, prayers of celebration or thanksgiving, as well as prayers for healing. If there is someone you would like to be included on this list, you can email or call Pastor Rakotoarivelo or Stephanie Johnson.

All names will be left on the prayer list for one month, at that time, names will be removed unless requested to remain for a longer period.

Remember the following in your prayers this week:

Please keep all these in your prayers: Rosie, sister of Kathy Lutteke, those suffering from COVID and other illnesses; students, families, teachers, and school employees; medical workers and researchers; caregivers; front line workers; those suffering from natural disasters or violence; and for courage, compassion, and justice around the world.

Synod Joined in Prayer:

St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Harmony Bethlehem
Lutheran Church, Glenville
Faith Lutheran Church, Dodge Center
Lunder Lutheran Church, Albert Lea
Mazoezi Mwankoko Lutheran Church, Tanzania Solo Por Fe
Lutheran Church, Colombia

Epiphany of Our Lord

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

GATHERING

Call to Worship

O come, let us worship the Lord
and consider what wondrous things God has done:
**The Magi who study the heavens follow a guiding
star!**

O come, let us worship the Lord
and consider what wondrous things God has done:
**The peoples who live in the shadows see a glorious
light!**

O come, let us worship the Lord
and consider what wondrous things God has done:
**The Christ who embodies the Word unveils the
hidden plan, making us joint heirs of the promise of
salvation through the gospel!**

O come, let us worship the Lord,
for God has done wondrous things!

Gathering Hymn

"Brightest and Best of the Stars"

First Plymouth Church

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.

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray:

**Almighty and ever-living God, you revealed the
incarnation of your Son by the brilliant shining of a
star. Shine the light of your justice always in our
hearts and over all lands, and accept our lives as the
treasure we offer in your praise and for your service,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives**

and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God,
now and forever. Amen.

WORD

First Reading

Isaiah 60:1-6

Jerusalem is assured that nations will make a pilgrimage to her because the light of God's presence is in her midst. The bountiful food of the sea and the profits of international trade will come streaming to Jerusalem and thereby declare God's praise.

¹Arise, shine; for your light has come,
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

²For darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples;
but the LORD will arise upon you,
and his glory will appear over you.

³Nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

⁴Lift up your eyes and look around;
they all gather together, they come to you;
your sons shall come from far away,
and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses'
arms.

⁵Then you shall see and be radiant;
your heart shall thrill and rejoice,
because the abundance of the sea shall be brought 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 proclaim the praise of the LORD.

R: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

Ephesians 3:1-12

What had been hidden from previous generations is now made known through the gospel ministry of Paul and others. In Christ both Jews and Gentiles participate in the richness of God's promised salvation.

¹This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles—²for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, ³and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, ⁴a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. ⁵In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: ⁶that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

⁷Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. ⁸Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, ⁹and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; ¹⁰so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹²in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

R: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Children's Message

Gospel

Matthew 2:1-12

God's promise shines bright in the night as magi follow a star to honor a new king. Strangers from a faraway land, they welcome the long-awaited messiah of Israel.

¹In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ²asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." ³When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

⁶'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'

⁷Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." ⁹When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

P: The Gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day “Bright and Glorious is the Sky” ELW 301
vs 1-4

Apostles’ Creed

Prayers of Intercession

THANKSGIVING

Offering

Thank you for your prayers, support, and financial gifts. During this time in the service, you are invited to take a moment to silently offer thanks to God and to consider how you might extend the love and peace of Christ to someone this week through a phone call, card, text, or other form.

Offering Prayer

Gracious God,
you came to us as one unknown,
bringing joy and salvation to the earth.
Sustain and strengthen us,
that with all who welcome your birth
we may proclaim your peace,
revealed in Jesus Christ, our Savior.
Amen.

Lord’s Prayer

SENDING

Blessing

Grace from God’s own heart,
peace from the ☩ Child in the manger,
and strength from the Spirit of life
be blessings for you today and forever.
Amen.

Sending Hymn “Arise, Your Light Has Come!” ELW 314

Dismissal

Christ is born!
Go tell it on the mountain and everywhere.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

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Celebrating A Birthday This Week

Jan 10

Fred Nelson

Kandee Petersen

Jan 14

Donna Nelson

Jan 16

Janelle Merkouris

SNOW REMOVAL JANUARY 11 – 17, 2021

PARKING LOT: DANNY SCHMIDT

SIDEWALKS: SPENCER WALLIN

Announcements

Drive-Thru Communion Jan 17th

Drive-thru communion/blessing will be available on January 17th from 11:30am-12:30pm by pulling up to the ramp entrance of the church. You may also drop off your offering during this time.

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