

January 6, 2024

**Epiphany** 

# GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

1600 Old Trolley Rd Summerville, SC 29485-8275 843-871-5554

### **♣** PREPARATION **♣**

Tonight we will observe The Lord's Supper...The Lord's Supper is celebrated at Grace Lutheran Church in the confession and glad confidence that, as he says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but his very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with him and with one another. Our Lord invites to his table those who trust his words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as he forgives and loves us, that they may show forth his death until he comes. Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked you first to speak with the pastor, an elder or an usher. (For further study, see Matthew 5:23f; 10:32f; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; I Cor. 11:17-34). Wine is used in the individual and common cup. It may also be received by intinction. A gluten free wafer is available upon request.

**PRELUDE** 

"March of the Three Kings" "The Star Proclaims the King is Here"

arr. P. Tonner setting: J. Pachelbel

#### WELCOME







#### INVOCATION

- $\blacksquare$  In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

### **OPENING SENTENCES**

Psalm 43:4: 124:8

- **P** I will go to the altar of God,
- **G** to God my exceeding joy.
- P Our help is in the name of the LORD,
- **©** who made heaven and earth.

#### CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P I confess to almighty God,
- before all the company of heaven, and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned exceedingly in thought, word, and deed through my fault, through my own fault, through my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray almighty God, for the sake of Jesus Christ, His Son, to have mercy on me, forgive me my sins, and bring me to everlasting life.
- P Upon this, your confession, I, by virtue of my office as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to all of you. In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ♣ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

### **♣** SERVICE OF THE WORD **♣**

### **KYRIE**

**A** In peace let us pray to the Lord.



- C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.
- A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



- C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.
- A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



- C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.
- A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.



- Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.
- A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.



### SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- Let us pray. 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.
- **G** Amen.

Sit

### OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 60:1-6

<sup>1</sup>Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

<sup>2</sup>For 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. <sup>3</sup>And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. <sup>4</sup>Lift 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. <sup>5</sup>Then 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. <sup>6</sup>A 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.

- **A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

**PSALM** *Psalm 72:1–11* 

- A Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things.
  - Give the king Your justice, O God, and Your righteousness to the royal son!
- May He judge Your people with righteousness, and Your poor with justice!
- A Let the mountains bear prosperity for the people, and the hills, in righteousness!
- May He defend the cause of the poor of the people, give deliverance to the children of the needy, and crush the oppressor!

- A May they fear You while the sun endures, and as long as the moon, throughout all generations!
- May He be like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth!
- A In His days may the righteous flourish, and peace abound, till the moon be no more!
- May He have dominion from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth!
- A May desert tribes bow down before Him and His enemies lick the dust!
- May the kings of Tarshish and of the coastlands render Him tribute; may the kings of Sheba and Seba bring gifts!
- A May all kings fall down before Him, all nations serve Him!
- Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things.

**EPISTLE** Ephesians 3:1–12

<sup>1</sup>For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles—
<sup>2</sup>assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for you, <sup>3</sup>how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. <sup>4</sup>When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, <sup>5</sup>which 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. <sup>6</sup>This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

<sup>7</sup>Of 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. <sup>8</sup>To 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,

<sup>9</sup>and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things, <sup>10</sup>so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. <sup>11</sup>This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, <sup>12</sup>in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him.

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

Stand

VERSE Matt. 2:2b

- P Alleluia. 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. Alleluia.

**HOLY GOSPEL** *Matthew 2:1–12* 

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the second chapter.
- **G** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup>saying, "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." <sup>3</sup>When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; <sup>4</sup>and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. <sup>5</sup>They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:

<sup>6</sup>"'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.'"

<sup>7</sup>Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup>And 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." <sup>9</sup>After 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. <sup>10</sup>When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly

with great joy. <sup>11</sup>And 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. <sup>12</sup>And 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 the Lord.
- Praise to You, O Christ.

### **NICENE CREED**

 $\mathbf{C}$ I believe in one God. the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ. the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life + of the world to come. Amen.

Sit

### **HYMN**

"O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright" LSB 395 Morn-ing Star, how 1 O fair and bright! You shine with God's 2 Come, heav'n-ly Bride-groom, Light di - vine, And deep with - in 3 Lord, when You look on us in love, At once there falls 4 Al - might - y Fa - ther, in Your Son You loved us when own truth and light. A - glow with grace and mer our hearts now shine: There light flame a un - dv ing! from God a - bove Α ray of pur - est plea sure. foun - da not yet be - gun Was this old earth's Of Ja - cob's race. King Da-vid's son. Our Lord and mas -Your bod us be liv - ing branch one У let As Your Word and Spir - it, flesh and blood Re - fresh our souls Your Son has ran - somed in love To live in Him us lv! ter. You have won Our hearts to serve You on es of a tree. Your life our lives sup - ply ing. with heav'n-ly You dear food. are our est trea sure! here and a - bove: This is Your great sal - va tion. Low - ly, ho ly! Great and glo-rious, All vic - to - rious. Now, though dai ly Earth's deep sad - ness May per - plex us Your mer Warm and cheer us! O draw near us! cy Al - le - lu Christ the liv - ing, ia! To us giv - ing



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!

6 What joy to know, when life is past,
The Lord we love is first and last,
The end and the beginning!
He will one day, oh, glorious grace,
Transport us to that happy place
Beyond all tears and sinning!
Amen! Amen!
Come, Lord Jesus!
Crown of gladness!
We are yearning
For the day of Your returning!

### **SERMON**

#### **OFFERING**

**VOLUNTARY** "Guiding Star" arr. L. Smith

### Stand



### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- A O God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, God of our fathers in faith, and God of light, we praise You and give You thanks, above all for revealing Your gracious will of salvation through the lamp of Your Word, through the light of Your Christ. In Jesus, the light of Your salvation has shone in the hearts of people of all nations. Hear our prayers for the life and salvation of all people. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- P Gracious Lord, as the star spread the news of Your Son's birth over distant lands, so make Your Church and her people to be a shining witness of the Gospel of salvation to all people, both near and far. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **©** hear our prayer.

A Extend Your reign, O Christ, over the whole earth so that oppression may be transformed to freedom and justice. Give wisdom to those who lead. Grant that they rule justly and with wisdom, according to Your gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

### **C** hear our prayer.

Lord Jesus, bless all those who are ill, injured, or in mourning, [especially . . .]. Fill them with the assurance of Your promises and grant that we may be of help and encouragement to them. Lord, in Your mercy,

### **C** hear our prayer.

A Lord, accept our humble praise and thanksgiving for the blessings given to our brothers and sisters who rejoice this week, [especially . . .]. We acknowledge You as the source of all goodness and magnify Your name with all the gifts You give. Lord, in Your mercy,

### **C** hear our prayer.

Savior of the nations, we thank You for the blessed memory of those who have died in the faith whom You have gathered into Your heavenly kingdom. Grant that we always look to the future with hope and confidence in the reunion that is ours when You transport us to that glorious place that is beyond all tears and sinning. Lord, in Your mercy,

### hear our prayer.

A Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end.

### C Amen.

### **★ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT**

#### **PREFACE**

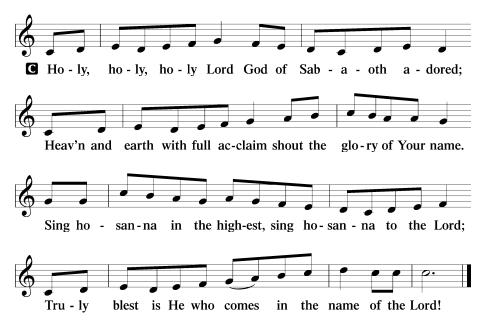
- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **And also with you.**
- P Lift up your hearts.
- **@** We lift them to the Lord.

- **P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

### PROPER PREFACE

It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS LSB 208



### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

LSB 161

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

### THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ⅓ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

### PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

- As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.
- **G** Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.
- P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

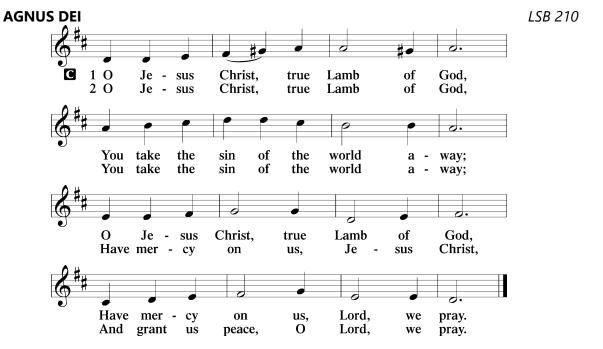
#### LORD'S PRAYER

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.

### **PAX DOMINI**

- **P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C Amen.



Sit

### DISTRIBUTION

**HYMN** 

"As with Gladness Men of Old"

LSB 397



- 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-at-ed light;
- the man is seen by even the real man,



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.

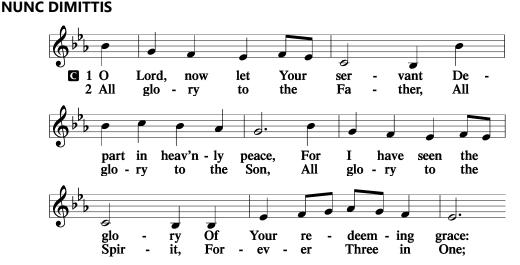
### **VOLUNTARY**

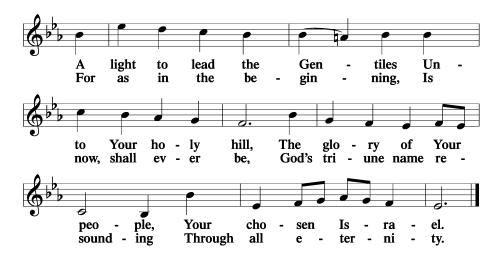
"Carols of the Star"
"To Follow the Star"

arr. L. Smith F. Ritter

## Stand

LSB 211





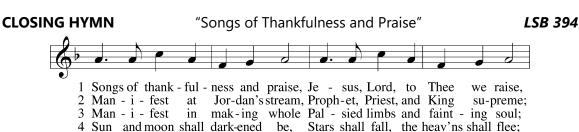
#### POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

- Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

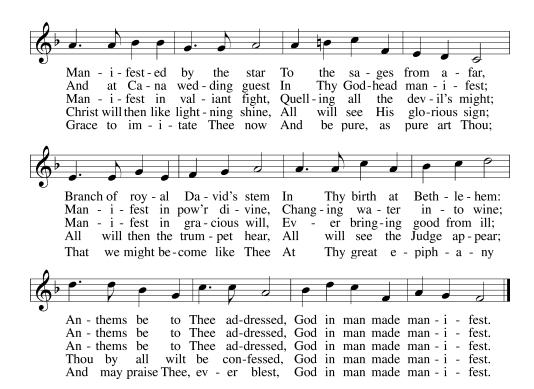
### BENEDICTION

- The Lord bless you and keep you.
  The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
  The Lord look upon you with favor and 

  → give you peace.
- C Amen.



5 Grant us grace to see Thee, Lord, Pres - ent in Thy ho - ly Word—



Sit

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS AND DISMISSAL

- **A** Go in peace as you serve the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

**POSTLUDE** 

"Voluntary on Two Carols"

arr. D. Kidwell

### **Acknowledgments**

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