



January 6, 2026

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; 1 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

"O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright"

arr. F. Ritter

"The Star Proclaims the King is Here"

setting: J. Pachelbel

WELCOME

Stand

HYMN

"O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright"

LSB 395



1 O Morn - ing Star, how 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 - cy!
our hearts now shine; There light a flame un - dy - ing!
from God a - bove A ray of pur - est plea - sure.
not yet be - gun Was this old earth's foun - da - tion!



Of Ja - cob's race, King Da - vid's son, Our Lord and mas -
In Your one bod - y let us be As liv - ing branch -
Your Word and Spir - it, flesh and blood Re - fresh our souls
Your Son has ran - somed us in love To live in Him



ter, You have won Our hearts to serve You on - ly!
 es of a tree, Your life our lives sup - ply - ing.
 with heav'n-ly food. You are our dear - 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
 Let Your mer - cy Warm and cheer us! O draw near us!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Christ the liv - ing, To us giv - ing



Rich in bless - ing! Rule and might o'er all pos - sess - ing!
 And dis - tress us, Yet with heav'n - ly joy You bless us.
 For You teach us God's own love through You has reached us.
 Life for - ev - er, Keeps us Yours and fails us nev - er!

5 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!

Text: tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978, alt., Text and tune: Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608
 Text: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004811, Tune: Public domain

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
G Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Ephesians 3:12; Psalm 72:11

P In Christ, we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in Him.
G **May all kings fall down before Him, all nations serve Him!**

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

Silence for reflection.

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 **Amen. Thanks be to God!**

✠ SERVICE OF THE WORD ✠

SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray. O God, by the leading of a star You made known Your only-begotten Son to the Gentiles.

C **Lead us, who know You by faith, to enjoy in heaven the fullness of Your divine presence;**

P through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Sit

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 60:1–6

A Arise, shine, for your light has come,

C **and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.**

- A** For behold, darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples;
- C** **but the LORD will arise upon you,
and His glory will be seen upon you.**
- A** And nations shall come to your light,
C **and kings to the brightness of your rising.**
- A** Lift up your eyes all around, and see;
they all gather together, they come to you;
- C** **your sons shall come from afar,
and your daughters shall be carried on the hip.**
- A** Then you shall see and be radiant;
your heart shall thrill and exult,
- C** **because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you,
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.**
- A** A multitude of camels shall cover you,
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;
all those from Sheba shall come.
- C** **They shall bring gold and frankincense,
and shall bring good news, the praises of the LORD.**
- A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE

Ephesians 3:1–12

¹For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner for 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.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

VERSE

Matt. 2:2b

P Alleluia.

C **Where is he who has been born king of the Jews?**

P Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 2:1–12

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the second 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 the Lord.

G Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit
HYMN “The Star Proclaims the King Is Here” **LSB 399 sts. 1-2,5**



1 The star pro - claims the King is here; But, Her - od,
 2 The east - ern sa - ges saw from far And fol - lowed
 △ 5 For this Thy glad e - piph - a - ny All glo - ry,



why this sense - less fear? For He who of - fers heav'n - ly
 on His guid - ing star; And, led by light, to light they
 Je - sus, be to Thee, Whom with the Fa - ther we a -



birth Seeks not the king - doms of this earth.
 trod And by their gifts con - fessed their God.
 dore, And Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more.

Text: Coelius Sedulius, 5th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt.
 Tune: Geistliche Lieder aufs new gebessert, 1535, Wittenberg, ed. Joseph Klug
 Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON

Stand
NICENE CREED, As shown on forward screens

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Arise, shine, for your light has come. We pray for the church here and around the world. For as the Magi saw the star, many people will see the glory of the Lord and come to faith, let us pray to the Lord.

G Wonderful Counselor, hear our prayer.

A For the leaders of this nation and the nations of the world, that they use their many resources for the poor, remember the disadvantaged, provide for lawful order within their borders, and seek peace with their neighbors, let us pray to the Lord.

G Mighty God, hear our prayer.

P Lift up your eyes all around and see. We pray for the lonely—those alone at home; those separated from loved ones, including armed forces deployed; and all those forgotten by the rest of society—that God would move caring people to surround them with His love. Let us pray to the Lord.

G Everlasting Father, hear our prayer.

A The Magi brought gold and frankincense. We pray for charitable organizations in our parish and community, that by the grace of God, we all may experience growth in faith as the Gospel moves from ears to heart, and from conviction to serving God and loving one another. Let us pray to the Lord.

G Prince of Peace, hear our prayer.

P Into Your hands, gracious God, who sent Your Son to be light in this dark world, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, in whose name we pray.

G Amen.

Sit

OFFERING

VOLUNTARY

“We Three Kings”

setting: J. Barr

Stand



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, On Mar - y's lap is
 2 Why lies He in such mean es - tate Where ox and ass are
 3 So bring Him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; Come, peas - ant, king, to



sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet While
 feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here The
 own Him. The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; Let



shep - herds watch are keep - ing? This, this is
 si - lent Word is plead - ing. Nails, spear shall
 lov - ing hearts en - throne Him. Raise, raise the



Christ the king, Whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;
 pierce Him through, The cross be borne for me, for you;
 song on high, The vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



Haste, haste to bring Him laud, The babe, the son of Mar - y!
 Hail, hail the Word made flesh, The babe, the son of Mar - y!
 Joy, joy, for Christ is born, The babe, the son of Mar - y!

Text: William C. Dix, 1837-98, Tune: English, 16th cent., Text and tune: Public domain

PRAYER

P Let us pray. We give thanks, Lord our God, that You have given us great physical gifts, amazing abilities, and one another to use to Your glory. Accept them all, as You received the gifts of the Magi, for we offer ourselves and our talents to You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

G Amen.

✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE

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.

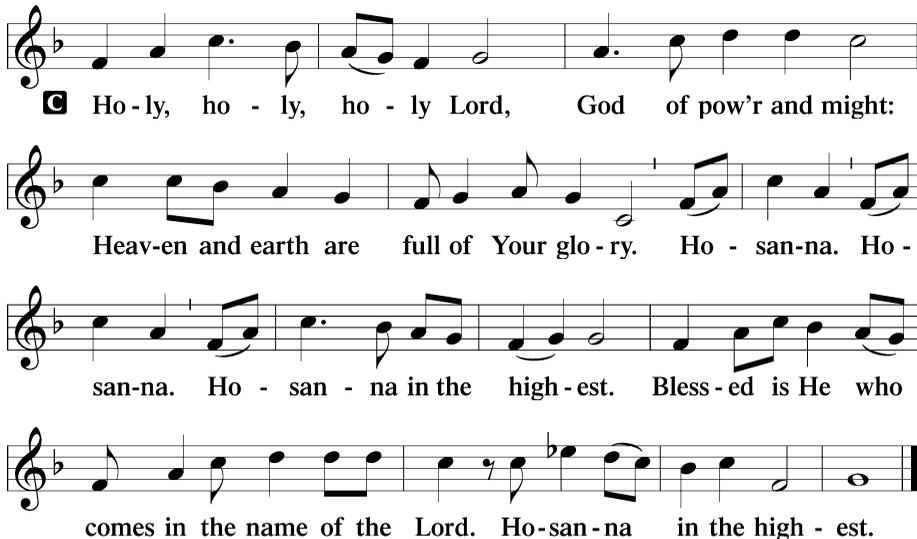
C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

PROPER PREFACE

P It is indeed good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to You, O Lord, holy Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Sharing our life, He lived among us to reveal Your glory and love, that our darkness should give way to His own brilliant light. 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 161



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

LSB 161

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You sent Your only-begotten Son to take our place on the cross and be our Savior. We receive the salvation He accomplished for us by that sacrifice. Gather us together from near and far to the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. To You alone, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, be all glory, honor, and worship, now and forever.

G 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 ✠ 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

P 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, *As shown on forward screens*

PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

G Amen.

☐ Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have
 mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the
 world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the
 sin of the world; grant us peace.

Sit

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

“What Is This Bread”

LSB 629

1 What is this bread?	Christ's bod - y
2 What is this wine?	The blood of
3 So who am I,	That I should
4 Yet is God here?	Oh, yes! By
5 Is this for me?	I am for -

ris - en from the dead:	This bread we break,
Je - sus shed for mine;	The cup of grace
live and He should die	Un - der the rod?
Word and prom - ise clear,	In mouth and soul
giv - en and set free!	I do be - lieve

This life we take,	Was crushed to pay for our re -
Brings His em - brace	Of life and love un - til I
My God, my God,	Why have You not for - sak - en
He makes us whole—	Christ, tru - ly pres - ent in this
That I re - ceive	His ver - y bod - y and His



lease.	O taste and see—	the Lord is peace.
sing!	O taste and see—	the Lord is King.
me?	O taste and see—	the Lord is free.
meal.	O taste and see—	the Lord is real.
blood.	O taste and see—	the Lord is good.

Text: Frederic W. Baue, 1946, Tune: Jean Neuhauser Baue, 1951
Text and tune: © 1991 Fred and Jean Baue. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004811

VOLUNTARY

“What is this Bread”

setting: H. Gerike

Stand

NUNC DIMITTIS

LSB 165



Lord, now You let Your ser-vant go in peace; Your word has been ful-



filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va-tion which You have pre-



pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple; A light to re -



veal You to the na-tions and the glo-ry of Your peo-ple Is - ra - el.



Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spir-it;



as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

P Let us pray. Thanks be to You, heavenly Father, for refreshing our minds, bodies, and spirits with this Sacrament.

C **Rule us always by Your Holy Spirit that we may serve You constantly;**

P 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

P 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.**

CLOSING HYMN

"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"

LSB 411



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



I want to fol - low Je - sus.
I want to look at Je - sus.
I want to be with Je - sus.



God set the stars to give light to the world.
Clear Sun of Righ - teous - ness, shine on my path,
When we have run with pa - tience the race,



The star of my life is Je - sus.
And show me the way to the Fa - ther.
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.

Text and tune: Kathleen Thomerson, 1934-2025
 Text and tune: © 1970, 1975 Celebration. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004811

Sit

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

"Brightest and Best"

arr. J. Rasley

Acknowledgments

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series A, Quarter 1. Copyright © 2025 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission. "O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright"- arr. F. Ritter; Tune: Wie Schon Leuchtet, P. Nicolai © 2003 Lorenz Publishing Co.; "The Star Proclaims the King is Here"- setting: J. Pachelbel; Tune: Wo Gott zum haus, from Geistliche Lieder © 1955 Concordia Publishing House; "We Three Kings"- Setting: J. Barr; tune: Kings of Orient, J. Hopkins © 2006 Wayne Leupold Editions, Inc.; "What is this Bread"- setting: H. Gerike; tune: Preparation, J. Baue © 1991 J. Baue; "Brightest and Best"- Arr. J. Rasley; tune: Morning Star, J. Harding © 2000 Lorenz Publishing Co.