

St. Paul Lutheran Church and School

Bonduel, Wisconsin

January 5/6, 2018

The Epiphany of Our Lord

Welcome to the House of the Lord

For early Christians, Easter was the most important day, followed by Pentecost, and then Epiphany. What is epiphany? The word *epiphany* means “manifestation”. God’s epiphany, or manifestation, is His revealing Himself, or making Himself known. In the early Church, Christians identified four manifestations of God to celebrate Epiphany, namely, His birth; the visitation of the magi; His Baptism; and His first miracle at Cana (turning the water into wine for the wedding). Today’s sermon and Gospel reading tell the true story of the magi following the star to meet the Christ child. King Herod felt threatened by the Christ child, and failed in his attempt to murder Him. The magi traveled a great distance to meet Him, and paid homage as to an earthly king. What do people do today – fear Him? Bow down to Him? Ignore Him? The story strings together a number of examples which make this point: God is known only to those to whom He reveals Himself. *That* is the point we will address today’s sermon under the question *Why Did God Reveal Himself to You?*

Welcome to all who gather this day in the name of the Lord.



Opening Hymn

367

Angels from the Realms of Glory (3, 4, 5)

Confession and Absolution

page 203

Introit

I will cause your name to be remembered in all generations;

therefore nations will praise you forever and ever.

Your throne, O God, is forever and ever. The scepter of your kingdom is a scepter of uprightness;

you have loved righteousness and hated wickedness.

Therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions;

your robes are all fragrant with myrrh and aloes and cassia.

**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.**

Kyrie and Gloria in Excelsis

page 204

Salutation and Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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.

Amen.

Old Testament Reading — Isaiah 60:1–6

Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. ²For 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. ³And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. ⁴Lift 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. ⁵Then 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. 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 bring good news, the praises of the LORD.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading — Ephesians 3:1–12

For 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.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Alleluia and Verse

7:00pm and 10:15am

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Music

8:00am

See the Glowing Star

The Holy Gospel

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the second chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

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, 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.”⁷ Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared.⁸ 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.”⁹ 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.¹⁰ When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy.¹¹ 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.¹² And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed **page 206 or inside back cover of hymnal**

Hymn **387** *Joy to the World* **(1, 3, 4)**

Sermon **Far as the Curse Is Found** (*Matthew 2:1–12*)

Offering *Please complete the friendship register found at the end of the pew.*

Prayer of the Church

The Service of the Sacrament **page 208**

Note for those desiring to commune... Our practice of close communion is the Biblical and historic practice of the Christian church. It is prompted by love, both for God’s Word and for His people since it seeks to prevent spiritual damage to those who do not recognize the true body and blood of Christ in, with, and under the bread and wine in this Holy Supper (1 Corinthians 11:29). Furthermore, it does not deny that members of other denominations are Christians. Rather, it bows the knee to the Bible’s deep concern for doctrinal truth (Romans 16:17) and the Bible’s witness that the Lord’s Supper is the highest expression of fellowship and doctrinal unity (Acts 2:42). For this reason, guests who are not a member of a sister LCMS congregation are asked to speak to our pastor before communing.

Distribution Hymns **400** **394** **412** **397**

Nunc Dimittis ~ Song of Simeon **page 211**



Acknowledgements

Scripture quotations are from *The Holy Bible, English Standard Version*, copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2006 Concordia Publishing House.

Serving the Lord in Worship

Liturgy	Rev. Mark R. Palmer	Sermon	Rev. Timothy J. Shoup
Organists	Saturday – Ms. Rhoda Lehrke	Sunday – Mrs. Lorraine Doell	
Music	Grades 5 & 6		
Acolytes	Ella Thornborrow	Alex Ard	Ayden Kohn

Prayers

In Need of Healing . . . *Shirley Kieckhafer, Ron Kohn, Gregory Kopitske, Jr., Tillie Kallies, Robert Luepke, Audrey Moede, Jerry Schoepke, Brittany Slack, and Roger Wood.*



Bulletin Sponsor . . . This weekend's bulletin is sponsored to the glory of God in loving memory of *Mary Genke* by Randy Genke and family.

Baptism . . . *Hazel Mae Zengle*, daughter of Robert and Angela Zengle, born November 30, 2018, will be baptized after the 10:15am service today. Her sponsors are Andy and Annie Graf, Savana Weitkuhn, and Chris Rueckert.

We Pray For . . . the family of *Margie Ainsworth*, mother of Deb and Brian Schneider, who was called to her eternal home on Thursday, January 3, 2019.

Announcements

The Sunday Morning Bible Class . . . will begin 2019 exploring the question, "Can the Bible be trusted?" Many tough issues regarding the reliability of the Bible are raised by several in today's society. These topics are sometimes puzzling and may even cause us to question our beliefs about God's Word. Please come and join us in the eighth grade room as we put the "Bible on Trial." We get started about fifteen minutes after the first service.

Contribution Envelopes . . . for 2019 may be picked up in the fellowship hall. Contact the church office at 715-758-8559 with questions. Please do not use 2018 envelopes for next year. Unused offering envelopes are recycled and used for chapel offerings. Please drop off unused 2018 envelopes in the box provided in the narthex or the church office.

Call for New Ushers! . . . St. Paul is in need of additional ushers for the three teams that serve at each of the service times, 7:00pm, 8:00am, and 10:15am, especially 7:00pm and 10:15am. To encourage expanding the teams we are especially encouraging women of any age to consider joining us. There will be some changes in the ushering duties that include more help with Communion (other than actually serving Communion). With that in mind it is important that **all current and new ushers** attend the "training" session that will be held for each service on the weekend of January 19 and 20. The Saturday 7:00pm and Sunday 8:00am training will take place after those respective services, and the 10:15am training will occur at 9:35am prior to the 10:15am service. If you are not currently an usher and wish to try it, please come to any of the training sessions. If you are currently an usher you may attend the session that is connected with the service you usher at. Please call Dave Hedtke, 715-758-2728 or 715-509-0020 with questions.

<i>Attended/Communed – December 24, 25, 29, and 30, 2018</i>			
Monday	12/24	2:30pm	520
Monday	12/24	4:30pm	480
Monday	12/24	7:30pm	176
Tuesday	12/25	9:00am	216/176
Saturday	12/29	7:00pm	95
Sunday	12/30	8:00am	174
Sunday	12/30	10:15am	<u>178</u>
		Total	1,839/176

So They Set Their Hope in Him					
3-year special offering					
As of November 30, 2018					
	Mortgage	School Repair	Missions	WRLHS	Total
Pledged	\$548,185	\$388,845	\$40,442	\$107,314	\$1,084,786
Received	\$378,485	\$237,953	\$22,575	\$61,464	\$700,477

Twelve large-print Bibles have been donated by Reynold and Marlene Schmidt in honor of their 50th wedding anniversary and for Marlene's 80th birthday.

Opportunity to Serve . . . Elections for St. Paul boards and committees will be held at our annual meeting on Sunday, January 27. Candidates for the following boards and committees are desired: Board of Evangelism, Board of Parish Fellowship, Board of Parish Education, Board of Stewardship, Board of Trustees, Board of Youth Ministry, and Endowment Fund Committee. Your St. Paul church family needs you and is thankful for your desire to serve. Please contact Mark Welch at 715-758-8791, @tds.net or Carla Parsons at 715-758-8823, @tds.net by Thursday, January 17.

Lutheran Witness . . . Please renew your subscription after services this weekend. The price is \$12 if you order on the bulk rate through St. Paul. New subscriptions are welcome.

SPYRT Day~Papa Murphy's – Shawano . . . Wednesday, January 9, buy any pizza of your choice and SPYRT will receive 25% back. Mention St. Paul Youth Group at the time of purchase. If ordering online at .com, enter this code at checkout: SUPPORT. Proceeds help to cover costs for the National Youth Gathering.



And a huge thank you goes out to everyone for supporting the youth group.

The Lutheran Hour . . . "Reason to Believe" (John 1:19-51)

Do you have a reason to believe that everyone should believe what you believe? John did. Come and see. Tune in next Sunday to hear Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler at 7:30am on WTCH/960 AM, at 10:00am on WRVM/102.7 FM, or at lutheranhour.org.

The Booster Club at WRLHS . . . has been given an opportunity to serve the community while also raising funds by selling concessions at Operation Tip Up Fishing Derby in Cecil held on January 19, 2019. This fishing derby is put on by H.O.O.A.H. (Helping Out Our American Heroes) that support area veterans, servicemen and women and their families. This organization is giving all the supplies to the Booster Club, and we have been asked to take orders and serve the food. All profits will be given to the WRLHS Booster Club. We need your help! Please consider giving two or more hours of your time for this worthy fundraiser. The hours that we will be working are 8:00am – 4:00pm. The concessions area will be in a heated, enclosed tent at the Cecil Boat Landing parking lot, but please dress appropriately for cooler weather. Please call Amy Rottier at 715-584-2299 with any questions and to sign up for a shift no later than January 12.

EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK



SUN.	1/6	8:00am Worship – Holy Communion 9:00am Fellowship – Parish Fellowship #1 9:15am SPYRT – Bible Bowl Practice in Youth Room 9:15am Sunday School 9:15am Bible Study 10:15am Worship – Holy Communion
MON.	1/7	7:30am Strong Bones 6:00pm Board of Trustees 6:00pm Board of Parish Education
TUES.	1/8	7:00am Bible Study 8:00am Quilting 6:00pm Board of Parish Fellowship
WED.	1/9	5:00pm Public School Confirmation Class 6:00pm 5 th /6 th Grade Confirmation Class 6:00pm Bell Choir 6:30pm Youth and Youth Board 7:05pm Adult Choir
THURS.	1/10	2:00pm Women’s Bible Study
FRI.	1/11	7:30am Strong Bones
SAT.	1/12	7:00pm Worship
SUN.	1/13	8:00am Worship 9:00am Fellowship – Altar Guild 9:15am SPYRT – Bible Bowl Practice in Youth Room 9:15am Sunday School 9:15am Bible Study 10:15am Worship (Grades 3 & 4 sing)

Acolyte Schedule Next Week

Jan. 12	Madison Ullmer	Jan. 13	Gracyn Wudtke	Raina Dworniczak
----------------	----------------	----------------	---------------	------------------

SCRIP Schedule Next Week

Jan. 12	Sheila Bahr	Jan. 13	Pam Schmidt	Amy Schmidt
----------------	-------------	----------------	-------------	-------------



Rev. Timothy J. Shoup, Administrative Pastor
 Rev. Mark R. Palmer, Associate Pastor
 Mr. Gerald R. Schmidt, Principal
 Church Office 715-758-8559 School Office 715-758-8532
 240 E. Green Bay Street, Bonduel, Wisconsin 54107