



Epiphany of Our Lord
Sunday, January 6, 2019: 8:30 am & 11:00 am
Lord of Life Lutheran Church, Bismarck, ND
Pastor Nadine Lehr and Pastor Beth Walch

Welcome to worship on this day of Epiphany! Epiphany means “manifestation” and on this day, we celebrate the revelation of Christ to the Gentiles (“all nations”). In many traditions there are several epiphanies remembered on this day: the magi’s adoration of Christ, the baptism of Jesus, and the first miracle of Jesus when he turned water into wine. We also cannot forget the manifestation of Christ’s grace and mercy in the word and the sacraments. As we receive these gifts, we are equipped to share Christ’s light with the world.

Today’s worship service is taken from the Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW) service book and hymnal. Please turn to Setting III, pp. 138-146, for the order of the service and to the back of the book for the hymns.

Light type = Presiding and Assisting Ministers; **Bold type = Congregation**

Gathering Hymn: ELW #301, “Bright and Glorious Is the Sky”

Greeting and Kyrie, pp. 138-139 (*Psalms 4:1 6:2, 9:13, 25:16, 27:7, 30:10, 31:9, 51:1, 86:16, 123:3*)

Hymn of Praise, “This is the Feast,” pp. 140-141 (*Revelations 5:12-13*)

Prayer of the Day

O God, on this day you revealed your Son to the nations by the leading of a star. Lead us now by faith to know your presence in our lives, and bring us at last to the full vision of your glory, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

Welcome and Announcements (*please pass the Friendship Pad*)

First Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6

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.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading: Ephesians 3:1-12

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 to 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 to 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. **Thanks be to God.**

Children’s Message

Gospel Acclamation, “Alleluia,” p. 142 (*John 6:68*)

Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

The Holy Gospel, according to St. Matthew, the 2nd chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

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.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon: Pastor Nadine Lehr

Hymn of the Day: ELW #300, “The First Noel”

Apostles’ Creed, p. 105

Prayers of Intercession, p. 143

At the conclusion of each petition, the minister and the congregation will say: “Lord in your mercy: hear our prayer.”

Offering & Noisy Offering

Special Music: (11:00) Lord of Life Choir, “I Fall on My Knees”

Offertory ELW #294, “In the Bleak Midwinter” (verse 3)

Offertory Prayer

Communion

Dialogue, p. 144

Preface, p. 144

Sanctus, “Holy, Holy, Holy,” p. 144

Words of Institution (Matthew 26:26-28)

Lord’s Prayer (contemporary version, left side), p. 145 (Matthew 6:9-13)

Distribution

Time for Reflection

“Lamb of God,” p. 146 (John 1:29)

ELW #308, “O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright”

ELW #296, “What Child Is This”

ELW #302, “As with Gladness Men of Old”

Post-Communion Blessing

Post-Communion Cantic, ELW #204, “Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise” (Psalm 9)

Post-Communion Prayer

Blessing and Dismissal, p. 146

Sending Hymn: ELW #677, “This Little Light of Mine”

Worship Participants: Preaching: Nadine Lehr; **Presiding:** Beth Walch; **Assisting:** 2 (8:30) Linda Simmons (11:00) David Clinton; **Communion Assistants:** (8:30) Keith & Mary Jane Sailer (11:00) Diane Clinton; **Ushers:** (8:30) Bob Offerdahl & Jim Walker (11:00) Sheryl & Perry Hardy; **Acolyte:** (8:30) Kaylee Johnson (11:00) Jenica Twete; **Pianist:** Marilyn Kesterke; **January Altar Guild:** Barb Wrolstad, Terri Bear, Arlyce Malarkey, Jaycie Klabunde; **Powerpoint:** Reid Halvorson

Prayers at Lord of Life: Layne Billings, Judy Swenson, Levi Gartner, Tim Johnson, John O’Brien, Roger Thompson, Andre Stephenson, Rev. Richard Beckmen, Tyler Ellefson, Hugh Gustafson, Brad Kjos, Emily Kriebs Zietz, Vernon Anderson, Arlow Bien, Diane Chepulis, Steve Schmidt, Arlene Stephenson, Shae (Hug) Byrum, Joanne Morrell, Betty Anderson, Cheryl Neumiller, Millie Schall, Dan Wrolstad, Lester Toman, Charles Bentz.

Sympathies to Lucille Miller on the death of her brother, Kenneth Miller.

Flowers are given today by: Mike and Arlyce Malarkey in celebration of Pastor Beth’s first year of service at Lord of Life.

Stewardship Info:

Attendance – Sun.(12-30): 114 Wed.(1-2): 72 Offering: General \$19,028.00

November Expenses: \$41,584.83

November Income: \$41,887.16

Annual Expenses through November: \$538,762.40

Annual Income through November: \$523,224.03

January Service Group Leaders: Judy Froseth (258-4509)
Crystal Engel (741-7346)

Volunteers: Members with last names starting with “Nat” through “Pri”

Worship Helps: Nursery is open, but not regularly staffed. Parents may use it as needed. An Infant care room is on the south side of the sanctuary. **Large print bulletins, a wheelchair and a walker,** and personal **p.a. devices** are available from the ushers’ station. **Activity bags** for children are available on the tree rack in the narthex. **Children’s bulletins** are available by the Activity Bags. **“I Give Electronically” cards** are available in the lobby near the children’s bulletins.

Today we will serve Holy Communion in worship. Those who come to receive the gifts of Christ’s body and blood for the strengthening of their faith and the forgiveness of their sins are welcome to eat and drink. Taste and see that the Lord is good!

For Communion: Grape juice is always available. Simply indicate “grape juice, please” when you get to the server. "Gluten free” communion wafers and wine are available. Simply indicate “gluten free” to the server when you come to the communion station." If you need separate wine or grape juice please request that also.

A short Baptism class will be offered on the second Sunday of each month after the 11:00 service (for about 30 minutes) for anyone interested in knowing more about the Sacrament of Baptism. Let the church office know if you will be attending one of these sessions.

The **2019 Flower Chart** is up in the gathering area. You are welcome to take the flowers after the last service. Flowers not picked up by Monday morning will be taken to shut-ins. If your message does not fit on the line, please contact the church office with that information.

FLOWER CHART OPENINGS

 January 20	Both Bouquets	February 3	Both Bouquets	
February 10	One Bouquet	February 17	Both Bouquets	

COMMUNION ASSISTANT OPENINGS

January 13	8:30 & 11:00	January 20	8:30 & 11:00
January 27	8:30 & 11:00	February 3	8:30 & 11:00

USHER OPENINGS

January 13	8:30 & 11:00	January 20	8:30 & 11:00
January 27	8:30 & 11:00	February 3	8:30 & 11:00

Annual Congregational Meeting – Please plan to attend our annual congregational meeting on January 27 between the two Sunday services. We will start at 9:30. Your participation is crucial as we will approve the 2019 budget and discuss other topics important to the continued mission of Lord of Life. Please mark your calendars!!

Discover during the month of January in adult faith opportunities, the history and growth of United States homegrown religions. What homegrown religions are we talking about? The Jehovah’s Witness and Seventh-day Adventist. Perry Hornbacher will set the historical stage for our study today, January 6. January 13 – we will learn about Jehovah’s Witness with Bruce Boe and on January 20, the Seventh-day Adventist with Barbara Andrist. Our homegrown religious studies will continue in March on the Church of the Latter Day Saints. The annual meeting on January 27 will supersede our adult education. Hope to see you for our conversations – bring your coffee and curiosity.

Thank you to those who participated in putting an ornament on the Tree of Remembrance. Starting today, January 6th, you can take your ornament from the tree or they can be picked up from the church office.

Young at Hearts Will Meet January 15! Young at Hearts is a ministry for and among people 55 and older. In January YAHS will gather for a party with the church staff. We will enjoy a meal of Swedish meatballs (and all the fixins’) and some fun party games. Get ready to play some trivia, Pictionary, bingo, and/or several others. We will gather at 11:30 for lunch.

Don't Forget! We are starting to get our Lord of Life Directory going! To alleviate the cost to you and sales pitches, we are asking you to just send in your family photos! As you take pictures this Christmas, send one by email to Lord of Life at lordoflife@midconetwork.com or drop one off at the office. Be sure to include names (in the order they are in the picture), addresses and phone numbers. We will provide a photographer later for those who prefer that.

The Book Club will meet on January 23 at 4:45 pm to discuss Gridlock by Byron Dorgan and David Hagberg. Summary: "Two Iranian agents hand over one million dollars to a Russian engineer for a thumbdrive. The drive contains a deadly computer virus that could shut down all electrical power in the US. In rural ND, a lineman is electrocuted, and the local cop sent to investigate is shot to death. As rolling electrical blackouts begin to shut down major US cities, the war for energy domination begins. ND county sheriff Nate Osborne and brash journalist Ashley Borden step into the breach." Join us for the discussion. Books from the State Library book kit will be available in the office starting Jan. 2.

Did you know that we have over 150 people at Lord of Life who are Thrivent members? Did you also know that each one of these members can apply for two Thrivent Action Team grants of \$250 each every single year? Thrivent Action Grants are a great way for us to enrich the mission and ministry of our congregation when we use the grants to fund special projects and programs. In the past Thrivent Action grants have helped cover the cost of quilting supplies and shipping, Advent and Lenten dinners, the gathering of supplies for our local soup kitchen, financial workshops for our children and youth, lefsa making supplies, and many, many others. **On Sunday, January 20th, we invite our Thrivent members (anyone who has a Thrivent product such as insurance or an IRA) to please attend a roundtable discussion on how we can use our grants at Lord of Life in 2019.** Pastor Nadine will gather folks around a table in Fellowship Hall at 9:35 am and we will talk about various projects and ideas. If you need assistance in completing a grant application, Nadine will also schedule time with you to walk through the process.

On January 13th, 2019 Lord of Life will be recognizing those who were baptized in 2018 at the 11:00 am worship service. The newly baptized will receive a pewter medallion and a copy of David Erlander's book on Holy Baptism as baptism is lived out in daily life. A luncheon is planned for the families following the service in Fellowship Hall.

Happening this week at Lord of Life
Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 8:00 am-4:00 pm
Friday 8:00 am-3:00 pm
Lunch Hour: 11:00 am-12:00 pm
Church Office: 701-223-2986
www.lordoflifebismarck.org

Sun., January 6

Noisy Offering
8:30 am: Worship
9:45 am: Adult Education
9:45 am: Sunday School
9:45 am: Choir Rehearsal
11:00 am: Worship

Mon., January 7

2:00 pm: Cozy Comfort
5:30 pm: Property Team Meeting

Tues., January 8

9:00 am: Staff Meeting
9:30 am: Women's Bible Study
7:00 pm: Council Meeting
7:00 pm: Boy Scouts

Wed., January 9

6:15 pm: Worship
7:00 pm: Church School
7:00 pm: Confirmation Small Group

Thurs., January 10

Bulletin Deadline @ 12:00 pm

Sat., January 12

8:30 am: Men's Bible Study

Sun., January 13

Youth Group Fundraiser
8:30 am: Worship
9:45 am: Adult Education
9:45 am: Sunday School
9:45 am: Choir Rehearsal
11:00 am: Worship & Baptism Recognition