

United Lutheran Church

Epiphany of our LORD
Sunday, January 6, 2019



PLEASE WEAR YOUR NAME TAG.

Members & visitors: With regard to the RED ATTENDANCE PAD located at the center aisle: please sign and pass it down the pew. Once it has reached the end of the pew, pass it back to the center aisle.

◆ = Congregation stand A = Assistant P = Pastor C = Congregation

PRELUDE

◆ GATHERED IN GRATITUDE

C Baptized into the Body of Jesus Christ and Nourished by His Supper, we are United in Gratitude, Living Everywhere the Love of the Triune God.

P I will bless the LORD at all times;
his praise shall continually be in my mouth.

**C My soul makes its boast in the Lord;
let the humble hear and be glad.**

P O Magnify the LORD with me,
and let us exalt his name together.

Psalm 34:1-3

◆ GREETING OUR NEIGHBORS

P The Lord is with you.

C And also with you.

P Now share the Lord's greeting with one another.

◆ CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity **T** one God, who creates us and forms us, who redeems us and calls us, who unites us and sends us.

C Amen.

P Gathered in God's presence, let us confess our sin.

Silence for self-examination.

P Mighty and loving God,

C we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We seek our own way. We divide the body of Christ. In your mercy, cleanse us and heal us. Let the words of our mouths, the thoughts of our hearts, and everything that we do be filled with faith, hope, and love. Amen.

P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by Christ's authority alone, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of **T** the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

◆ GATHERING HYMN

"As with Gladness Men of Old"

ELW #302

◆ GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit is with you all.

C And also with you.

◆ KYRIE

A In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

A For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord

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

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 Lord, have mer - cy.

A He'll provide comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord A - - - - - men

◆ CANTICLE OF PRAISE



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,
 al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. For the Lamb who was
 slain has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia.
 This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.
 Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

◆ PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P Lord God,
 C 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

- ³that the mountains may bring prosperity ¹ to the people,
and the ¹ hills, in righteousness.
- ⁴**Let him defend the needy a- ¹ mong the people,
rescue the poor, and crush ¹ the oppressor.**
- ⁵May he live as long as the sun and ¹ moon endure,
from one generation ¹ to another.
- ⁶**Let him come down like rain upon ¹ the mown field,
like showers that wa- ¹ ter the earth.**
- ⁷In his time may the ¹ righteous flourish;
and let there be an abundance of peace
till the moon shall ¹ be no more.
- ¹⁰**May the kings of Tarshish and of the ¹ isles pay tribute,
and the kings of Sheba and Seba ¹ offer gifts.**
- ¹¹May all kings bow ¹ down before him,
and all the nations ¹ do him service.
- ¹²**For the king delivers the poor who cry out ¹ in distress,
the oppressed, and those who ¹ have no helper.**
- ¹³He has compassion on the low- ¹ ly and poor,
and preserves the lives ¹ of the needy.
- ¹⁴**From oppression and violence he re- ¹ deems their lives,
and precious is their blood ¹ in his sight. *Refrain***

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 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.

A Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

◆ **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

◆ **GOSPEL**

Matthew 2:1-12

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

C **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:

⁶And 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 This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

KIDTALK

SERMON

Rev. Dr. Neal J. Anthony

◆ HYMN OF THE DAY

"Come, Beloved of the Maker"

ELW #306

◆ NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary,
and was made man.**

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

◆ **PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

*Each petition will end with the Pastor saying, "Lord, in your mercy."
We ask the congregation to respond by saying, "hear our prayer."*

◆ **SHARING OF THE PEACE**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS AND TITHES/NOISY OFFERING

SPECIAL MUSIC

"What Child is This?"

Judy Anderson

◆ OFFERTORY

“Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful”

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the
prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

◆ OFFERTORY PRAYER

P God the Creator and Sustainer of Life,

C awaken us to the blessings which overflow in this life. Open our eyes to see your abundance everywhere. Create in us hearts of gratitude by which we may daily become instruments of grace and blessing to all whom we encounter. May these gifts we offer be the first fruits of a gratitude we express all week; through the One whose gifts are given without condition and without distinction, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

◆ GREAT THANKSGIVING

<i>Pastor</i>	<i>Congregation</i>
The Lord be with you.	And al - so with you.
<i>Pastor</i>	<i>Congregation</i>
Lift up your hearts.	We lift them to the Lord.
<i>Pastor</i>	
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.	
<i>Congregation</i>	
It is right to give our thanks and praise.	

P It is indeed right, . . . join their unending hymn:

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.

◆ WORDS OF INSTITUTION

◆ THE LORD'S PRAYER

C 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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Jesus Christ died and was raised for sinners. We qualify.

At United we practice Open Communion.

Those who will receive forgiveness of sins are welcome to the Table.

If you are unable to come to the altar, please indicate your desire for communion to an usher.

The dark colored liquid is wine, and the light colored liquid is grape juice.

For those who need an alternative to wheat flour wafers, gluten-free wafers are available upon request.

COMMUNION HYMNS

"Lamb of God"

☞ 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.

"Shine, Jesus, Shine"

ELW #671

"Light Shone in Darkness"

ELW #307

"Songs of Thankfulness and Praise"

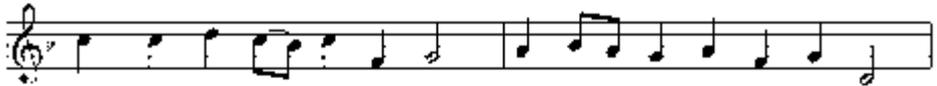
ELW #310

◆ **POST COMMUNION BLESSING**

P The body and blood of our risen Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthens you and keeps you in his grace.

C Amen.

◆ **POST COMMUNION CANTICLE**



☐ Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re - calls his prom - is - es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks-giv - ing, Al - le - lu - la. Al - le - lu - la.

◆ **POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

P God of Endless Blessing,

C motivated only by Self Giving Love you have given us your whole self in this Supper. May this Supper both create and empower us to be the presence of that same Self Giving Love for our community this coming week. May our Gratitude be infectious to our community, a Gratitude whose witness plants the seed of Thanksgiving for your Love in all whom we encounter; through Jesus Christ, the One in whose Image we are Created. Amen.

◆ **BENEDICTION**

P Now receive the Benediction.

(Congregation: Face your neighbor.)

**C The Lord blesses you and keeps you;
The Lord's face shines upon you and is gracious to you;
The Lord looks upon you with favor and gives you peace.**

◆ **COMMISSION**

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord by taking care of one another.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Dietrich Bonhoeffer's Quote

When all is said and done,
the life of faith is nothing
if not an unending struggle of the spirit
with every available weapon against the flesh.

United Lutheran Church

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Our Staff

Lead Pastor Rev. Dr. Neal J. Anthony

Intern Pastor Jason Schultz

Music Directors--Neil & Terese Johnson

Director of Christian Education—Bev White

Church Office Secretary—Karen Daffer

Secretary for Pastoral Care—Marie Sandell

Bookkeeper—Jo Hill

Financial Secretary—Denice Hoops

Worship Leaders for January 5 & 6		
Leadership Position	Saturday 5:30 p.m.	Sunday 9:30 a.m.
Worship Coordinators		Bill & Pat Piwentizky
Acolyte		Stephen Exon
Cantor		Judy Anderson
Pianist/Organist	Jenna Miller	Denice Hoops
Lectors		Cecelia Nason John Nason
Communion Assistants	Mary Kot	Richard Anderson Marian Anderson Karla Chesnut Shelby Chesnut
Ushers		Luanne Schwartzkopf Darla Vidaurri D’Kota Thomas Debbie Thomas
Greeters	Jan Akins Marlyce Benjamin	Brian Sullivan Family
Van Driver		Randy Tichota
Parking Lot Monitors		Scott Ash
Bulletin Artist	Tillie Ash	

Office Hours

Monday through Thursday: 8:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
 Friday: 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Guidelines for Wedding, Baptism, and Funeral Services at United

Before setting a date or making plans for a wedding, baptism, or funeral at United, please contact the church office to clear a date. This is to ensure the availability of the pastor and facility. Baptisms and weddings are not done during the church season of Lent. Additionally, weddings are not held during Holy Week or busy church seasons.