

# Epiphany of Our Lord

January 6, 2019

Redeemer Lutheran Church (LCMS)

200 South Main Street

Church Office: (828) 241-2371

The Rev. Gregory Alms, Pastor

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**Welcome to Redeemer Lutheran Church!** Welcome to all and we extend a special welcome to our guests. Please sign the Guest Register, introduce yourself to the Pastor, and please, come and worship with us again.

Worship is a time when our Lord speaks and gives and we listen and receive his gifts of mercy, presence and forgiveness. We respond in prayer, praise and thanksgiving. Enter, please, in silence for prayer and meditation.

Please keep a time before worship begins for silence and prayer and meditation. You may use this prayer to prepare for worship:

*Lord Jesus Christ, giver and perfecter of our faith, I thank and praise You for the preaching of Your Gospel for my instruction and edification. Send Your blessing upon the Word, which will be spoken to me and by Your Holy Spirit increase in me saving knowledge of You, that day by day I may be strengthened in the divine truth and remain steadfast in Your grace. Amen.*

Here is prayer for use before taking Holy Communion:

*O Lord, God, in Holy Baptism You have called me to be a Christian, Make me ready to receive the most holy body and blood of Christ for the forgiveness of my sins, and grant me a grateful heart to give thanks to you. Amen.*

**+ PRELUDE +**

*Stand*

**Hymn: As With Gladness Men of Old, #397**

## Confession and Absolution

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

P In the name of the Father and of the (+) Son and of the Holy Spirit. (Matthew 28: 19)

C **Amen.**

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. (Hebrews 10:22)

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.** (Psalm 124:8)

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.** (Psalm 32:5)

P Almighty God, our maker and redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C **O most merciful God, who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

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 unto all of you, and 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. (John 20: 19-23)

C **Amen.**

## Service of the Word

**Kyrie** (*"Lord, have mercy"; Mark 10:47*)



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

## Gloria in Excelsis



**C** 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;  
2 To You, O sole - be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;  
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!  
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.  
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,  
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.  
Where You in pow'r are seat - ed At God's right hand on high—  
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** *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.

**C** **Amen.**

*Sit*

## First Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6

**R** This is the Word of the Lord.

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

## Gradual for Epiphany (chanted responsively by Cantor (R) and Congregation (C) as printed)



R Praise the Lord, all | nations!\* him, all | peoples!

C For great is his steadfast | love toward us,\* and the faithfulness of the Lord endures  
for- | ever.

R Ascribe to the Lord the glory | due his name;\* bring an offering, and come in- | to his  
courts!

## Second Reading: Ephesians 3:1-12

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

## Alleluia and Verse (*John 20: 31*)



☐ Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



☐ These things are writ - ten that you may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



☐ Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.

C **Glorify to You, O Lord.**

## Gospel Reading: St. Matthew 2:1-12

P This is the Gospel of the Lord

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

## Hymn: Oh, Morning Star, How Fair and Bright, #395

### Sermon

#### Nicene Creed (Spoken by All)

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.

#### Prayer of the Church (1 Timothy 2: 1-4)

*Sit*

### Offering

*Stand*

#### Offertory: Jesus Has Come And Brings Pleasure Eternal #533 (as below)



1 Je - sus has come and brings plea - sure e - ter - nal,  
4 Je - sus has come as the King of all glo - ry!



Al - pha, O - me - ga, Be - gin - ning and End;  
Heav - en and earth, O de - clare His great pow'r,



God - head, hu - man - i - ty, u - nion su - per - nal,  
Cap - tur - ing hearts with the heav - en - ly sto - ry;

O great Re-deem-er, You come as our friend!  
 Wel-come Him now in this fast-fleet-ing hour!

Heav-en and earth, now pro-claim this great won-der:  
 Pon-der His love! Take the crown He has for you!

Je-sus has come and brings plea-sure e-ter-nal!  
 Je-sus has come! He, the King of all glo-ry!

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## Service of the Sacrament *(LSB 208)*

### Preface

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.** *(2 Timothy 4:22)*

**P** Lift up your hearts.

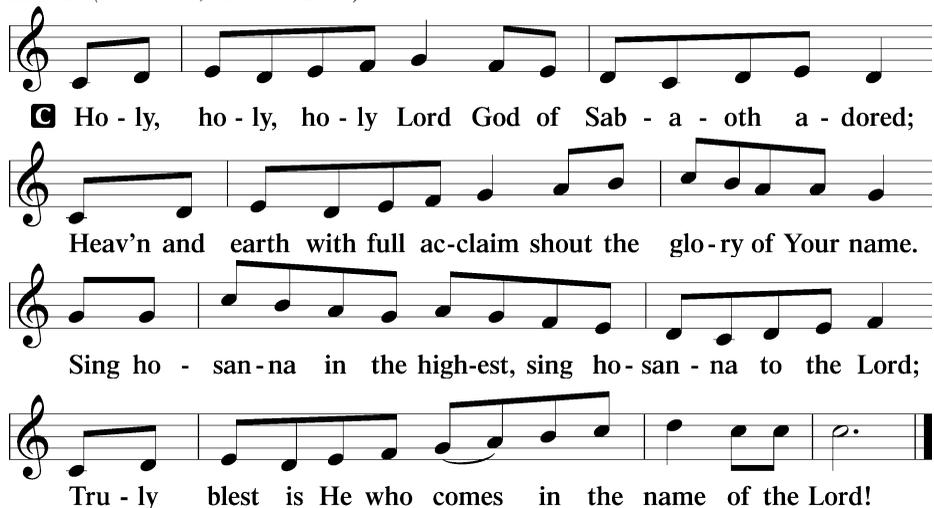
**C** **We lift them to the Lord.** *(Colossians 3:1)*

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C** **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.** *(Psalm 136)*

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. 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 *(Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21: 9)*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;  
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.  
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;  
Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life ...

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

## Lord's Prayer (Spoken by all)

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.

## The Words of Our Lord *(Matthew 26:26-28, Mark 14: 22-24, Luke 22: 19-20, 1 Corinthians 11: 23-25)*

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."

**Pax Domini** (Peace of the Lord) (John 20: 19)

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

(We greet one another, saying, "The Peace of the Lord.")

**Agnus Dei** ("Lamb of God") (John 1: 29)

1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
You take the sin of the world a - way;  
You take the sin of the world a - way;  
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,  
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.  
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

*Sit*

**Distribution Hymns**

What Child is This, #370

Brightest and Best of the Stars of the Morning, #400

Gentle Mary aid Her Child, #374

*Stand*

**Nunc Dimittis: Song of Simeon** (#937; Luke 2: 29-32)

1 Lord, bid Your ser - vant go in peace,  
2 This is the Sav - ior of the world,  
3 With saints of old, with saints to come,

Your word is now ful - filled.      These eyes have seen sal -  
 The Gen - tiles' prom - ised light,      God's glo - ry dwell - ing  
 To You we lift our voice;      To Fa - ther, Son, and  
 va - tion's dawn,      This child so long fore - told.  
 in our midst,      The joy of Is - ra - el.  
 Spir - it blest      Be hon - or, love, and praise.

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### Post-Communion Collect

**P** *Let us pray ...* Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

### Benedicamus and Benediction

**P** Let us bless the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

**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.**

### Hymn: Songs of Thankfulness and Praise, #394

+ POSTLUDE +

**TAKING THE LORD’S SUPPER AT REDEEMER ...** The Lord’s Supper is celebrated at Redeemer 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 drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and 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, and any denial of His Holy Words, that they may show forth His death until He comes. Please fill out a Communion Registration Card (located in pew racks). If you are in any doubt about our confession of faith, are communing for the first time or are a member of another denomination, please speak to the Pastor before communing in person. Thank you.

**SERVING REDEEMER:** Jean Matthews, Crucifer; Landon Bumgarner, Wyatt Wesson, Torch Bearers; Madeline Rose, Peyton Wesson, Acolytes; Redeemer Senior Choir; Barbara Sigmon Director and Organist; The Reverend Gregory Alms, Pastor; Robert Benfield, Bob Eury, Elder-Servers; Betty Matthews, Doris Nagel, Greeters; Bryce Bratton, Tyler Bratton, Allen Rose, JT Rufty, Ushers.

**ALTAR FLOWERS** are given to the greater Glory of God and in remembrance of Rhonda Eckard on the occasion of her birthday by her forever soulmate now and in the thereafter Randy Eckard.

**2019 FLOWER CHART** Please take a few minutes to reserve your special Sunday to honor or remember a special individual or occasion. The new chart is posted in the educational wing.

**MAKE YOUR RESERVATION TODAY IN THE PARISH HALL** for dinner with “The Not So YOUTH Group” on JANUARY 12 at the Blue Moon Tavern in Newton at 5:00 p.m.. It is open to all who are no longer considered YOUTH but still YOUTHFUL at heart. Not a couples group but a friends group ..... so invite your friends to join us too!

**REDEEMER HOSTING 2019 CATAWBA COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE** on January 17th 2:30 - 7:00 p.m. at Redeemer. Phillip Davis is looking for donors and volunteers to assist during the drive. A sign-up sheet for volunteers is posted in the parish hall. To schedule your lifesaving appointment go to [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) and enter the keyword CATAWBA or call 1-800-733-2767.

#### **MEETINGS IN JANUARY**

**1-8 *Building Committee* 7:00 p.m.**

**1-15 *Church Council* 7:00 p.m.**

**1-17 *Elder’s* 7:00 p.m.**

**1-20 *Voter’s Assembly* 11:00 a.m.**

## BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES AT REDEEMER

**WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY** Great Women in the Bible begins January 9<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m. join us for fellowship, prayer and Bible study each Wednesday.

**WEDNESDAY WORSHIP** Resumes January 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. Join us for this short service of prayer and scripture readings.

**TWO SUNDAY MORNING ADULT BIBLE STUDIES** 9:00 a.m. “Angels” join Pastor Alms in the Parish Hall; 9:00 a.m. Book of Acts in the Educational Wing is led by Redeemer lay members, Gary Witherspoon, Tina Cloninger, Maria Bratton, Kelly & Lynn Matthews.

*If you, a friend or loved one has returned to normal activities, please drop a note in the offering plate so prayers of thanksgiving can be made.*

## G O D ‘ S P E O P L E P R A Y

*Prayers for the sick and suffering:* Jackie Sherrill; Genita Hill (Catawba Mail Carrier-Medical issues); Cheryl Kiser (Breast Cancer friend of Barbara Edwards); Ann Steele (pending back surgery); Mike Grandstaff; Chris Averitt (Cancer, nephew Mike & Janice Starnes); Mark Bell; Bobby Matthews; Brooks Laney (infant son of Taylor & Kat Laney); Avis Matthews; Carol Pelto (Mother of Steve Pelton); Mark Herbert; Tom Hurley (friend of Carroll Yount); Betty Matthews; Sharon Abernathy (co-worker Maria Bratton); Bert Sigmon; Travis Smith (grandson of Georgia Lyda); Penny Sundell (friend of Amanda Eury); Brian Sullivan (friend of Angela Isenhour); Jeannie Sigmon; Dan & Carol Pelto (parents of Steve Pelto); Rick Talledira (friend of Mark Herbert); Jerry Kanipe (brother of Betty Matthews); J.R. Littlejohn; Marilyn Fertig; Shirley Stewart; Shirley Grindstaff (friend of Ken & Nancy Edwards); Wilma Hoke, (friend of Janice Ervin); Virginia Winecoff, (Friend of Janice Ervin); Erin Sipe (daughter of Gary & Susan Witherspoon); James Hedrick (friend of Avis and Bobby Matthews); Jerry Tibbs (Jackie Sherrill’s Pops); Linda Richards (friend of Fran Little); Guy Lee (friend of Rodney Yount); Joshua Bokaguard.

