

We have seen His Star in the East



Welcome!

Peace Lutheran Church of Orofino ID

13946 1st Ave

8:00 am Worship Service; 7:30 am Bible Class & Sunday School

&

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church of Clarkston WA

1107 14th Street

11:00 am Service; 10:00 am Sunday School; 10:15 am Bible Class

Members of the Church of the Lutheran Confession – CLC

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EPIPHANY SUNDAY

JANUARY 9, 2011

Preparation for Worship: Read Psalm 72 front of hymnal p. 138

The Hymns: 127, 718, 438:4-5, 131, 134:1

Prayer, Dear Child of Bethlehem, our Lord and Savior, graciously forgive our many sins. Supply us with hearts prepared by Your holy Word to worship You even as those believers, Simeon and Anna of old, who by faith believed and waited for Your first coming into the world. Guard and keep us through that Word until Your second appearance, when You will come in all power and glory to judge the world. In Your name, Amen.

Opening Prayer

First Hymn 127

THE INVOCATION

*We invoke ("call upon") the name of the one true God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
(Hymnal, page 5 – Congregation Stands)*

PASTOR In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

CONGR. (sing) *Amen.*

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION OF SINS

We come before our Holy God recognizing that we are sinful and daily need His forgiveness.

PASTOR 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.

Our help is in the name of the Lord.

CONGR. (sing) *Who made heaven and earth*

PASTOR I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.

CONGR. (sing) *And Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin.*

PASTOR 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.

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

PASTOR Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in His name He gives power to become the sons of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He who believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

CONGR. (sing) Amen. *(congregation is seated)*

THE INTROIT

Having received the Lord's forgiveness, we are glad to enter into His courts with praise and thanksgiving. This entrance is made in the Introit with the Lord's own Word, most often drawn from the Psalms.

P: Behold, the LORD, the Ruler, has come

C: And the kingdom and the power and the glory are in His hand

P: Give the King Your judgments, O God

C: And Your righteousness to the King's Son.

THE GLORIA PATRI

Latin for "Glory to the Father" (Hymnal, page 6)

CONGR. (sing) Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

THE KYRIE

Latin for "O Lord." We approach our Lord with a cry for help in all the needs of our earthly life. (Hymnal page 7 - sing)

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

THE GLORIA

"All Glory be to God on High" (Hymn237:1 - sing)

**All glory be to God on high: Who hath our race befriended!
To us no harm shall now come nigh, The strife at last is ended.**

**God showeth His good will to men,
And peace now reigns on earth again;
Oh, thank Him for His goodness!**

THE SALUTATION *(Greeting)*

PASTOR The Lord be with you.

CONGR. (sing) And with thy spirit.

THE COLLECT FOR THE DAY

The main thoughts for the day are "collected" together in this prayer.

PASTOR Let us pray.

CONGR. (sing) Amen.

THE BIBLE LESSONS

God speaks to us.

The Old Testament Reading:

Isaiah 60:1-6 Arise, shine; For your light has come! And the glory of the LORD is risen upon you. 2 For behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, And deep darkness the people; But the LORD will arise over you, And His glory will be seen upon you. 3 The Gentiles shall come to your light, And kings to the brightness of your rising. 4 "Lift 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 nursed at your side. 5 Then you shall see and become radiant, And your heart shall swell with joy; Because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you, The wealth of the Gentiles shall come to you. 6 The multitude of camels shall cover your land, The dromedaries of Midian and Ephah; All those from Sheba shall come; They shall bring gold and incense, And they shall proclaim the praises of the LORD.

PASTOR Here ends the Old Testament Reading. We continue with the responsive reading of:

THE GRADUAL

The Gradual is a "Bridge of praise" that links the Old Testament with the New Testament.

P: All those from Sheba shall come;

C: They shall bring gold and incense, And they shall proclaim the praises of the LORD.

P: Arise, shine; For your light has come!

C: And the glory of the LORD is risen upon you.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

P: We have seen His star in the East

C: And have come with gifts to worship the LORD.
Hallelujah!

CONGR. (sing) Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

PASTOR The New Testament Reading is from Ephesians chapter 3, beginning there in the 2nd verse.

CONGR. (sing) *Glory be to Thee, O Lord!*

New Testament Reading:

Ephesians 3:2-12 if indeed you have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which was given to me for you, 3 how that by revelation He made known to me the mystery (as I have briefly written already, 4 by which, when you read, you may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ), 5 which in other ages was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to His holy apostles and prophets: 6 that the Gentiles should be fellow heirs, of the same body, and partakers of His promise in Christ through the gospel, 7 of which I became a minister according to the gift of the grace of God given to me by the effective working of His power. 8 To me, who am less than the least of all the saints, this grace was given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, 9 and to make all see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the ages has been hidden in God who created all things through Jesus Christ; 10 to the intent that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers in the heavenly places, 11 according to the eternal purpose which He accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord, 12 in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through faith in Him.

PASTOR Here ends the New Testament Reading.

CONGR. (sing) *Praise be to Thee, O Christ!*

Congregation stands for:

THE APOSTLES' CREED

We boldly confess what we believe. (Hymnal, page 12)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary; Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; The Holy Christian Church, the communion of saints; The forgiveness of sins; The resurrection of the body; And the life everlasting. Amen.

Congregation sings Hymn 718

THE SERMON

Matthew 2:1-12 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, 2 saying, "Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him." 3 When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. 4 And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. 5 So they said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it is written by the prophet: 6 'But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, Are not the least among the rulers of Judah; For out of you shall come a Ruler Who will shepherd My people Israel.'" 7 Then Herod, when he had secretly called the wise men, determined from them what time the star appeared. 8 And he sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the young Child, and when you have found Him, bring back word to me, that I may come and worship Him also." 9 When they heard the king, they departed; and behold, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came and stood over where the young Child was. 10 When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceedingly great joy. 11 And when they had come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary His mother, and fell down and worshiped Him. And when they had opened their treasures, they presented gifts to Him: gold, frankincense, and myrrh. 12 Then, being divinely warned in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed for their own country another way.

Theme: "THE WISE ARE LED BY FAITH TO JESUS"

- I. Faith which Overcomes Obstacles
- II. Faith which Gives It's Best
- III. Faith which Obeys God

THE OFFERTORY

*In this prayer we OFFER God our hearts, asking Him for that best of all gifts, the Holy Spirit.
(Hymnal, pages 12-13) (sing)*

**Create in me a clean heart, O God,
And renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence
And take not Thy Holy Spirit from me
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation
And uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.**

THE OFFERING OF THANKFUL HEARTS

*In tangible evidence of our gratitude, we offer the Lord the gift of our money, remembering that
He has first given to us that we might have to give to Him. While the ushers present our
offerings at the Lord's Altar, we stand and sing the offering hymn 438:4-5:*

**We Lord would lay at Thy behest The costliest offerings on Thy shrine
But when we give, and give our best, We give Thee only what is Thine.
O Father, whence all blessings come; O Son, Dispenser of God's store;
O Spirit, bear our offerings home: Lord, make them Thine forevermore.**

THE GENERAL PRAYER (Pastor)

THE LORD'S PRAYER (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.**

Congregation sings Hymn 131

Congregation stands for:

THE BENEDICTION

The blessing given by God for the blessing of His people (Numbers 6:24-26).

PASTOR The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

CONGR. (sing) Amen, Amen, Amen.

The Closing Hymn 134:1

**** Silent Prayer ****

Announcements

"If the LORD wills, we will do this or that." James 4:15

ASLEEP IN JESUS Last Tuesday the graveside funeral of Albert Heitman was conducted at LC Memorial Gardens Cemetery. Yesterday the victory service of Janie Jensen-Simons was held at St. John's. May the LORD comfort all with His powerful Word!

"God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus." 1 Thes 4:14

On Friday evening the LORD in His gracious timing called Gordon Diehl to his eternal rest. Service times will be forthcoming.

"And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, And come to Zion with singing, With everlasting joy on their heads. They shall obtain joy and gladness, And sorrow and sighing shall flee away." Isaiah 35:10

Annual Meetings – Last Sunday of the month – January 30th.

ST. JOHN'S REMINDERS:

January's Ladies Aid meeting will be next Sunday, January 16th.

There will be the election of officers and discussions on the upcoming year's events.

Altar Flowers: There is a list for those who wish to bring flowers for the altar on any given Sunday.

Pre-service Goodies: If you are able to bring goodies of some kind for people to eat while they are visiting from 10:45 till 11:00 (after Bible Class and Sunday School) please sign on the sheet in Kitchen.

HOLY COMMUNION Next Sunday at both congregations.

CLC NEWS <> St. Stephen Lutheran, Mountain View CA, has called the Rev. Terrel Kesterson, Spokane WA. <> The Rev. Michael Wilke, Saginaw MI, has returned the call to Ascension Lutheran, Batavia IL.

WEEKLY MEMORY VERSE

"That the Gentiles should be fellow heirs, of the same body, and partakers of His promise in Christ through the gospel" Ephesians 3:6

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 60:1-6 Arise, shine; For your light has come! And the glory of the LORD is risen upon you. 2 For behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, And deep darkness the people; But the LORD will arise over you, And His glory will be seen upon you. 3 The Gentiles shall come to your light, And kings to the brightness of your rising. 4 "Lift 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 nursed at your side. 5 Then you shall see and become radiant, And your heart shall swell with joy; Because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you, The wealth of the Gentiles shall come to you. 6 The multitude of camels shall cover your land, The dromedaries of Midian and Ephah; All those from Sheba shall come; They shall bring gold and incense, And they shall proclaim the praises of the LORD.

THE GRADUAL

P: All those from Sheba shall come;

C: They shall bring gold and incense, And they shall proclaim the praises of the LORD.

P: Arise, shine; For your light has come!

**C: And the glory of the LORD is risen upon you.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

P: We have seen His star in the East

**C: And have come with gifts to worship the LORD.
Hallelujah!**

New Testament Reading

Ephesians 3:2-12 if indeed you have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which was given to me for you, 3 how that by revelation He made known to me the mystery (as I have briefly written already, 4 by which, when you read, you may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ), 5 which in other ages was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to His holy apostles and prophets: 6 that the Gentiles should be fellow heirs, of the same body, and partakers of His promise in Christ through the gospel,

7 of which I became a minister according to the gift of the grace of God given to me by the effective working of His power. 8 To me, who am less than the least of all the saints, this grace was given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, 9 and to make all see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the ages has been hidden in God who created all things through Jesus Christ; 10 to the intent that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers in the heavenly places, 11 according to the eternal purpose which He accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord, 12 in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through faith in Him.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 60:1-6

The Messiah was meant for all the nations of the earth – the Gentiles, non Jews. For us! We read...

New Testament Reading

Ephesians 3:2-12

Paul explains to the Ephesians and us how God had intended all along for the whole world to have the forgiveness of sins found in Jesus Christ, not just the Jewish people. This gives us the boldness, and the access, with the confidence that comes through FAITH. A faith which always leads us to JESUS. We read...