

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church  
38801 Blacow Road  
Fremont, CA 94536  
Church: (510) 793-6285

January 06, 2019  
8:45 AM Service – Epiphany  
Ministers: The People of Holy Trinity  
Web Site: [holytrinityfremont.org](http://holytrinityfremont.org)

Then you shall see  
and be radiant;  
your heart shall  
thrill and exult...

Isaiah 60:5, ESV



**January 06, 2019**

---

Welcome! Enter with Prayer - Worship in Awe - Leave to Serve.  
All invitations to stand or kneel are for those who are able.

---

**WELCOME TO THE STORY**

---

*Epiphany means “manifestation.” On this day we celebrate the revelation of Christ to the Gentiles—that is, to all nations. Some Christian traditions celebrate three great epiphanies on this day: the magi’s adoration of the Christ child, Jesus’ baptism in the Jordan River, and his first miracle, in which he changes water into wine. The word and sacraments are for us the great epiphany of God’s grace and mercy. We go forth to witness to the light that shines brightly in our midst.*

---

**A Story that Invites Us**

---

Singing Bowl

During the ringing of the bowl, you are encouraged to center your thoughts on God the Creator, Christ the Redeemer, and the Holy Spirit our Comforter.

**PRELUDE . . .** *Leilani Camara & Michael Keating*

**WELCOME**

Please Stand

## CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of God's goodness and grace has risen upon you.

**All: We come like the Magi, following the star of the Christ child.**

L: Arise, shine, for your moment has come, and the glory of God's love and mercy flows through you into the world.

**All: We come like Paul, to share the good news that Christ lives among us.**

L: Arise, shine, for you are called to be God's people, and to bring good news and great joy to a world that yearns for wholeness and peace.

**All: Let us worship the God who calls us.**

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*P: Living God, your star in the East guided the Magi to Jesus - your Chosen Child, but it was a disturbing and difficult journey.*

**All: When we lack the courage to venture into unfamiliar territory, O God, forgive us.**

*P: Your star led the Magi to grapple with Herod, an evil person.*

**All: When we fail to name a source of evil, or fail to affirm the good, O God, forgive us.**

*P: Your star came to rest over the birthplace of Jesus Christ, where gifts were given him.*

**All: When we fail to bring our best gifts, or our most appropriate gifts, to serve you, O God, forgive us.**

*P: Your star was left behind as the Holy Family fled the anger of Herod to Egypt.*

**All: When we are not able to see the refugee, or to help the stranger in our neighborhood, O God, forgive us.**

*Time of silent reflection . . .*

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE

*P: You care about the gifts that are ours, O God, and you want us to recognize them, and to use them well.*

**All: You will bless us when we confront our lack of courage, and decide to take the rough but right way.**

*P: God will go with you when you do!*

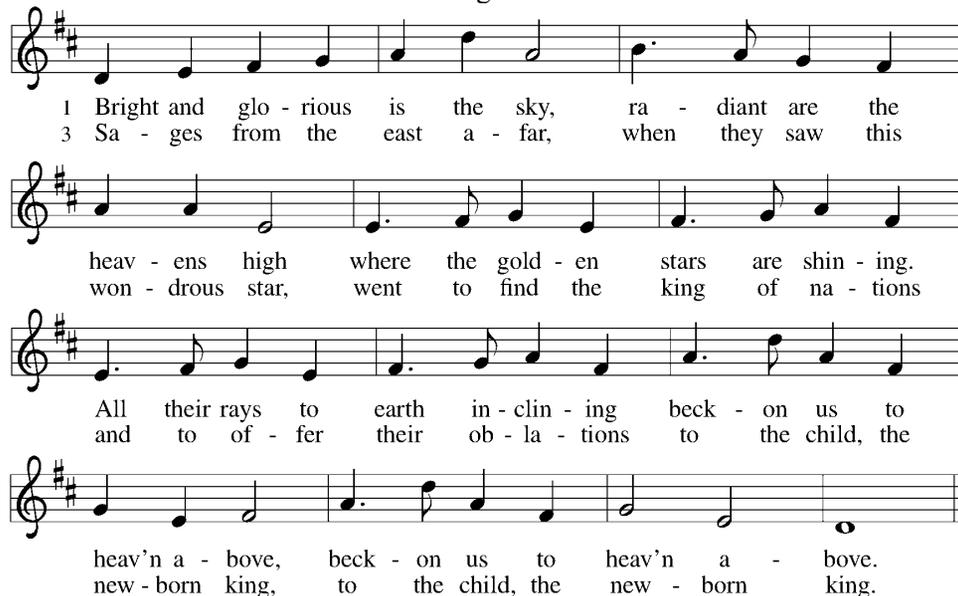
**All: And we will rejoice in God's supportive presence.**

*P: Pardon and peace are yours!*

**All: Thanks be to God! Amen.**

## HYMN . . . "Bright and Glorious Is the Sky" vs. 1, 3

Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig - Tune: Danish - ELW #301



1 Bright and glo - rious is the sky, ra - diant are the  
3 Sa - ges from the east a - far, when they saw this

heav - ens high where the gold - en stars are shin - ing.  
won - drous star, went to find the king of na - tions

All their rays to earth in - clin - ing beck - on us to  
and to of - fer their ob - la - tions to the child, the

heav'n a - bove, beck - on us to heav'n a - bove.  
new - born king, to the child, the new - born king.



## GREETING

*P: God of Advent, of waiting and hoping,*

**All: keep our hearts expectant, ready for your coming among us.**

*P: God of Christmas, of celebration and rejoicing,*

**All: make our hearts glad with the joy nothing can take from us.**

*P: God of Epiphany, of hiding and making known,*

**All: fill our hearts with wonder at the revelation of your glory that we have seen in Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

## LITANY FOR EPIPHANY

*P: Christmas is over, the presents unwrapped.*

L: The darkness of our nights threatens to take over our lives

**All: Light of the world, shine in our hearts.**

*P: Into the quiet of a tiny country, ruled by a faraway emperor.*

L: Magi came from another place to encounter God.

**All: Light of the world, shine in our hearts.**

*P: You have greater gifts yet to share with us;*

L: reveal more of your great love for us this day.

**All: Light of the world, shine in our hearts.**

*P: Remind us, that like the Magi, we have seen you*

L: and we have gifts from you to open for the world.

**All: Light of the world, shine in our hearts, that the world may know your glory and love.**



## PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Almighty and ever-living God, you revealed the incarnation of your Son by the brilliant shining of a star.

**All: Shine the light of your justice always in our hearts and over all lands, and accept our lives as the treasure we offer in your praise and for your service, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Be Seated

## CHOIR ANTHEM . . . “What Star Is This”

---

### The Story that Shapes and Forms Us

---

## READING . . . Ephesians 3:1-12

*What had been hidden from previous generations is now made known through the gospel ministry of Paul and others. In Christ both Jews and Gentiles participate in the richness of God’s promised salvation.*

This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles - for surely you have already heard of the commission of God’s grace that was given me for you, and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. In 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: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

Of 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. Although 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, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so 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. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

L: Word of God, word of life.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Please Stand

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION . . .**



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*Repeat alleluia*



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

P: *The holy gospel according to Matthew the second chapter.*

All: **Glory to you, O Lord.**



**GOSPEL . . . Matthew 2:1-12**

*God's promise shines bright in the night as magi follow a star to honor a new king. Strangers from a faraway land, they welcome the long-awaited messiah of Israel.*

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "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." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

'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.'

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then 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." When 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. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On 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. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

P: *The gospel of the Lord.*

All: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## HYMN OF THE DAY . . . “We Three Kings of Orient Are”

vs. 1, 5

Text & Tune: John Henry Hopkins, Jr. – Blue Book #646



1 We three kings of O - ri - ent are; bear - ing  
5 Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise, King and



gifts we tra - verse a - far, field and foun - tain,  
God and Sac - ri - fice; heav'n sings al - le -



moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.  
lu - ia: al - le - lu - ia the earth re - plies.



*Refrain*  
Oh, star of won - der, star of night, star with roy - al beau - ty bright;



west - ward lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - fect light!

Be Seated

## MESSAGE . . . Pastor Tim

---

### A Story that Feeds Us

---

### INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

L: Come into Christ's light with your gifts. They need not be gold or precious oil.

**All: Gifts of love and compassion are the greatest treasures of all.**

## THANKFUL OFFERING

Please Stand

### OFFERTORY SONG . . . “God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending” vs. 1

Text: Robert L. Edwards -Tune: C. Hubert H. Parry- ELW #678



1 God, whose giv - ing knows no end - ing, from your rich and end - less store;  
3 Trea - sure, too, you have en - trust - ed, gain through pow'rs your grace con - ferred;



na - ture's won - der, Je - sus' wis - dom, cost - ly cross, grave's shat - tered door,  
ours to use for home and kin - dred, and to spread the gos - pel word.



gift - ed by you, we turn to you, of - f'ring up our - selves in praise;  
O - pen wide our hands in shar - ing, as we heed Christ's age - less call,



thank - ful song shall rise for - ev - er, gra - cious do - nor of our days.  
heal - ing, teach - ing, and re - claim - ing, serv - ing you by lov - ing all.

### OFFERING PRAYER

L: God with us: You came as a baby to a manger.

**All: You slept on straw and greeted shepherds.**

L: You come again in bread and wine.

**All: Remind us how good you are at blessing ordinary things.**

L: And then, through these gifts, help us to bless the lives of others

**All: in the strength of your holy name. Amen.**

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

L: Dwelling in the presence of God with us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all in any need. Drawn into the light of God, we pray for the proclamation of the grace of Jesus Christ. Give us courage and boldness to go forth into the world to tell the good news of what God has done. Hear us, O God.

**All: Your mercy is great.**

L: Drawn into the glory of creation, we pray for the earth. Sustain every living thing with abundant resources, clean water, and sustainable harvests. Help us to steward all that you have provided. Hear us, O God.

**All: Your mercy is great.**

L: Drawn into the light of healing mercy, we pray for all who wait for healing and relief of suffering. Give us hope in the promise of new life where pain and suffering will be no more. Hear us, O God.

**All: Your mercy is great.**

L: Drawn into the dawn of a new day, we pray for the ongoing reconciliation between people. Make us bold to name sin in our lives and unite us in the promise of forgiveness and mercy. Hear us, O God.

**All: Your mercy is great.**

L: Here now the prayers of our heart said silently or aloud.

Here other prayers may be offered.

L: Hear us, O God.

**All: Your mercy is great.**

L: Trusting in the presence of God by the power of the Holy Spirit, we commend all for whom we pray, dwelling in the light and hope of Christ, our Savior.

**All: Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

L: The Lord is with you.

**All: And also with you.**

L: Lift up your hearts.

**All: We lift them to the Lord.**

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*P: By the leading of a star Christ was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son, and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory. And so, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:*

**THE SANCTUS . . . tune: "From Heaven Above"**

**All: As light breaks forth, we sing Your praise  
To you, Redeemer of our days,  
For we have found in Jesus' birth  
Good news of peace and human worth.**

## THE EUCHARIST

*P: God of wisdom, with gratitude and love.*

**All: we remember your mighty acts.**

*P: You created a world that was good.*

**All: You gave us this earth to enjoy.**

*P: You trusted us to share with you in caring for it.*

**All: And when we sinned, you still did not abandon us but made covenant with our ancestors.**

*P: Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:*

*Blessed are you for the birth of creation.*

*Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.*

*Blessed are you for your promise to your people.*

*Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.*

*Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.*

*Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.*

*In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."*

*Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:*

**All: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

*P: With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.*

**All: Come, Lord Jesus.**

*P: Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.*

**All: Come, Holy Spirit.**

*P: Praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.*

**All: Amen.**

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

*P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:*

**All: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

### FRACTION RITE

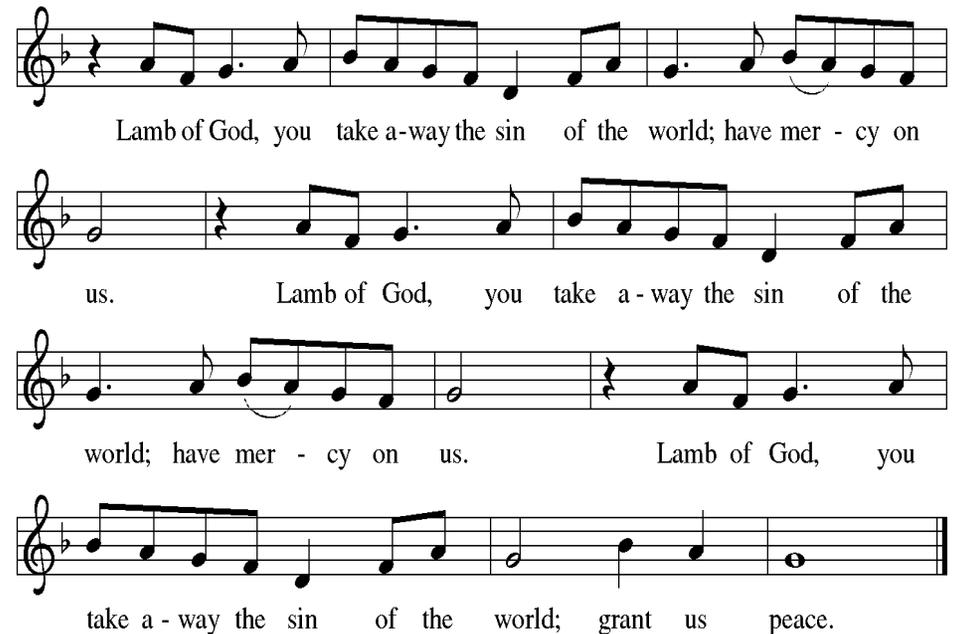
*P: Joy to the world! The Lord is come.*

**All: Let every heart receive our Savior.**

Be Seated

The ushers will invite you to the Lord's Table after the Lamb of God is sung.

### 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.

Holy Communion is open to all.

Grape juice is white, wine is red.

Let an usher know if you desire communion brought to you.



# COMMUNION HYMN . . . “O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright!”

Text & Tune: Philipp Nicolai – ELW #308



1 O Morn - ing Star, how fair and bright! You shine with  
 2 Come, pre - cious dia - mond, light di - vine, and deep with -  
 3 Lord, when you look on us in love, at once there  
 4 Al - might - y Fa - ther, in your Son you loved us,



God's own truth and light, a - glow with grace and mer - cy!  
 in our hearts now shine; there light a flame un - dy - ing!  
 falls from God a - bove a ray of pur - est plea - sure.  
 when not yet be - gun was this old earth's foun - da - tion!



Of Ja - cob's line, King Da - vid's son, our Lord and Sav - ior,  
 In your one bod - y let us be as liv - ing branch - es  
 Your word and Spir - it, flesh and blood re - fresh our souls with  
 Your Son has ran - somed us in love to live in him here



you have won our hearts to serve you on - ly! Low - ly,  
 of a tree, your life our lives sup - ply - ing. Now, though  
 heav'n - ly food. You are our dear - est trea - sure! Let your  
 and a - bove: this is your great sal - va - tion. Al - le -



ho - ly! Great and glo - rious, all vic - to - rious, rich  
 dai - ly earth's deep sad - ness may per - plex us and  
 mer - cy warm and cheer us! Oh, draw near us! For  
 lu - ia! Christ the liv - ing, to us giv - ing life



in bless - ing! Rule and might o'er all pos - sess - ing!  
 dis - tress us, yet with heav'n - ly joy you bless us.  
 you teach us God's own love through you has reached us.  
 for - ev - er, keeps us yours and fails us nev - er!



# COMMUNION HYMN . . . “Brightest and Best of the Stars”

Text: Reginald Heber – Tune: James P. Harding – ELW #303



1 Bright - est and best of the stars of the morn - ing,  
 2 Cold on his cra - dle the dew - drops are shin - ing;  
 3 What shall we give him, in cost - ly de - vo - tion?  
 4 Vain - ly we of - fer each am - ple ob - la - tion,  
 5 Bright - est and best of the stars of the morn - ing,



dawn on our dark - ness and lend us your aid.  
 low lies his head with the beasts of the stall;  
 Shall we bring in - cense and of - f'rings di - vine,  
 vain - ly with gifts would his fa - vor se - cure;  
 dawn on our dark - ness and lend us your aid.



Star of the east, the ho - ri - zon a - dorn - ing,  
 an - gels a - dore him in slum - ber re - clin - ing,  
 gems of the moun - tain and pearls of the o - cean,  
 rich - er by far is the heart's ad - o - ra - tion,  
 Star of the east, the ho - ri - zon a - dorn - ing,



guide where our in - fant re - deem - er is laid.  
 mak - er and mon - arch and sav - ior of all.  
 myrrh from the for - est or gold from the mine?  
 dear - er to God are the prayers of the poor.  
 guide where our in - fant re - deem - er is laid.

Singing Bowl

Please Stand



## POST COMMUNION BLESSING

*P:* We give you thanks, O God, that in this bread and cup of Christ's very life, you give us food for our journey.

**All:** **As you led the magi by a star, as you brought the holy family home again, guide us on the way unfolding before us. Wherever we go, may our lives proclaim good news of great joy in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

*L:* Great and saving God, you have gathered your scattered people around gifts of grain and wine, the body and blood of our Savior Christ.

**All:** **As we, like the shepherds, return on our way, may we proclaim all we have heard and seen, praising you in word and loving deed for the gift of Jesus, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Be Seated

---

## A Story that Sends Us Out to Love and Serve

---

## COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

**CHILDREN'S TIME . . .** *Pastor Tim*

Please Stand

## CANDLE LIGHTING

The pastor lights candle from the center candle.  
Ushers light their candles from the pastor's candle,  
then light the candle of the worshiper next to the aisle.

The lit candles should NOT be tipped –  
tip the *unlit* candle when lighting from a neighbor's candle.

## WORDS FOR THE JOURNEY

*L:* Jesus said to go into all the world.

**All:** **We will love like Jesus loved.**

*P:* *Into the big cities and small towns*

**All:** **We will love like Jesus loved.**

*L:* Jesus said, "Feed the hungry"

**All:** **We will love like Jesus loved.**

*P:* *Shelter the homeless*

**All:** **We will love like Jesus loved.**

*L:* Heal the sick

**All:** **We will love like Jesus loved.**

*P:* *Visit the imprisoned.*

**All:** **We will love like Jesus loved.**

*L:* And ask for nothing in return.

**All:** **We will love like Jesus loved.**

*P:* *Expect nothing in return.*

**All:** **We will love like Jesus loved.**

*L:* Love without expectation.

**All:** **We will love like Jesus loved.**

*P:* *Love without strings attached.*

**All:** **We will love like Jesus loved.**

*L:* Jesus loved for no other reason than to love.

**All:** **We will love like Jesus loved.**

*P:* *We will do the same.*

**All:** **We will love like Jesus loved. Amen.**

## LIGHTS OF THE CHRISTMAS TREE GO OUT

*P:* *May the Word that Mary brought to birth carry you into new and abundant life.*

**All:** **Amen.**

*P:* *May the Word that Joseph cradled in his arms enfold you with love and strength.*

**All:** **Amen.**

*P:* *May the Word that angels proclaimed in song bring harmony to our world.*

**All: Amen.**

*P: Go out as Christ's true lights, dispersing darkness, for  
Christ's grace, power, love and peace go with you.*

**All: Amen**

**SENDING SONG . . . "As with Gladness Men of Old" v. 1, 2**

Text: William C. Dix - Tune: Conrad Kocher - ELW #302



1 As with glad-ness men of old did the guid-ing star be - hold;  
2 As with joy - ful steps they sped, Sav - ior, to thy low - ly bed,



as with joy they hailed its light, lead - ing on - ward, beam - ing bright;  
there to bend the knee be - fore thee, whom heav'n and earth a - dore;



so, most gra-cious Lord, may we ev - er - more be led by thee.  
so may we with will - ing feet ev - er seek thy mer - cy seat.

**DISMISSAL**

**L:** Go in peace. Share the light of God.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

