

† EPIPHANY SUNDAY †
January 2, 2022

Service of Holy Communion Sunday 10:00 a.m.
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PRELUDE

In Dulci Jubilo

Raymond Haan

INVOCATION and CONFESSION (*Congregation rising*)

P In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P Arise, shine; for your light has come.

C **The Lord is our everlasting light.**

P Nations will come to your light,

C **and kings to the brightness of our dawn.**

P As we come together for worship with all the faithful, let us acknowledge our sins and seek God's forgiveness.

C **Gracious God, have mercy on us. In Your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by Your Spirit so that we may live and serve You in newness of life, to the honor and glory of Your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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 servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

OPENING HYMN

(LSB Hymn 367, v. 1, 3, 5)

Angels from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
ye who sang creation's story, now proclaim Messiah's birth.
Come and worship, come and worship; worship Christ, the newborn King.

Sages, leave your contemplations, brighter visions beam afar;
seek the great Desire of nations, ye have seen His natal star.
Come and worship, come and worship; worship Christ, the newborn King.

All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son,
evermore your voices raising to th'eternal Three in One.
Come and worship, come and worship; worship Christ, the newborn King.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray:

C **O God, by the leading of a star You made known Your only-begotten Son to the nations. 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. Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

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.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE

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.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL CANTICLE (*Congregation rising*)

(LSB Hymn 400, v. 1)

Brightest and best of the stars of the morning,
dawn on our darkness and lend us thine aid;
Star of the East, the horizon adorning,
guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.

GOSPEL

Matthew 2:1-12

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 2nd 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..." 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.**

HYMN OF THE DAY

What Child is This

LSB Hymn 370

SERMON

Rev. Dr. Robert Hartwell

THE APOSTLES' CREED (*Congregation rising*)

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 Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

P Merciful God,

C **receive our prayer.**

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING/VOLUNTARY

We Three Kings

arr. Melody Bober

OFFERING HYMN

We Three Kings

We three kings of Orient are, bearing gifts we traverse afar,
field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.
O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.

† HOLY COMMUNION †

PREFACE (*Congregation rising*)

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them up to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

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. As the glory of Your presence once filled Your ancient temple, so in the incarnation of Your Son, You manifested the fullness of Your glory in human flesh. We give You thanks that in His most Holy Supper You reveal Your glory to us. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood so that we may one day behold Your glory face to face. Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

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.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION and SIGN OF PEACE

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 covenant 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."

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

AGNUS DEI (*Sung to the hymn "Away in a Manger"*)

Lord Jesus, Messiah, the true Lamb of God,

the sin of the world You have taken away.

Have mercy upon us and grant us, we pray,

Your peace in our hearts, Lord, and strength for each day.

DISTRIBUTION Let All Together Praise Our God **LSB Hymn 389**

(Worshipers are invited to come forward to receive the pre-packaged Communion kit, then return to your seat to eat and drink. Children and those not partaking of communion are welcome to come forward for a blessing. If you need assistance, please alert the pastor or usher.)

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

P Radiant God, with our eyes we have seen Your salvation, and in this meal we have feasted on Your grace. May Your Word take flesh in us, that we may be Your holy people and shine forth the glory made known to us in Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

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.**

CLOSING HYMN As With Gladness Men of Old **LSB Hymn 397**

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace to serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE As With Gladness Men of Old Philip Gehring

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Participants in the Service:

Lector	Chris Gleason
Organist	Marcia Kollmann
Usher Team	Bill Vogt, Warren Wong
Refreshments	Miro Family
Sexton	Sofia Renzo

COMMUNION STATEMENT

Village Lutheran Church welcomes to Holy Communion those baptized Christians who: †Know Jesus Christ as their Savior (*John 20:31*); †Recognize that the body and blood of Christ are truly present in the bread and wine (*1 Cor. 11:29*); †Are able to examine themselves and repent of their sins (*1 Cor. 11:28*); and †Look to God's Holy Spirit for help in living the Christian life (*Col. 1:10*). Persons not receiving Communion may come forward to receive a blessing.

Staying Safe: Our love for neighbor, expressed by our working together to stop community spread of Covid-19, remains our goal for in-person worship. As a reminder to our community:

- If you are feeling unwell or have been exposed to or tested positive for Covid-19, please join us virtually (VLC-NY.org, YouTube, Facebook)
- If you are eligible, get vaccinated (or get a booster). It remains the best defense to the disease and to stop community spread.
- Our spacious sanctuary allows us to spread out. Feel free to move if you are uncomfortable with the proximity of a fellow worshipper.
- Per state mandate, all worshippers 2 years old and older, must wear a properly fitting mask. In addition to the state regulation, faithful mask wearing is a sign of care for neighbor. The scriptures encourage us to "not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up." (Galatians 6:9)

News and Notes:

Winter Worship Schedule: Starting next weekend (January 9) we will shift to two services per weekend, on Sunday at 9:00 a.m. (with Sunday School) and 10:45 a.m. The Saturday evening service will return in March.

The Undecorating Party will take place this year on **Sunday, January 9**, after the 10:45 service. Pizza will be provided. If you plan to attend, please RSVP to Nelly Palumbo at NPalumbo@thechapelschool.org or 347-538-2909.

Coffee Hour Hosts are needed for the new year! Volunteers make it possible for us share this time of fellowship and warm cheer on a cold day. If you would be willing to host, or would like more information, please contact Nelly Palumbo at NPalumbo@thechapelschool.org or 347-538-2909

Women's Bible Study/LWML - The next meeting is **Saturday, January 15**, at 9:00 a.m. in the Friendship Room. Please read Luke 4:1-13 as we discuss Jesus' temptation in the wilderness. If you have any questions please contact Deacon Wendy at 914-391-9356 or Terry Vidal (terry.n.vidal@gmail.com).

SOUP KITCHEN - Our new commitment as of this month will be on the third Wednesday of the month. The next volunteer date is **Wednesday, January 19**. Please sign up in advance to confirm your contribution. For more information, contact Nelly Palumbo at NPalumbo@thechapelschool.org or 347-538-2909.

Prayer Conference Call: As the pandemic continues to affect all of us, we invite you to join in prayer by telephone for the needs of the community on the last Tuesday of the month. The next date will be **Tuesday, January 25, at 6:00 p.m.** To access, dial (1) 732-434-3982.

Kentucky Disaster Relief: Lutheran Church Charities is deploying to Kentucky and the impacted area to help the communities recover from the deadly December tornadoes. You may make a direct gift on-line by going to www.lutheranchurchcharities.org. You may also make a gift through VLC and we will pass along the donation. Just note your gift as "Tornado Relief."

Music Ministry: Regular rehearsals are scheduled to resume as follows:

Village Belles - Wednesday, January 19 at 7:00 p.m.

Chancel Choir - Thursday, January 13, at 7:30 p.m.

Youth Choir - Thursday, January 13, at 7:00 p.m.

High School Choir - Sunday, January 9, at 10:15 a.m.

For more information, contact Deb Reiss at DReiss@VLC-NY.org or George Heath at GHeath@VLC-NY.org.

Wednesday Bible Study - 10:45 a.m. in the Friendship Room. We are on a holiday break and will resume on January 12. Our new study will be the book of Philippians.

Youth News: Voyagers (Grades 3-6) will meet on Thursday, Jan. 13, at 6:00 p.m. **Donuts & Discussion** (High School) will meet on Sunday, Jan. 9. For more information, contact Erika Schultz at tyandbash@aol.com; Sarah Nunes (Confirmation instructor) at SNunes@VLC-NY.ORG; or Amy Heath (High School Youth) at amyheath1023@gmail.com

Prayer Line: We pray for the sick and those experiencing any kind of difficulty: John Accocella, Suzanne Baldasare, Marge Baum, Andy Boron, Victor Brown, Ray & Denise Carroll, Frank Clark, John Divi, John Eaton, Gloria Febus, Deacon Faith Forliano, Pat Francis, Ben Hartwell, Suzanne Heinrich, Andrae, Troya & Micaiah Hewlett, John Hiddleston, Keith Hough, James Iaia, Melissa Kelly, Deacon Joe Lamoureux, Peter Leone, Donna Lubinsky, Eugene Lunog, Janet Lunog, Frankie Lyman, Marie Rosa Magilton, Rosalind Magilton, Jane McDonough, Lucille McGough, Sylvia Puig, Addison Riden, Willi Rosendahl, Doug Salsbury, Irmgard Schoene, Ragnar Sjonvall, Steve Smith, Ben Tashoff, Luis Torres, Lenny Waterworth

Bereavement Prayer Line: We pray for those who are grieving the loss of a loved one.

- † **Ray Siren**, brother-in-law's father of Katie Bukofzer, who passed away on December 21, 2021
- † **Rev. Dr. Jacob Chacko**, friend and seminary classmate of Pastor Hartwell, who passed away on December 18, 2021
- † **Larry Wuensch**, grandfather of Jennifer Wade, who passed away on December 10, 2021
- † **Barbara Joyce**, mother of Diane Joyce, who passed away on December 6, 2021

Village Lutheran Church and The Chapel School
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