



FAITH
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

7075 Pacific Avenue S.E.
Lacey, WA 98503

www.faithlutheranlacey.org
www.flschool.org

Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

WORSHIP

8:15am – Traditional
9:30am – Gather & Grow
10:45am - Contemporary

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*“Raising Up
Families and Followers
of Jesus Christ”*

The Epiphany of Our Lord

January 4, 2026
10:45 AM



THE SINGING CAMELS OF SHEBA

AS WE GATHER

We humans aren't the only ones celebrating Epiphany! Though the whole earth shall be covered with darkness, "nations shall come to Your light" (Isaiah 60:3). Isaiah mentions the wealth of all nations, and we are reminded of the Magi bearing gifts. We have gifts, too, of a spiritual nature, connecting other people with our gracious God, "in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith" (Ephesians 3:12). "Singing camels"? Well, who really carried the gold and silver so far? The camels, Isaiah writes, "shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall bring good news, the praises of the Lord" (Isaiah 60:6). If the camels are praising God, so must we. Get ready to celebrate!

WELCOME

INVOCATION

Leader In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Congregation Amen.

CONFESSiON AND ABSOLUTION *Ephesians 3:12; Psalm 72:11*

Leader In Christ, we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in Him.
Congregation **May all kings fall down before Him, all nations serve Him!**
Leader In repentant faith, we come before our Lord in confession.

Silence for reflection.

Leader Almighty God, King of all,
Congregation **we confess to You that we are sinful by nature. We have lived in darkness rather than light. Our selfish thoughts, harmful words, and faithless actions reveal our sinfulness. But for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, who became flesh for us, we pray, forgive us our sins. Amen.**
Leader God's grace is revealed in the birth, life, suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. He has brought light to this world darkened by sin. In the stead and by the command of Jesus, I announce to you the full forgiveness of all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Congregation **Amen. Thanks be to God!**

HARK THE HERALD ANGELS SING

Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King;

Peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
Join the triumph of the skies;
With the angelic host proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!" Refrain

Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"

Christ, by highest heav'n adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold Him come,
Offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,
Hail the incarnate Deity!
Pleased as Man with man to dwell,
Jesus, our Immanuel! Refrain

Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings,
Ris'n with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by,
Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth. Refrain

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-88, alt. Text: Public domain

We Three Kings (Kings Of Orient)

Verse 1

We three kings of Orient are
Bearing gifts we traverse afar
Field and fountain moor and mountain
Following yonder star

Chorus

O star of wonder star of night
Star with royal beauty bright
Westward leading still proceeding
Guide us to Thy perfect light

Verse 2

Born a King on Bethlehem's plain
Gold I bring to crown Him again
King forever ceasing never
Over us all to reign

Verse 3

Frankincense to offer have I
Incense owns a Deity nigh
Prayer and praising all men raising
Worship Him God on high

Verse 4

Myrrh is mine its bitter perfume
Breathes a life of gathering gloom
Sorrowing sighing bleeding dying
Sealed in the stone cold tomb

Verse 5

Glorious now behold Him arise
King and God and sacrifice
Alleluia alleluia
Peals through the earth and skies

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OLD TESTAMENT READING *Isaiah 60:1–6*

Reader Arise, shine, for your light has come,
Congregation and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

Reader For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples;
Congregation but the LORD will arise upon you, and His glory will be seen upon you.

Reader And nations shall come to your light,
Congregation and kings to the brightness of your rising.

Reader Lift up your eyes all around, and see; they all gather together, they come to
you;
**Congregation your sons shall come from afar, and your daughters shall be carried
on the hip.**

Reader Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and exult,
**Congregation because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you,
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.**

Reader A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and
Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come.
**Congregation They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall bring good news,
the praises of the LORD.**

Reader This is the Word of the Lord.
Congregation Thanks be to God.

PSALM FOR EPIPHANY *Psalm 72:1–15*

Congregation **Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things.**

Leader Give the king Your justice, O God, and Your righteousness to the royal son!
May He judge Your people with righteousness, and Your poor with justice!
Let the mountains bear prosperity for the people, and the hills, in
righteousness! May He defend the cause of the poor of the people,
give deliverance to the children of the needy, and crush the oppressor!

Congregation **REFRAIN**

Leader May they fear You while the sun endures, and as long as the moon,
throughout all generations! May He be like rain that falls on the mown
grass, like showers that water the earth! In His days may the righteous
flourish, and peace abound, till the moon be no more!
May He have dominion from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of
the earth! May desert tribes bow down before Him and His enemies lick the
dust! May the kings of Tarshish and of the coastlands render Him tribute;
may the kings of Sheba and Seba bring gifts!

Congregation **REFRAIN**

Leader May all kings fall down before Him, all nations serve Him! For He delivers
the needy when he calls, the poor and Him who has no helper.
He has pity on the weak and the needy, and saves the lives of the needy.
From oppression and violence He redeems their life, and precious is their
blood in His sight. Long may He live; may gold of Sheba be given to Him!
May prayer be made for Him continually, and blessings invoked for Him all
the day!

Congregation **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**
REFRAIN

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EPISTLE *Ephesians 3:1–12*

¹For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles—²assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for you, ³how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. ⁴When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, ⁵which was not made known to the sons of men in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit. ⁶This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

⁷Of this gospel I was made a minister according to the gift of God's grace, which was given me by the working of his power. ⁸To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, ⁹and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all

things,¹⁰ so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹²in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him.

Reader This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL *Matthew 2:1–12*

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

Congregation Glory to You, O Lord.

¹Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, ²saying, “Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.” ³When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. ⁵They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:

⁶“And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.”

⁷Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. ⁸And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him.” ⁹After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. ¹¹And going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. ¹²And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

Leader This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Congregation Praise to You, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE – Marie Koehler

Living Hope

Verse 1

How great the chasm that lay between us

How high the mountain I could not climb

In desperation I turned to heaven

And spoke Your name into the night

Then through the darkness Your loving-kindness

Tore through the shadows of my soul
The work is finished the end is written
Jesus Christ my living hope

Verse 2

Who could imagine so great a mercy
What heart could fathom such boundless grace
The God of ages stepped down from glory
To wear my sin and bear my shame
The cross has spoken I am forgiven
The King of kings calls me His own
Beautiful Savior I'm Yours forever
Jesus Christ my living hope

Chorus

Hallelujah praise the One who set me free
Hallelujah death has lost its grip on me
You have broken every chain
There's salvation in Your name
Jesus Christ my living hope

Verse 3

Then came the morning that sealed the promise
Your buried body began to breathe
Out of the silence the Roaring Lion
Declared the grave has no claim on me

(REPEAT)

Jesus Yours is the victory whoa

Ending

Jesus Christ my living hope
Oh God You are my living hope

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SERMON

NICENE CREED

Congregation 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.

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or text to give, 360-732-8020.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Leader Arise, shine, for your light has come. We pray for the church here and around the world. For as the Magi saw the star, many people will see the glory of the Lord and come to faith, let us pray to the Lord.

Congregation Wonderful Counselor, hear our prayer.

Leader For the leaders of this nation and the nations of the world, that they use their many resources for the poor, remember the disadvantaged, provide for lawful order within their borders, and seek peace with their neighbors, let us pray to the Lord.

Congregation Mighty God, hear our prayer.

Leader Lift up your eyes all around and see. We pray for the lonely—those alone at home; those separated from loved ones, including armed forces deployed; and all those forgotten by the rest of society—that God would move caring people to surround them with His love. Let us pray to the Lord.

Congregation Everlasting Father, hear our prayer.

Leader The Magi brought gold and frankincense. We pray for charitable organizations in our parish and community, that by the grace of God, we all may experience growth in faith as the Gospel moves from ears to heart, and from conviction to serving God and loving one another. Let us pray to the Lord.

Congregation Prince of Peace, hear our prayer.

Leader Into Your hands, gracious God, who sent Your Son to be light in this dark world, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, in whose name we pray.

Congregation Amen.

SERVICE OF COMMUNION

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Leader 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."

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

Leader As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

Congregation Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Leader O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER

Congregation 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

Another Hallelujah (Christmas Version)

Verse 1

I've heard about this baby boy
Who's come to earth to bring us joy
And I want to sing this song to you
It goes like this, the fourth, the fifth
The minor fall, the major lift
With every breath I'm singing Hallelujah

Chorus

Hallelujah

Hallelujah
Hallelujah
Hallelujah

Verse 2

A couple came to Bethlehem
Expecting child, they searched the inn
To find a place, for You were coming soon
There was no room for them to stay
So in a manger filled with hay
God's only Son was born, oh Hallelujah

Verse 3

The Shepherds left their flocks by night
To see this baby wrapped in light
A host of Angels led them all to You
It was just as the angels said
You'll find Him in a manger bed
Immanuel and Savior, Hallelujah

Verse 4

A star shown bright up in the East
To Bethlehem, the wisemen three
Came many miles and journeyed long for You
And to the place at which You were
Their frankincense and gold and myrrh
They gave to you and cried our Hallelujah

Verse 5

I know You came to rescue me
This baby boy would grow to be
A man and one day die for me and you
My sins would drive the nails in You
That rugged cross was my cross too
Sill every breath You drew was Hallelujah

BENEDICTION

Leader 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.

Congregation Amen.

Light Of the World (Sing Hallelujah)

Verse 1

Light of the World Treasure of Heaven
Brilliant like the stars in the wintery sky

Joy of the Father reach through the darkness
Shine across the earth send the shadows to flight

Verse 2

Light of the World from the beginning
The tragedies of time were no match for Your love
From great heights of glory You saw my story
God You entered in and became one of us

Chorus

Sing hallelujah
Sing hallelujah

Sing hallelujah for the things He has done
Come and adore Him
Bow down before Him
Sing hallelujah to the Light of the World

Verse 3

Light of the world crown in a manger
Born for the cross to suffer to save
High King of Heaven death is the poorer
We are the richer by the price that He paid

Verse 4

Light of the World soon will be coming
With fire in His eyes He will ransom His own
Through clouds He will lead us straight into glory
And there He shall reign forevermore forevermore

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