

WELCOME TO
FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

(THE LUTHERAN CHURCH--MISSOURI SYNOD)

We are First a family of God, providing a foundation for all to thrive and grow.

Rev. Christian D. Schultz, Pastor (785)-313-4633

Pastor@firstlutheran-paola.org

Mrs. Janet Bucher, Organist

Mrs. Kris Fuchs, Preschool Director

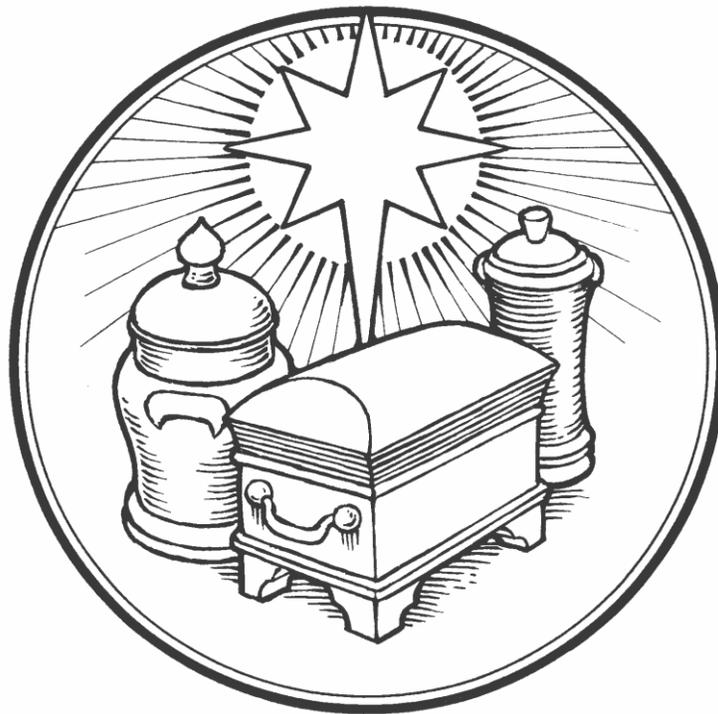
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EPIPHANY SUNDAY
JANUARY 8, 2023



BIRTHDAYS:

Annabell Worrell	January 08	Emily Decaire	January 11
Paul Noll	January 11	Henry Schrotberger	January 11
Nickki Lofing	January 12	Sandi Armbruster	January 13
Henry Rocolé	January 13	Shelly Moore	January 14
Aneta Ohlmeier	January 14		

EPIPHANY I/BAPTISM OF OUR LORD – John’s baptism convicted every human being – “Jerusalem and all Judea” (Matthew 3:5-6). No physical incapacities excused anyone. Jesus’ baptism consecrates every human being. God, in giving His Son, identifies with us at our weakest and embraces us at our worst. Even when we don’t resemble anything our Maker intended, He doesn’t call us “unwanted” or “better off dead.” Instead He declares, “This is my beloved [child], with whom I am well pleased” (Matthew 3:17). In this newness of life, Christians can also welcome the least among us. *Lord, construct Your kingdom of little ones like us. Amen.*

STEWARDSHIP: January 6 – Epiphany

Matthew 2:11 – “And 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.” For the wise men and for us, worshipping and offering gifts go together. How could this not be since our God is the great Giver of gifts? We receive His gifts in worship and then, being conformed to His image, we imitate His generosity.

OUR ACTIVITIES FOR CHRIST THIS WEEK

Today	9:00 am	Divine Worship Service
	10:15 am	Bible Study
	10:15 am	Sunday School
	1:00 pm	Confirmation Class

Monday	1:00 pm	Quilt Tying
	5:45 pm	Stewardship Meeting
	6:30 pm	Ruth Circle



Tuesday	8:00 am	Braille Work
	5:45 pm	Leadership Photos
	6:00 pm	Council Meeting

Wednesday	6:00 am	Coffee and Concord Bible Study
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with Pastor Schultz

9:30-11 am **Looking Forward to Sunday** Bible Study

with Pastor Schultz

Thursday 5:30 pm Bell Practice

7:00 pm LWML

Saturday 6-8 pm Parent's Night Out

Next Sunday 9:00 am Divine Worship Service

Special Voters' Meeting

1:00 pm Confirmation Class

Nursing Home Devotions

1:30 pm North Point

2:15 pm Medicalodge

Monday Jan. 16th *No Preschool and Church Office Closed*

PRAYER FOR RETURN OF THE WAYWARD AND ERRING, Almighty and most gracious God and Father, we implore You to turn the hearts of all who have forsaken the faith once delivered to Your Church, especially those who have wandered from it or are in doubt through the corruption of Your truth. Mercifully visit and restore them that in gladness of heart they may take pleasure in Your Word and be made wise to salvation through faith in Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Join Pastor Schultz this week on Wednesday for the following Bible Study:

Wednesday: 6:00 am Coffee and Concord

Wednesday: 9:30-11 am Looking Forward to Sunday

OUR LOVE FOR CHRIST

January 1, 2023

Attendance:	84
Bible Study:	N/A
Sunday School:	N/A

Offering:	\$3346.00
Online Offering:	\$935.00
Totals	\$4281.00
<i>Weekly Budget Needs:</i>	<i>\$7000.00</i>
<i>YTD Budget Performance:</i>	<i>-\$2719.00</i>

Elder of the month

Brian Mead

LSB 395 O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright (Epiphany of Our Lord)

Often called the “Queen of Chorales” (the “King” is LSB 516), this hymn offered comfort to Christians in the midst of incredible sadness. Philipp Nicolai (1556-1608) penned the words to these hymns in 1597, the same year he buried 1,300 of his members who had died from the plague. Despite “Earth’s deep sadness” that “May perplex us and distress us,” (st. 2), Nicolai pointed to the joy of heaven revealed in Jesus Christ – He is our life who fails us never (st. 4)! Just as the three Magi followed the star to dark Bethlehem to see Jesus, the Light of the World still shines into and pierces through the darkness of our sin and brings us joy, jubilation, exultation, and eternal life.

EDUCATING A NEW GENERATION OF LUTHERANS... Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. This week's subjects include: Biblical Archeology’s Top Discoveries of 2022, The Secularization of the West, The Wedding at Cana, Jesus Calls the First Disciples and more. You can listen at your convenience at issuesetc.org, the LPR mobile app and your favorite podcast provider.



HEY EVERYONE, JANUARY 29TH will be First’s first Fifth Sunday Potluck! This year is unique, with five fifth Sundays; this happens only **once every 823 years!** So join us for some great food and fantastic fellowship. The Potluck sign-up sheet is posted in the narthex. **Details:**

January 29th, following Bible Study

Church Basement

Sign-up Church Narthex

Setup/Clean Needed

399 THE STAR PROCLAIMS THE KING IS HERE



1 The star pro - claims the King is here; But, Her - od,
 2 The east - ern sa - ges saw from far And fol - lowed
 3 With - in the Jor - dan's sa - cred flood The heav'n - ly
 4 And oh, what mir - a - cle di - vine, When wa - ter
 5 For this Thy glad e - piph - a - ny All glo - ry,



why this sense - less fear? For He who of - fers heav'n - ly
 on His guid - ing star; And, led by light, to light they
 Lamb in meek - ness stood That He, of whom no sin was
 red - dened in - to wine! He spoke the word, and forth it
 Je - sus, be to Thee, Whom with the Fa - ther we a -



birth Seeks not the king - doms of this earth.
 trod And by their gifts con - fessed their God.
 known, Might cleanse His peo - ple from their own.
 flowed In streams that na - ture ne'er be - stowed.
 dore, And Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more.

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+ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION +

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

C Amen.

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned

against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

INTROIT

Behold the Lord, the ruler, has come,
and the kingdom and the power and the glory are in his hand.

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!

May the kings of Tarshish and of the coastlands render him tribute;
may the kings of Sheba and Seba bring gifts!

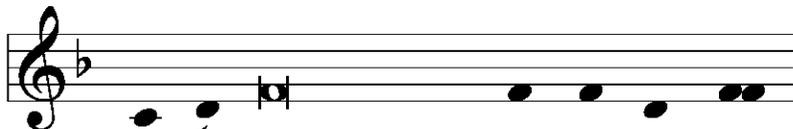
May all kings fall down before him,
all nations serve him!

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.

Behold the Lord, the ruler, has come,
and the kingdom and the power and the glory are in his hand.

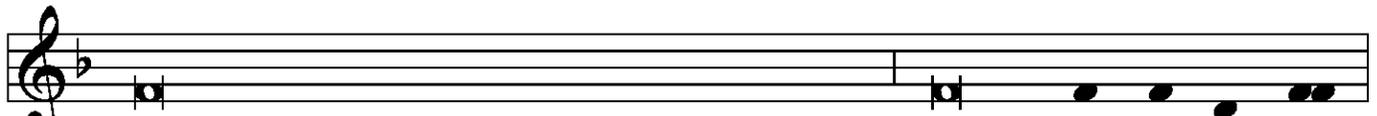
KYRIE



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



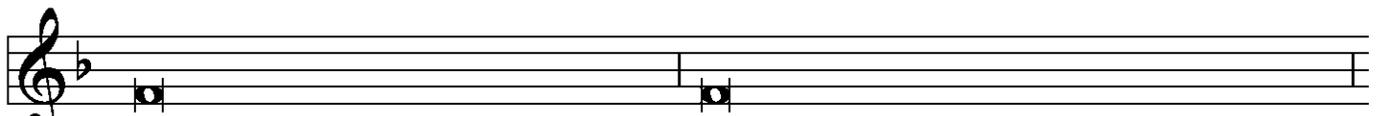
C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



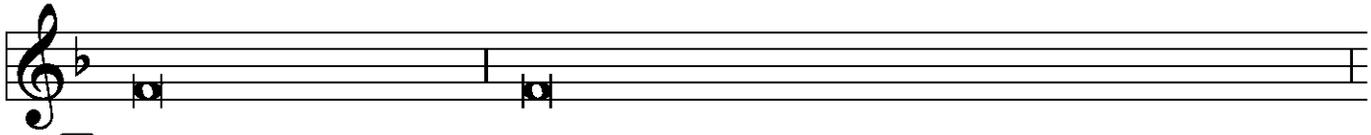
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



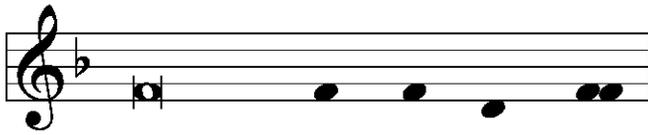
and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



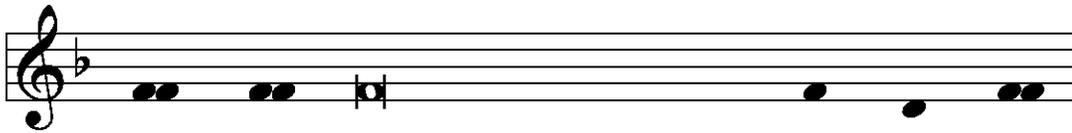
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



C A - men.

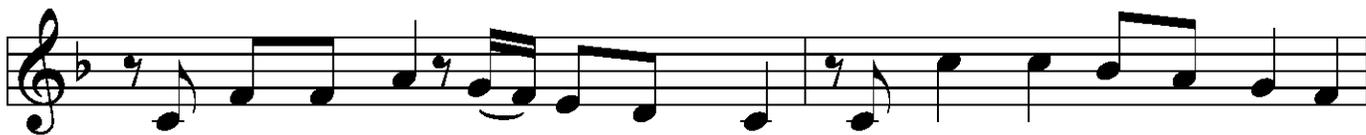
GLORIA IN EXCELSIS



A Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His peo - ple on earth.



C Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa - ther:



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.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING: ISAIAH 60:1–6

Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.
For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples;
but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you.
And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising.
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 carried on the hip.
Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and exult,
because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you,
the wealth of the nations shall come to you. A 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 bring good news, the praises of the LORD.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL

Those from Sheba shall come.

They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall bring good news, the praises of the LORD.
Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

EPISTLE: EPHESIANS 3:1–12

For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles— assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God’s grace that was given to me for you, how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, which 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. This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. Of 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. To 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, and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things, so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

COMMON ALLELUIA AND VERSE

C Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

HOLY GOSPEL: MATTHEW 2:1–12

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

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, saying, “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.” When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people,

he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet: "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."

Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. And 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." After 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. When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. And 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. And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

APOSTLES' CREED

C 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.

395 O MORNING STAR, HOW FAIR AND BRIGHT



1 O Morn-ing Star, how fair and bright! You shine with God's
 2 Come, heav'n-ly Bride-groom, Light di-vine, And deep with-in
 3 Lord, when You look on us in love, At once there falls
 4 Al-might-y Fa-ther, in Your Son You loved us when



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



Of Ja-cob's race, King Da-vid's son, Our Lord and mas-s
 In Your one bod-y let us be As liv-ing branch-
 Your Word and Spir-it, flesh and blood Re-fresh our souls
 Your Son has ran-somed us in love To live in Him



ter, You have won Our hearts to serve You on-ly!
 es of a tree, Your life our lives sup-ply-ing.
 with heav'n-ly food. You are our dear-est trea-sure!
 here and a-bove: This is Your great sal-va-tion.



Low-ly, ho-ly! Great and glo-rious, All vic-to-rious,
 Now, though dai-ly Earth's deep sad-ness May per-plex us
 Let Your mer-cy Warm and cheer us! O draw near us!
 Al-le-lu-ia! Christ the liv-ing, To us giv-ing



Rich in bless-ing! Rule and might o'er all pos-sess-ing!
 And dis-tress us, Yet with heav'n-ly joy You bless us.
 For You teach us God's own love through You has reached us.
 Life for-ev-er, Keeps us Yours and fails us nev-er!

5 O let the harps break forth in sound!
Our joy be all with music crowned,
Our voices gladly blending!
For Christ goes with us all the way—
Today, tomorrow, ev'ry day!
His love is never ending!
Sing out! Ring out!
Jubilation!
Exultation!
Tell the story!
Great is He, the King of Glory!

6 What joy to know, when life is past,
The Lord we love is first and last,
The end and the beginning!
He will one day, oh, glorious grace,
Transport us to that happy place
Beyond all tears and sinning!
Amen! Amen!
Come, Lord Jesus!
Crown of gladness!
We are yearning
For the day of Your returning!

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SERMON

+ SHARING OF THE PEACE +

OFFERTORY



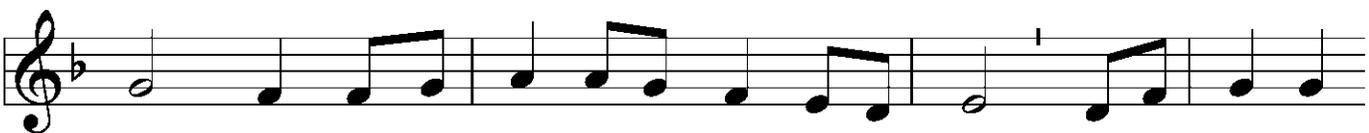
C What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to



me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will



call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-



va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my



vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the



courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa-lem.

OFFERING AND SIGN THE ATTENDANCE LOG

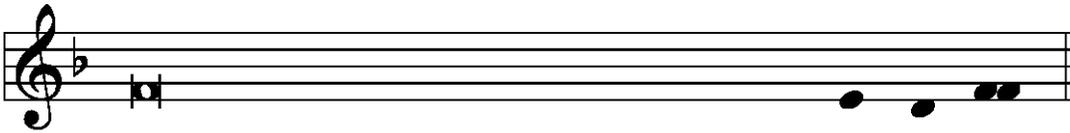
+ INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS +

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

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 A - - men.

397 AS WITH GLADNESS MEN OF OLD



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,
3 As they of-fered gifts most rare At Thy cra-dle, rude and bare,
4 Ho-ly Je-sus, ev-'ry day Keep us in the nar-row way;
5 In the heav'n-ly coun-try bright Need they no cre-at-ed light;



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 may we with ho-ly joy, Pure and free from sin's al-loy,
And when earth-ly things are past, Bring our ran-somed souls at last
Thou its light, its joy, its crown, Thou its sun which goes not down;



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.
All our cost-liest trea-sures bring, Christ, to Thee, our heav'n-ly King.
Where they need no star to guide, Where no clouds Thy glo-ry hide.
There for-ev-er may we sing Al-le-lu-ias to our King.

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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