

Sunday, January 4, 2025 - Epiphany of Our Lord

Welcome to worship at Shepherd of the Bay. If you are visiting today, Hello! We are so glad you are here. Whether you are here for a week, a month, or the whole summer season, we hope you will find this community a warm and welcoming spiritual home while you're in Door County. If you have questions, please ask. If you are interested in a formal affiliation with Shepherd of the Bay, contact Pastor Honig.

Enter to worship. As the prelude begins, worshippers are encouraged to conclude conversation and quietly prepare to enter into the experience of worship.

PRELUDE Impression on "We Three Kings"Alfred V. Fedak (Wayne Leupold Editions, Inc. 2005)
The Three Kings.....Wilbur Held (Concordia Publishing House, 1959)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Congregation recites **bold** print responses.)

The assembly stands

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, Wonderful Counselor,
Mighty Savior, Prince of Peace.

Amen.

Trusting in God's steadfast love and faithfulness, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Reconciling God,

we yearn for your presence to transform our grief, pain, and despair.

We confess that we have not always prepared room in our hearts for your love;

we have not always recognized your presence among us;

we have not always embraced your message of peace.

**We cry out, weary with the burden of violence,
oppression, and fear.**

We confess our failure to make room

for those seeking refuge;

our participation in violent systems

that harm your innocent ones; our reluctance to embody your good news.

Be born in us today and teach us to sing the joyful song of your salvation.

Amen.

God's grace upon grace flows over you.

☩ Christ's presence redeems the whole creation.

Your sins are forgiven. Let the earth rejoice and be glad!

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

HYMN 303 Brightest and Best of Stars

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

GLORY TO GOD

Glo - ry to God in the high -

est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and

Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we

praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus

Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,

Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the

right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a -

lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the Most High,

Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of

God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Glo - ry to God in the high -

est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray: O God,

**on this day you revealed your Son to the nations by the leading of a star. Lead us now by faith to know your presence in our lives, and bring us at last to the full vision of your glory, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.**

FIRST READING: Isaiah 60:1-6

...

P: The Word of the Lord **C: Thanks be to God**

The assembly is seated

CHOIR The Heavens Are Telling (THE CREATION) Joseph Haydn, arr. Hal H. Hopson
(2008 Hope Publishing)

SECOND READING: Ephesians 3:1-12

...

P: The Word of the Lord **C: Thanks be to God**

The assembly stands.

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.

GOSPEL : Matthew 2:1-12, 16-18

C: Glory to you, O Lord

P: The Gospel of the Lord **C: Praise to you, O Christ**

The assembly is seated.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

The assembly stands.

HYMN OF THE DAY

HYMN 301 Bright and Glorious Is The Sky

The assembly stands.

NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true
God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things
were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy
Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was
crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose
again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the
right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his
kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and
glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic
Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the Forgiveness of sins. We look for the
resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Congregational response to

P. Hear us, O God.

C. Your mercy is great.

Empowered by the news of Christ's birth, let us pray boldly for the church, creation, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

Repairer of the breach, you separate us from our sin and unite us with one another. Heal the animosity in our hearts, and bind us together in love. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Author of life, you sent your spirit over the waters, your breath into your children, and guiding stars across the sky. Awaken us to the plight of the planet and send us to care for your creation. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Light that leads the way, you make yourself known to the nations. Illuminate just paths and guide leaders in the church and the world in your holy will (especially). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Voice of the silenced, you cast the mighty from their thrones and fill the hungry with good things. Grant those in need the courage to demand equality and those with abundance the wisdom to share. Respond to any who call out in need this day. We remember especially those whom we name aloud... **Marie** Becker, **Carole** Bergner, **Dave** Boock, **Rita** Brandt, **Joan** Carlson, **Angela** Foster, **Chris** Hecht, **Hanna** Michalsen, **Carenna** Reisen, **Braden** Sitte, **Barbara** Zilavy, and all whom we remember in our hearts and lift before you...
(*silence for reflection*) ... Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Proclaimer of promises, you raise up prophets and messengers in the places we least expect. Equip us to listen well to those who bring both good news and painful truths. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Redeemer of the saints, you gift us with many people throughout our lives who point the way to you. We give you thanks for the recently departed and all who have loved us (especially). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

With the joy of Christ's birth in our hearts, we commend our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your boundless mercy and eternal love; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The assembly is seated.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY Scene al Presepio: I. Magi....Oreste Ravanello (Guglielmo Zanibon, 1935)

The assembly stands.

OFFERING PRAYER

God of glory,
great are your wonders among us and many are the blessings you bestow.
Use us and these your gifts for the needs of the world,
that all the ends of the earth may rejoice in your saving grace,
through Christ our Savior.

Amen.

COMMUNION DIALOG

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

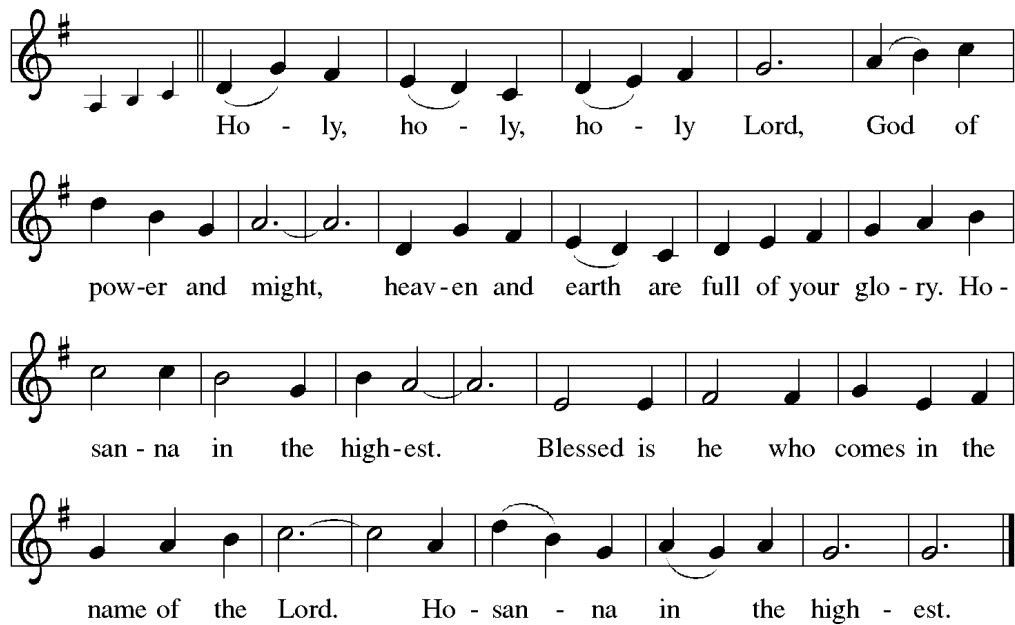
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

By the leading of a star he 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 all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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.

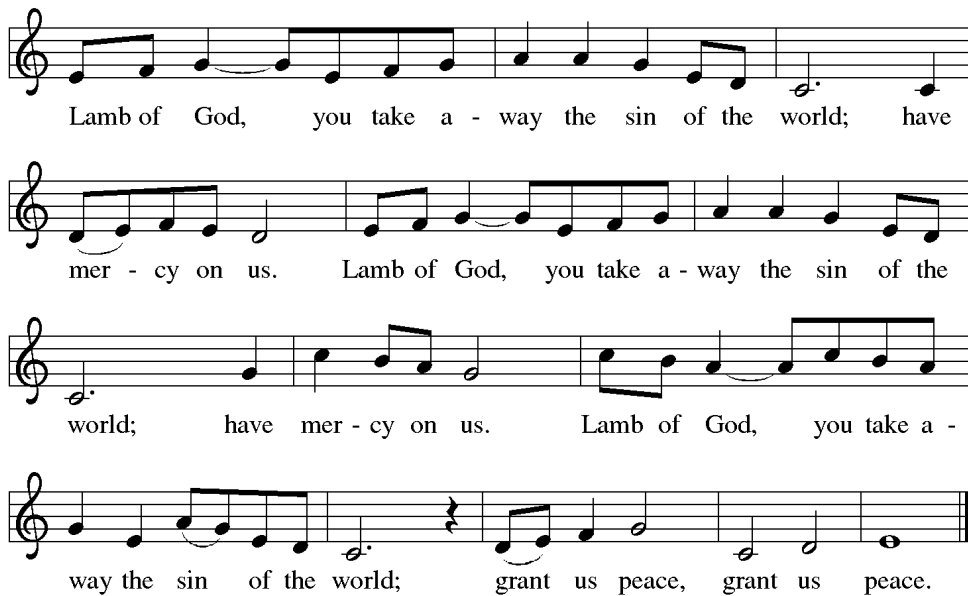
THE LORD'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

***About Communion:** This is Christ's table and meal of grace! All are welcome! Ushers will guide you forward. Receive the bread (gluten free available); wine or white grape juice is received from a cup from the gold tray. If you have difficulty coming forward for the distribution, please let one of the ushers know and they will ask the pastor to bring you communion in the pew. Children may come forward for a blessing*

The assembly is seated.

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, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN

HYMN 300 The First Noel

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Incarnate God, you are among us at this table.

May we treasure this gift and ponder in our hearts the mystery of your presence.

Move us to discover the wonders of your love in the everyday moments of our lives,
through Christ born in us.

Amen.

BLESSING

The triune God,
glorious Mystery,
holy Incarnate One,
abiding Comforter,
✠ bless you with endless grace, peace, and joy.

Amen.

SENDING SONG

HYMN 815 I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

DISMISSAL

Glory to God in the highest!
And peace to God's people on earth!
Go in joy. Embody God's redeeming grace.
Thanks be to God.

DEPART TO SERVE

POSTLUDE Noel Suisse....Louis-Claude Daquin