

A Guide to The Divine Service

7:00 p.m.

January 6, 2025

The Epiphany of Our Lord

The Lord God is Manifested in the Incarnate Son

The Feast of the Epiphany centers in the visit of the Magi from the East. In that respect, it is a “Thirteenth Day” of Christmas; and yet, it also marks the beginning of a new liturgical season. While Christmas has focused on the Incarnation of our Lord—that is, on God becoming flesh—the Season of Epiphany emphasizes the manifestation or self-revelation of God in that same flesh of Christ. The Lord Himself has entered our darkness and rises upon us with the brightness of His true light (Is. 60:1–2). He does so chiefly by His Word of the Gospel, which He causes to be preached within His Church on earth—not only to the Jews but also to Gentiles (Eph. 3:8–10). As the Magi were guided by the promises of Holy Scripture to find and worship the Christ Child with His mother in the house (St. Matt. 2:5–11), so does He call disciples from all nations by the preaching of His Word, to find and worship Him within His Church (Is. 60:3–6). With gold they confess His royalty; with incense, His deity; and with myrrh, His priestly sacrifice (St. Matt. 2:11).



Ecce advenit dominator Dominus
“Behold, the Lord, the Ruler Has Come!”

The Feast of the Epiphany of Our Lord

Shepherd of the Springs Lutheran Church
6755 Earl Drive, Suite #100
Colorado Springs CO 80918

*A Confessional, Evangelical, Sacramental, and Liturgical
Congregation of the Lutheran Confessions --
Where the Lutheran Reformation lives!*

MEMBER: THE LUTHERAN CHURCH – MISSOURI SYNOD

Rev. Jeff Patterson

pastor@sslc-cos.org

(719) 396-4710

Dr. Steven Hein

heinsteven@ix.netcom.com

(719) 338-7891

www.sslc-cos.org

NOTE ON PARTICIPATING IN THE LORD'S SUPPER

As intended by Christ and as practiced by the one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church throughout history, "closed communion" is observed here, in which the Lord's Supper is distributed only to those who:

- (a) are baptized in the Name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit;
- (b) have been instructed in the truth of Holy Scriptures as taught in the Lutheran Confessions, have been confirmed in this Lutheran faith and practice, and now embrace this same Lutheran faith in the same way that it is believed, taught, confessed, and practiced in this congregation;
- (c) believe that in this Sacrament the real Body and Blood of Christ are truly distributed to them and orally received by them, bestowing on them the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation;
- (d) repent of all their sins, and desire to receive God's forgiveness in this holy meal.

Guests at our services who are able to affirm these facts should speak to our pastor or the elder on duty before receiving the Sacrament. To other guests with us today, we express to you our sincere interest, friendship, and concern, and we assure you that it is for the spiritual welfare of all that we practice closed communion. Those desiring to learn more about our beliefs are asked to speak with our pastor.

[We rise and face the Processional Cross]

Processional
Hymn "Angels from the Realms of Glory" #367

Confession of Sins and Holy Absolution p. 184

The Service of the Word begins with the 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 the kings fall down before Him,
all nations serve Him!

(Ps. 72:1-2, 10-11; antiphon: Liturgical Text)

The *Gloria Patri*, The *Kyrie* p. 186

The *Gloria in Excelsis* p. 187

Salutation p. 189

Collect for the Feast of the Epiphany of Our Lord: 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 Jesus
Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy
Spirit, One God, now and forever. **A - - - men!**

[We are seated]

Prophecy of the Day **Isaiah 60:1-6**

[The Gentiles shall come to Your light]

This is the Word of the Lord **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.

(Isaiah 60:6b, 1)

Epistle of the Day **Ephesians 3:2b-12**

[The Salvation of the Gentiles Revealed]

This is the Word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God!**

[We rise] **Triple Alleluia** p. 190

The Lord be with you. **And with thy spirit.**

Holy Gospel of the Day **St. Matthew 2:1-12**

[The Magi are Directed by the Star]

Responses to the Holy Gospel p. 190

Nicene Creed p. 191

[We are seated]

Hymn of
the Day **"As with Gladness Men of Old"** #397

Sermon

[We rise] **Offertory**
"The People That in Darkness Sat" #412

[We are seated]

The offering is received

God richly bless you for your support of His work among us!

[We rise] **Prayer of the Church**

[Please review our Communion Policy inside this Guide]

The Service of the Sacrament p. 194

[We are seated for the Distribution of the Body & Blood of Christ]

Hymn **"Songs of Thankfulness and Praise"** #394

[We rise] **Doxology** #805

**Dismissal, Nunc Dimittis, Thanksgiving,
Salutation, Benedicamus, Benediction** p. 199

[We are seated for announcements]

[We rise for the Final Hymn]

Recessional
Hymn **"Arise and Shine in Splendor** #396