

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.

Matthew 2:10-11



To Us...the King...Is Given

Epiphany Celebration Sunday

January 5, 2024



St. Paul Lutheran Church

Lutheran Church- Missouri Synod
Columbus, Indiana

Welcome to St. Paul!

We are glad that you have come to God's house to be fed and strengthened by His holy Word. The order of service for today is printed on the **insert** in this bulletin. Guests, we extend a special welcome to you this morning. We are privileged to have you as our guest today and encourage you to worship with us again soon.

The Family Quiet Room and Restroom are located outside the doors of the sanctuary and to the left. In the Family Quiet Room, you can hear and see the service. **Assisted hearing devices** are available for the service. Please contact an usher.

Do you need prayer support? Please call Bonnie England at **812-447-7895** to activate our **Prayer Chain**. Your fellow church members will pray for you.

Our Communion Practice: We invite and encourage those who have been instructed, confirmed, and confess the faith of this congregation and other congregations of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod to receive the Sacrament. Communicants at this altar acknowledge their sins, believe that the body and blood of Christ are truly present in the bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins, and desire the Spirit's help to turn from their sins.

Those who are not communing are invited to come forward and receive a blessing by placing their arms across their chest.

If you have questions regarding our Communion teaching and practice, please speak to a pastor.

Communion Preparation: To prepare for the Lord's Supper, you may wish to pray the prayer on the inside cover of the hymnal or review the Christian Questions and Answers on pages 329-330.

Today's Christian Education Opportunities

First Steps of Faith (Infants and Toddlers with a parent)
Sunday School classes for ages three-sixth grade
Confirmation Instruction (grades 7-8) led by Pastor Patterson
Sr. High Youth in the Youth Room led by Mrs. Probst
Signs, Symbols, and their Meaning led by Pastor Bauman meets in the fellowship room.

Serving Today

Organist: Kantor Dan Mau

Acolytes: 8 AM Service Adam Arnholt

10:45 AM Service Haley Hauersperger

Church Calendar

Today

Epiphany Celebration Sunday

Installation of Officers

Mite Box Sunday

8:00 AM Divine Service

9:10 AM Fellowship

9:30 AM Sunday School

10:45 AM Divine Service—English and Spanish

Noon Lunch

Noon-1:15 PM SPY and C4Life Servant Event

12:15 PM Spanish Bible Study

12:45 PM Jr. Handchimes

1:15 PM Jr. Handbells

1:45 PM Choristers

7:00 PM Lutheran Hour WYGS 91.1 FM

Monday

Epiphany Day

10:00 AM Homeschool Religion Class

10:00 AM Moms in the Word

10:00 AM Small Group Handbells

Tuesday

10 AM-Noon OGT Workday

Noon Staff Meeting

Wednesday

9:00 AM Bible Study

10:15 AM Matins Service

6:00 PM Bible Study

6:00 PM Sr. Handbells

7:00 PM Sr. Choir

Saturday

9:00 AM LWML Annual Meeting

2:30 PM Church Reserved

Next Sunday

Baptism of Our Lord Sunday

8:00 AM Divine Service

9:10 AM Fellowship

9:30 AM Sunday School

10:45 AM Divine Service—English and Spanish

Noon Lunch

12:15 PM Youth Confirmation

12:15 PM Spanish Bible Study

12:45 PM Jr. Handchimes

1:15 PM Jr. Handbells

1:45 PM Choristers

7:00 PM Lutheran Hour WYGS 91.1 FM

Celebration of Epiphany—8 AM Service

Prelude

Prélude sur l'Introit de L'Épiphanie—M. Duruflé

Welcome and Announcements

Please sign the Record of Fellowship

Ring of the Bell

Baptism Hymn

593

Sacrament of Holy Baptism

Thomas Wayne Turi

page 268

Entrance Hymn

please remain standing 412

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

G **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.

G **Amen.**

please be seated

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 60:1-6

[Isaiah writes:] 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.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

G **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle Reading

Ephesians 3:1-12

For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner of 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.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

G **Thanks be to God.**

Verse of the Day

please stand and speak together

☞ Alleluia. 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. Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 2:1-12

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

☞ 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.

☞ Praise to You, O Christ.

please be seated

Little Sermon

Hymn of the Day

370

Sermon

To Us...the King...Is Given

Matthew 2:1-12

Installation of Officers

Prayer of the Church

please stand

Offering

Please stand for stanza five

399

Service of the Sacrament

please stand pages 160-163

Distribution

397, 395 stanzas 1-5, 400, 398

Visitors: Please read the Communion statement on the inside front cover of the bulletin.

Post-Communion Canticle

Thank the Lord

please stand page 164

Closing Liturgy

page 166

Closing Hymn

395 stanza 6

Postlude

O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright—P. Manz

Please take your poinsettia home after either service today if you have not already done so.

To Us...the King...Is Given

Matthew 2:1-12

King Herod gave himself the title "The K_____ of the J_____." Jesus was given this title.

King Herod ruled in f_____; King Jesus rules in love, truth, grace, and p_____.

King Herod imprisons and puts his e_____ to death; King Jesus dies for all, even those who hate Him.

Jesus is your S_____ King who leads, cares, protects and provides for you.

King Herod's kingdom did not endure. The kingdom of Christ endures f_____.

LIVING THE SERMON... As you listen to the sermon today, compare and contrast the two kings: King Herod and King Jesus. How are they different? How do they reign differently? Consider what benefits and blessings are yours because you live under the gracious reign of King Jesus.

PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCH... Give thanks that Jesus is your king and that you are a citizen of His eternal kingdom. Pray that the reign of Christ would be extended, that His kingdom would come to others through the proclamation of the Word so that many more would be saved and made citizens of His kingdom.

MEMORY VERSE FOR THE WEEK... *But now thus says the Lord, He who created you, O Jacob, He who formed you, O Israel: "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are Mine."* Isaiah 43:1

A New Change for the New Year

The majority of congregations in our Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod stand when the final stanza of a hymn is doxological. A doxological stanza is when all three persons of the Holy Trinity are named and praised. Doxological stanzas are marked with a Δ. Beginning **TODAY**, we will begin standing for doxological stanzas. Kantor Mau will briefly introduce these doxological stanzas and we will note in the bulletin when you are to stand for the final verse of a hymn.

The purpose of the practice: When congregations have the practice of standing for doxological stanzas, its purpose is the same of standing for the reading of the Gospel—to show respect and honor. We stand for the Gospel because the Gospel reading records the words and actions of our Lord. Standing for Doxological hymn stanzas is a visible way to show respect and honor to our Triune God.

Why ceremonies? Ceremonies are necessary for good order and orderly worship in the church. Ceremonies should also serve to teach God's Word and the faith, and thus edify the people of God. It is not essential that ceremonies that are neither commanded nor forbidden by the Scriptures be universally observed in every congregation. If you have young children, please take time to explain the meaning of different ceremonies and symbolism in our church. Regardless of your age, if you don't know the purpose of a ceremony or meaning of a symbol, ask a pastor!

Extending Christ's Love

Friends of Clifty Church Project Completed

Just before Christmas landscaping and sod were installed around the chapel, officially completing our Friends of Clifty Church project. Thanks for your generous support! Through the Friends of Clifty Church project, we accomplished the following:

- Removing the bell from the chapel and its restoration. Construction of the bell tower so that the bell again calls us to worship.
- Restoring the chapel to its original design with removal of the 1950s narthex edition and new windows patterned after the original windows. The chapel is lit at night, truly a light on the hill for those traveling on Highways 46, 31, and 7.
- Removal of the compromised and crumbling retaining wall, built in the 1930s and construction of the new retaining wall closer to the chapel, greatly improving the safety of the 300 East/State Street intersection and increasing our curb appeal.
- In addition, we recently received a \$5,000 gift for upkeep and maintenance of the chapel.

We extend our thanks to the Friends of Clifty Church Committee for their service: Jim Brock, Marybeth Glick, Niki Otte, Jason Schroer, and Warren Scheidt.

The Building and Finance Committees express their extreme gratitude for your prayers and support. We pray God's blessings upon you during the Christmas season and in the New Year!



Youth Events

KFC (Kids for Christ—fifth graders and younger)

Our next KFC event is **Sunday, January 26th**. We will join with our early childhood ministry students and families for lunch and activities from noon-1:15 PM. Please RSVP by Wednesday, January 22nd to Rachel Fohne by text or phone at 812-343-3786 or by email rnolting@alumni.iu.edu if your child(ren) plans to attend.

SPY (high schoolers) and C4Life (sixth-eighth grade)

This Afternoon: SPY and C4Life youth will participate in a Servant Event following the 10:45 AM service. Youth will enjoy lunch and then assist the elders in taking down the Christmas decorations and taking them up to the chapel for storage. Youth will get a behind-the-scenes look at everything of the many tasks that occur such as changing paraments and banners. Pick-up time is 1:15 PM.

Sunday, January 19th: Broomball at Hamilton Ice Arena from 2-4 PM. Join us for a fun afternoon of hockey in tennis shoes. Transportation will be provided for the confirmands from church, leaving at 1:45 PM or come to Hamilton at 2 PM. Pick-up is at 4 PM from Hamilton.

Friends are always welcome at our youth events!



Financial Peace Begins Next Sunday



Have you been looking for a way to finally get on top of your money? Debt, Retirement, College Savings, Stewardship? This. Is. Your. Time. Just visit <https://www.financialpeace.com/app/organization/classes/CRUSADE-91A8058008116D/7B8BD9> or speak with Crista Burbrink (812-216-1982 or cristaburbrink@gmail.com) or Rachel Fohne (812-343-3786 or rnolting@alumni.iu.edu) to

sign up for a nine-week Financial Peace University class starting on January 12th at 9:30 AM. Sign up deadline is **today**. Make today the day you decide to own your money—not the other way around. You've got this!

IN OUR PRAYERS... *Note: This is the prayer list as of Monday, December 23rd. Additions to the prayer list will be announced.* **Sick and Recovering:** Sandy Lagneau, Karen Hendershot, Phyllis Fox, Nancy Lipka, Maddy Dougherty, Kay Newton, Kathy Hoover, Lynn Hoeltke, Jan Sherbundy, Bob Runge, Jill Scheidt, Pam Jenkins, Connie Ball (Jan Voelz's friend), Dave Jensen (Krugers' friend), Moe Humphrey (Ray and Pat Hall's friend) Ozzy Hentges (Kallis' friend), Laurie Walsdorf (Clearys' friend), Kristina Hargitt (Kim Chandler's friend), Amy Cockburn (South Decatur principal), Dale Christophel (Ray and Pat Hall's friend), Ed Vogel (Eddie Vogel's father), Jim Baute (Jeff Booher's uncle), Annie Walton (Holly Wischmeier's coworker's daughter), Marcelle Williams (Bridges' friend), William Leitshuh (Clearys' friend), Naomi Gillespie (Haaks' great-niece); **Active Military:** Garrett McGaha, Noah Hoeltke, Evan Rickus, Michael Mullins (Sperrys' friend), Sam Studler (Kallis' friend), Ty Chamberlain (Taffy Schroer's relative)

BAPTIZED INTO CHRIST... We rejoice as Thomas Wayne Turi, son of Chris and Caroline, is born again of water and the Spirit at the 8 AM service this morning. May God bless and keep Thomas in the faith all his days.

THE FLOWERS IN CHURCH...are given in thanksgiving to God for Dorothy Hischke for her 96th birthday on January 6th from her family.

TODAY'S RADIO MINISTRY... is sponsored to the glory of God in thanks for Don Strietelmeier's 90th birthday and his continued blessings by his family.

IN THE GATHERING SPACE...

- + 2025 Offering Envelopes
- + January-March Portals of Prayer
- + January Newsletter
- + Latest edition of Lutheran Women's Quarterly

SUNDAY LUNCHES...

Today, January 5th: Lasagna and garlic bread
Next Sunday, January 12th: Chicken wraps
January 19th: Meatball subs
January 26th: Walking tacos—KfC Day; National Lutheran Schools Weeks Celebration

The lunch sign-up sheet for January-May, 2025 is posted in the gathering space. **All are invited to serve!** The food is provided. Attend the 8 AM Divine Service and then prepare the meal during the 10:45 AM service. If you have any questions, please contact Katie Arnholt.

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS... The following officers will be installed at our services this morning: President—Jason Schroer; Vice-President—Zach Mathews; Secretary—Linda K. Scheidt; Treasurer—Mary Ann Nunn; Financial Secretary—Rachel Fohne; Elders—Eric Scheidt, Carl Shaffer, Steve Voelz; Trustee—Steve Potter; Evangelism—Mike Hackman; Education—Chad Fohne; Youth—Jacob Howarth; Cemetery—Frank Helt; Stewardship—Rob Baltus; Early Childhood Ministry—Emily Linke; Council-at-Large—Lisa Alderson, Katie Arnholt, and April Hoeltke. Please pray for our officers and leaders.

We thank those who have completed their time of service: Financial Secretary: Melissa Pevlor; Education Board: Rachel Fohne; Youth Board: Dave Probst; and Early Childhood Ministry Board—Mackenzie Wint.

MOMS IN THE WORD... meets **tomorrow, January 6th** at 10 AM in the conference room for devotions and fellowship. All moms and children are welcome to join us!

EPIPHANY SERVICE... Each year, the congregations of St. Peter Waymansville, St. John's White Creek, and St. Paul's Jonesville celebrate together in a joint worship service for the festival of Epiphany on its designated date, January 6th. This year, the Divine Service will be hosted at St. Paul's in Jonesville **tomorrow evening, January 6th** at 6:45 PM. A meal will be served at 6 PM by the St. Paul's Service Guild. You are invited to attend this special service.

ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN SERVICE DAY... The St. Paul Workday is **this Tuesday, January 7th** from 10 AM-noon. If you cannot attend, the need for volunteers is ongoing so volunteer anytime during their regular hours Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 10 AM-3 PM.

WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE RESUMES THIS WEEK... Bible studies, Matins, and choir rehearsals resume **this Wednesday, January 8th**. The new year is a great time to join choir or begin participating in Bible study. New faces are always welcome!

LWML ANNUAL MEETING... The 2025 Annual Meeting of St. Paul's LWML is **this Saturday, January 11th** at 9 AM in the fellowship room. All ladies of the church are welcome to join us for a short devotion, a review of 2024, a preview of 2025, and a pitch-in luncheon. Do you have a new idea for fellowship events, community

outreach, or Bible studies? If so, join us in January and help us plan for the new year.

CHILDREN'S TEA SOCIAL PLANNING MEETING... All children, parents and/or grandparents are invited to a dress-up Children's Tea Social on **Sunday, February 23rd** from 2-3:30 PM in the fellowship room. If you are interested in helping plan or assist with the Children's Tea Social, a planning meeting will be held **Monday, January 13th** at 11 AM at church. If you are unable to attend the meeting but would like to assist with the event, please call Vicki Howarth at 812-343-6967.

FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE... is **Monday, January 13th**.

ECM REGISTRATION... Registration for the 2025-2026 school year begins for church members and current enrolled families on Monday, January 20th. Open registration begins on Monday, January 27th. *Please tell others about our preschool and kindergarten!* Here are some facts to share:

- We are accredited through the National Lutheran School Accreditation, making our school one of few early childhood centers that are accredited in Columbus.
- Small class sizes
- Extended Care available for both before and after school

- STEM enrichment available
- MOST importantly, we offer a Christ-centered education! The children learn about Jesus and the Scriptures every day!
- Our Kindergarten families are eligible to apply for the School Choice Scholarship for tuition assistance. Our Little Doves (four year old) families are eligible for SGO scholarships.

STAFFING CHANGES... Melissa Pevlor and Kacey Patterson have decided to step away from their church staff roles to devote more time to their families. Many thanks to Kacey Patterson for serving as Social Media Coordinator and to Melissa Pevlor for serving the church as financial secretary. Mackenzie Wint has taken over Kacey's position and Rachel Fohne will now be financial secretary for both the church and the early childhood ministry. Rachel and Mackenzie's contact information is below.

THANKS TO... all who supported Concordia Counseling through the matching grant campaign.

The Response of God's People

The attendance and offerings from our Christmas season services will be included in next Sunday's bulletin.

St. Paul Lutheran Church and Early Childhood Ministry

6045 East State Street, Columbus, Indiana 47201

812-376-6504; www.stpaulcolumbus.org

Pastor Doug Bauman; pastorbauman@stpaulcolumbus.org; 812-350-4115

Pastor Jeff Patterson; pastorpatterson@stpaulcolumbus.org; 812-569-2471

Pastor Daniel Fickenscher; pastorfickenscher@stpaulcolumbus.org; 260-710-6750

Kantor Daniel Mau; kantor@stpaulcolumbus.org; 812-927-9319

Church and ECM Secretary Mackenzie Wint; secretary@stpaulcolumbus.org; 812-528-1176

Church and ECM Financial Secretary Rachel Fohne; financialsecretary@stpaulcolumbus.org; 812-343-3786

Latino Outreach Coordinator Renee Strietelmeier; riskplants@yahoo.com; 812-343-6466

Early Childhood Ministry Director Jen Probst; director@stpaulcolumbus.org; 765-491-7818

ECM Teachers: Anne Wiltsey (kindergarten); Jen Probst and Michelle Schultz (preschool)

ECM Assistants: Gayla Alesandro, Sally Haak, Sarah Lewis, Caroline Wilcox, Glory Wofford, Amy Yeley

Reaching out with Christ's Love to Serve and Grow