

† EPIPHANY SUNDAY †
January 8, 2023

Service of Holy Communion 9:00 & 10:45 a.m.
--

PRELUDE Regent Square J. Wayne Kerr

OPENING HYMN (*Congregation rising*) **LSB Hymn 367**
Angels from the Realms of Glory (v. 1-4)

INVOCATION and CONFESSION

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

C **Amen.**

P Arise, shine; for your light has come.

C **The Lord is your everlasting light.**

P Nations will come to your light,

C **and kings to the brightness of your dawn.**

P As we come together for worship with all the faithful, let us acknowledge our sins and seek God's forgiveness.

C **Gracious God, have mercy on us. In Your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by Your Spirit so that we may live and serve You in newness of life, to the honor and glory of Your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE (LSB Hymn 367, v. 5)

All creation, join in in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son,
evermore your voices raising to th'eternal Three in One.

Come and worship, come and worship; worship Christ, the newborn King.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray:

C **Almighty and ever-living God, You revealed the incarnation of Your Son by the brilliant shining of a star. Fill the world with Your glory, that all people may come to know You through the true Light and bright Morning Star, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 60:1-6

¹Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. ²For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. ³Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. ⁴Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. ⁵Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. ⁶A 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 proclaim the praise of the Lord.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

Ephesians 3:1-12

¹This is the reason that I, Paul, am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles – ²for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, ³and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, ⁴a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. ⁵In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: ⁶that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. ⁷Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. ⁸Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, ⁹and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; ¹⁰so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹²in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

SOLO

The Three Kings

Peter Cornelius

Three kings from Persian lands afar to Jordan follow the pointing star: And this the quest of the travellers three, where the newborn King of the Jews may be. Full royal gifts they bear for the King; gold, incense, myrrh are their offering. The star shines out with a steadfast ray; the kings to Bethlehem make their way, and there in worship they bend the knee, as Mary's child in her lap they see; their royal gifts they show to the King; gold incense, myrrh are their offering. Thou child of man, lo, to Bethlehem the kings are travelling, travel with them! The star of mercy, the star of grace, shall lead thy heart to its resting-place. Gold, incense, myrrh thou canst not bring; offer thy heart to the infant King.

GOSPEL CANTICLE (*Congregation rising*)

WE THREE KINGS

We three kings of Orient are; bearing gifts, we traverse afar,
field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.
O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.

GOSPEL

Matthew 2:1-12

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 2nd chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ²asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." ³When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea..." ⁷Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." ⁹When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

(9:00) CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**HYMN OF THE DAY**

What Child is This

LSB Hymn 370

SERMON

Rev. Mark Budenholzer

THE APOSTLES' CREED (*Congregation rising*)

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.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

A God of grace,
C **hear our prayer.**

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING/VOLUNTARY

Morning Star

Jan Bender

OFFERING HYMN (*Congregation rising*)

(LSB Hymn 400, v. 1)

Brightest and best of the stars of the morning,
dawn on our darkness and lend us thine aid;
Star of the East, the horizon adorning,
guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.

† HOLY COMMUNION †

PREFACE

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them up to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord; for in the mystery of the Word made flesh You have given us a new revelation of Your glory, that seeing You in the person of Your Son, we may know and love those things which are not seen. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

♫ **SANCTUS** (*Sung to "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"*)

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God by heavn'ly hosts adored,
God of power, Lord of might, in Your glory infinite:
Our hosanna's now we bring to our glorious Lord and King.
Blest is He who from above comes with radiant joy and love.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION and SIGN OF PEACE

P 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 covenant 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."

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

AGNUS DEI (*Sung to "My Faith Looks Up to Thee"*)

O Lamb of God, we pray, take all our sins away – our faith increase.

Have mercy on us all, strengthen us when we fall,
answer our fervent call and grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

Gentle Mary Laid Her Child

LSB Hymn 374

As With Gladness Men of Old

LSB Hymn 397

As you come forward, you will receive the bread in your hand; then take the wine in the individual cup from the tray. White grape juice is available in the center of the tray and gluten-free bread is available in separate packets. After drinking, place empty cups in the second tray.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

A Radiant God, with our eyes we have seen Your salvation, and in this meal we have feasted on Your grace. May Your Word take flesh in us, that we may be Your holy people and shine forth the glory made known to us in Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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 Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

THE FIRST NOEL

The first Noel the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel! Born is the King of Israel.

They looked up and saw a star shining in the east beyond them far;
and to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel! Born is the King of Israel.

And by the light of that same star three wise men came from country far;
to seek for a king was their intent, and to follow the star wherever it went.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel! Born is the King of Israel.

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace to serve the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

We Three Kings

Mark Bloedow

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COMMUNION STATEMENT

Village Lutheran Church welcomes to Holy Communion those baptized Christians who: †Know Jesus Christ as their Savior (*John 20:31*); †Recognize that the body and blood of Christ are truly present in the bread and wine (*1 Cor. 11:29*); †Are able to examine themselves and repent of their sins (*1 Cor. 11:28*); and †Look to God’s Holy Spirit for help in living the Christian life (*Col. 1:10*). Persons not receiving Communion may come forward to receive a blessing.

Participants in the Service:

	9:00	10:45
Lector/Assistant	Chris Clark	Matthew Martinez
Assisting Minister	Deacon Janet George	Deacon Janet George
Altar Care		
Usher Team	Ralph Schoene Fred Swain	Skip Hansen Kathy Coffey
Sexton	Will Livingston	
Refreshments	Runge Family	

News and Notes:

The Undecorating Party will take place after the 10:45 service today. Pizza will be provided.

Pastor Hartwell and Ms. Vogt are with the Confirmation Class at Camp Koinonia in Highland Lake, NY for the annual Confirmation retreat. They return on Sunday afternoon. Please keep our confirmands and leaders in your prayers as they grow in faith.

Voters' Meeting: Join us for the Annual Voters' Meeting on **Sunday, January 22 at 12 noon**. On the agenda is the election of the 2025 Class of Trustees. Pizza lunch will be provided.

Coffee Hour Hosts Needed! – It's a new year! Please help us to maintain this opportunity for fellowship and outreach. There is a sign-up sheet in the MPR for January to April. Sign up as a family or pair with another family/individual.

Worship Assistants: We are putting together a new schedule of volunteers to serve as Lector, Communion Assistant, Altar Care, and/or Usher. If you would be interested, please contact Kim Rapillo in the church office at 914-337-0207 x1003 or KRapillo@VLC-NY.org

Thanks to Deacon Intern Janet George and our sisters & brothers in Christ at Heart and Soul Prayer Ministry at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Fishkill. VLC has been gifted dozens of beautiful prayer shawls. The shawls are ready for distribution with our prayers and a personal note from Pastor Hartwell. If you have a family member or loved one that you would like to receive a prayer shawl, email the church office with their name, address, and prayer request. We will prepare a prayer shawl gift bag that you can pick up and take or we can even mail it to them if they live far away. It's a great way to "know, live and share the love of Christ." Email the church office at KRapillo@VLC-NY.ORG or call 914-337-0207 x1003.

ALPHA Program – This is a fun and heart-warming conversation about faith, life and God over 11 weeks. Enjoy a catered dinner with wine followed by a short video and group discussion. Sessions will be held on **Wednesday evenings from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. beginning January 11**. Register online at tinyurl.com/2023Alpha

Travel to Turkey - Pastor Rob and Sue Hartwell are leading a group to see Biblical sites in Turkey on July 10-21, 2023. Space is limited to 35 travelers. **Register early by January 15, 2023** and receive a free copy of "Turkey - Culture Smart!: The Essential Guide to Customs & Culture." For more information contact the church office at 914-337-0207 (1003).

SOUP KITCHEN – Prepare food in aluminum trays (available at the Reception desk) and drop off in the parking lot from 12:00-1:00. Please go to our church web site in advance to sign up and indicate what food you will prepare. The next date is **Wednesday, January 18**. Contact Katie Bukofzer at etakwhit@aol.com.

Prayer Conference Call is offered on the last Tuesday of the month at 6:00 p.m. The next date is **January 31**. To join in, simply dial (1) 732-434-3982.

Save the Dates: 1st Holy Communion Instruction classes (for 5th grade and older) will be held on Wednesdays during Lent from 6:00–7:00 p.m., **March 1, 8, 15 and 22**. The special 1st Communion Service will be Sunday, March 26, at

10:45 a.m. The Totally Green St. Patrick's Day First Communion Lock-in will be Friday, March 17 from 6:00-9:00 p.m. Cost is \$50 (registration fee). At least one parent or guardian must attend with each child at each Wednesday session.

Wanted: Runners for the New York City Half Marathon -

Prospective runners should be willing and able to run 13.1 miles on Sunday, March 19, 2023, and commit to and guarantee a \$1,750 personal fundraising goal. If interested, contact Kim Zwisdak KZwisdak@TheChapelSchool.org.

MUSIC MINISTRY – Rehearsals this week are as follows:

- **High School Choir** rehearse Sunday, Jan. 8, at 10:45 a.m.
- **FaithWalk** rehearse Mondays, Jan. 9 & 16, at 7:00 p.m.; anyone who likes to sing praise music is welcome to join us!
- **Youth Choir** Thursday, Jan. 12, at 7:00 p.m.
- **Chancel Choir** rehearse Thursday, Jan. 12, at 7:30 p.m.
- **Village Bells** rehearse Wednesday, Jan. 18, at 6:00 p.m.

For more information, contact Minister of Music Deb Reiss at 914-337-0207, x1018 or DReiss@VLC-NY.org

Youth News: Voyagers (Grades 3-6) will meet on Thursday, Jan. 12, at 6:00 p.m. **Lifers** (Grades 7-8) meet on Thursday, Jan. 12, at 6:00 p.m. The Confirmation Retreat is January 6-8. **Crusaders** (Grades 9-12) meet for Donuts & Discussion on Sunday, Jan. 8.

Wednesday Bible Study 11:00 a.m. – We resume on January 18, as we will begin looking at the Book of Romans.

Prayer Line: We pray for the sick and those experiencing any kind of difficulty: Elizabeth Acosta, Bernard Anson, Joan Ashworth, Andy Boron, Laura Bunn, Bob Burriesci, Melinda Canary, Glen Carabuena, Steven Carabuena, Frank Clark Sr., Solly Clark, Ron DeGeorge, Maria DiMarzo, Joseph DiSalvo, Gail Eckstein, Robert Eckstein, Deacon Faith Forliano, Faith Gonzalez, Annabella Hansen, Mackenzie Hayes, Sue Kobylack, Deacon Joe Lamoureux, Brian Langhans, Merline Leon, Noel Leon, Janet Lunog, Frank Lyman, Maria Magilton, Robert Magilton, Lucille McGeough, Helyne Merwin, Andy Munn, Maeve Nolan, Vincent Palladino, Elizabeth Pedrosa, Laura Pencola, Louise Podszus, Jason Psomas, Sylvia Puig, Astrid Rosendahl, Willi Rosendahl, Donald Ross, Marvin Sayer, Jane Triolo, Walter Wade

Bereavement Prayer Line: We pray for those who are grieving the loss of a loved one.

- † **Betsy Bradley**, mother of Erika Schultz, who passed away on December 18, 2022

Village Lutheran Church and The Chapel School
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