

An open book is shown from a top-down perspective. The left page is white and features the word "UNCOVERED" in a bold, black, sans-serif font. The right page is a solid black square. The book's spine is visible in the center, and the edges of the pages are slightly rounded. The background is a light gray gradient.

**UNCOVERED**

**A LIGHT FOR ALL**

*The Epiphany of our Lord*

January 2, 2022

## WELCOME TO WORSHIP

We are pleased that you have chosen to worship the Lord with us today. Large print hymnals and hearing assisted devices are available upon request. Restrooms are located on the north side of the main level and in the lower level. If you have any questions or need assistance with anything, please ask one of our ushers.

**Connection cards:** Visitors, or members with contact information changes, please fill out our online connection card at [bethelyork.com](http://bethelyork.com), member connect tab, or scan this code.



## SERVICE NOTES FOR THIS SUNDAY

### *Worship Materials*

The order of service and the hymns for today are printed for you in this folder. "Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal" which is normally in the hymnal rack on the back of each pew has been temporarily removed to help protect against passing the Corona Virus. Watching the theme and passage on the screen may help you prepare for worship.

**Worship Leader**  
**Organist**

Pastor Mark A. Haefner

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*Scripture Quotations: Wartburg Project. Holy Bible: Evangelical Heritage Version (EHV)*

## THE SERVICE

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### OPENING HYMN

*As with Gladness Men of Old* | 372

1 As with gladness men of old  
did the guiding star behold,  
as with joy they hailed its light,  
leading onward, beaming bright,  
so, most gracious Lord, may we  
evermore be led by thee.

2 As with joyful steps they sped,  
Savior, to thy lowly bed,  
there to bend the knee before  
thee, whom heav'n and earth adore,  
so may we with willing feet  
ever seek thy mercy seat.

3 As they offered gifts most rare  
at thy cradle, rude and bare,  
so may we with holy joy,  
pure and free from sin's alloy,  
all our costliest treasures bring,  
Christ, to thee, our heav'nly King.

4 Holy Jesus, ev'ry day  
keep us in the narrow way;  
and, when earthly things are past,  
bring our ransomed souls at last  
where they need no star to guide,  
where no clouds thy glory hide.

5 In the heav'nly country bright  
need they no created light;  
thou its light, its joy, its crown,  
thou its sun which goes not down.  
There forever may we sing  
alleluias to our King!

*Stand*

## INVOCATION

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## CONFESSION (pg 154)

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just  
and will forgive us our sins  
and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**Holy God, gracious Father,**

**I am sinful by nature**

**and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.**

**I have not loved you with my whole heart;**

**I have not loved others as I should.**

**I deserve your punishment both now and forever.**

**But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins**

**with his innocent suffering and death.**

**Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

*Silence for meditation and reflection*

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## LORD, HAVE MERCY

*Kyrie*

In peace let us pray to the Lord



**Lord, have mer - cy.**

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



Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of us all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

For this holy house and all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

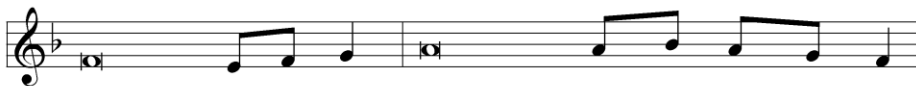
Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



A - men.

## Glory Be to God (pg 157-159)

## *Gloria in Excelsis*



C: Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.



We praise you, we bless you, we wor-ship you, we glorify you,



we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,



God the Fa-ther al - mighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the  
sin of the world; have mercy on us. You take away the  
sin of the world; re - ceive our prayer. You sit at the right hand of  
God the Father; have mercy on us. For you on-ly are holy;  
you on - ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Spirit,  
are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

## The Word

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The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Lord God, by the leading of a star, you once made known to the nations your one and only Son. Guide us, also, who know him now by faith to come at last to the perfect joy of your heavenly 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

1 Kings 10:1-9

The Queen of Sheba heard about Solomon's fame, which was connected with the fame of the Lord, so she came to test him with hard questions. <sup>2</sup>She came to Jerusalem with a very great entourage—with camels carrying spices and a large quantity of gold and precious stones. She came to Solomon and told him everything that was on her heart.

<sup>3</sup>Solomon answered all her questions. There was nothing hidden from the king that he could not explain to her.

<sup>4</sup>The Queen of Sheba saw all the wisdom of Solomon, the house which he built, <sup>5</sup>and the food on his table. When she saw the council meeting of his officials, the careful attention of his ministers, as well as their attire, his cupbearers, and the whole burnt offerings which he offered at the House of the Lord it took her breath away.

<sup>6</sup>She said to the king, "The report I heard in my own country about your accomplishments and your wisdom is true. <sup>7</sup>I did not believe the report until I came and saw it with my own eyes. The truth is, not even half of it was told to me! Your wisdom and wealth surpass the report which I heard. <sup>8</sup>Blessed are your men, blessed are your servants, who stand before you continually hearing your wisdom! <sup>9</sup>May the Lord your God be blessed, who was pleased to put you on the throne of Israel. Because the Lord loves Israel forever, he made you king to administer justice and righteousness." (EHV)

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM OF THE DAY

### 72A Lord, Every Nation on Earth Will Adore You

Psalm 72A

Refrain



Tone



Endow the King with your justice, / O God,  
the royal Son with your / righteousness.  
May he endure as long / as the sun,  
as long as the moon, through all gener / ations.

My he be like rain falling on a / mown field,  
like showers water / ing the earth.  
In his days may the righteous / flourish.  
And prosperity abound till the moon / is no more.

### ***Refrain***

May all kings bow / down to him,  
and all nations / serve him.  
Long may he live! May gold of Sheba be / given him.  
May the kings of Sheba and Seba pr / sent him gifts.

May people ever / pray for him,  
and bless him / all day long  
Then all nations will be / blessed through him,  
And they will / call him blessed.

**Glory be to the Father and / to the Son  
and to the Holy / Spirit,  
as it was in the be / ginning,  
is now, and will be forever. / Amen.**

### ***Refrain***

## **SECOND READING**

*Acts 13:46-49*

<sup>46</sup>Then Paul and Barnabas responded fearlessly, "It was necessary that God's word be spoken to you first. But since you reject it and consider yourselves unworthy of eternal life, look: We are now turning to the Gentiles!" <sup>47</sup>For this is what the Lord has instructed us:

I have made you a light for the Gentiles,  
that you may bring salvation to the end of the earth."

<sup>48</sup>When the Gentiles heard this, they were rejoicing and praising the word of the Lord. All who had been appointed for eternal life believed.



<sup>49</sup>And the word of the Lord was being carried through the whole region. (EHV)

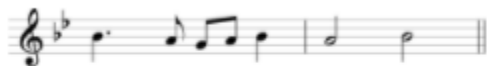
The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

## Gospel Acclamation

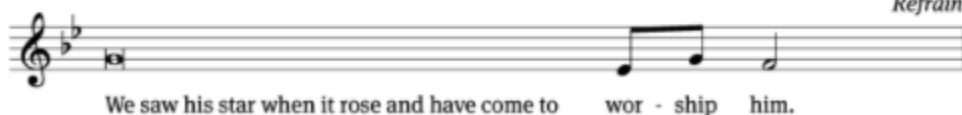
Matthew 2:2



*Refrain*



*Tone*



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## GOSPEL

Matthew 2:1-12

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, when Herod was king, Wise Men from the east came to Jerusalem. They asked, <sup>2</sup>“Where is he who has been born King of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.” <sup>3</sup>When King Herod heard this, he was alarmed, and all Jerusalem with him. <sup>4</sup>He gathered together all the people’s chief priests and experts in the law. He asked them where the Christ was to be born. <sup>5</sup>They said to him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, because this was written through the prophet:

<sup>6</sup>You, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are certainly not least among the rulers of Judah: because out of you will come a ruler, who will shepherd my people, Israel.”

<sup>7</sup>Then Herod secretly summoned the Wise Men and found out from them exactly when the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup>He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search

carefully for the child. When you find him, report to me, so that I may also go and worship him.”

<sup>9</sup>After listening to the king, they went on their way. Then the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them, until it stood still over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup>When they saw the star, they rejoiced with overwhelming joy. <sup>11</sup>After they went into the house and saw the child with Mary, his mother, they bowed down and worshipped him. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts: gold, frankincense, and myrrh. <sup>12</sup>Since they had been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they went back to their own country by another route. (EHV)

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to you, O Christ!**

*Be seated*

## **HYMN OF THE DAY**

*O Light of Gentile Nations* | **497**

1 O Light of Gentile nations,  
O Savior from above,  
drawn by your Spirit's leading,  
we come with joy and love  
into your holy temple  
and wait with rev'rent mind  
as Simeon once had waited  
his God and Lord to find.

2 Dear Lord, your servants meet you  
in ev'ry holy place  
where you, yourself have promised  
that we should see your face.  
Today you still allow us  
who gather round you here  
in arms of faith to hold you  
as did that aged seer.

3 Lord, when life's troubles touch us,  
you seem to hide your face,  
and through our tears we often  
can scarcely sense your grace.  
Then be our joy and brightness,  
our cheer in pain and loss,

our sun in darkest terror,  
the glory round our cross.

4 Let us, O Lord, be faithful  
like Simeon to the end  
so that his prayer exultant  
may from our hearts ascend:  
"O Lord, now let your servant  
depart in peace, I pray,  
since I have seen my Savior  
and here beheld his day."

## **SERMON**

*Stand*

## **CONFESSION OF FAITH**

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.**

**From there 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.**

*Be seated*

## **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

Almighty God and Father, we thank you for all your mercies, especially for the gift of your Son, through whom you have revealed your gracious will. We praise you for the Holy Spirit and his working through the means of grace.

**Plant your word in our hearts, and cause it to produce fruit in our lives.**

Strengthen and defend you Church, that by your word and sacraments faith may grow and love toward all may increase.

**Support all who spread the light of your truth throughout the world**

Keep our children in the grace of their baptisms. Enable their parents to train them in lives of faith.

**Raise up Christians to serve you in the ministry of the word and in all godly walks of life.**

Preserve our nation in justice and honor. Guide and bless all who make, administer, and judge our laws.

**Give them wisdom that they may promote justice and hinder evil.**

Let your blessing rest on planting and harvest, commerce and industry, medicine and science, the arts and culture. Protect all who travel, and care for those whose work is difficult or dangerous.

**Be with all who devote themselves to any useful task**

Comfort all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity. Remember those who suffer persecution for the faith. Have mercy on those for whom death draws near.

**Grant them you love, and take them into your tender care.**

*Special prayers and intercessions may follow.*

Grant us these things, Father, for the sake of Jesus, who died and rose again.

**Amen.**

## **OFFERING**

1 How lovely shines the Morning Star!  
The nations see and hail afar  
the light of Judah shining.  
O David's son of Jacob's race,  
my Bridegroom and my King of grace,  
for you my heart is pining.  
Lowly, holy, great and glorious,  
O victorious Prince of graces,  
filling all the heav'nly places.

2 O highest joy by mortals won,  
true Son of God and Mary's son,  
the highborn King of ages!  
In your blest body let me be,  
e'en as the branch is in the tree,  
your life my life supplying.  
Sighing, crying for the savor  
of your favor, resting never  
till I rest in you forever.

3 O mighty Father, in your Son  
you loved me ere you had begun  
this ancient world's foundation.  
Your Son has made a friend of me,  
and when is spirit him I see,  
I joy in tribulation. What bliss is this!  
He is loving, to me giving life forever;  
nothing me from him can sever.

4 Oh, joy to know that you, my friend,  
are Lord, beginning without end,  
the first and last, eternal!  
And you at length — O glorious grace —  
will take me to that holy place  
the home of joys supernal.  
Amen, amen! Come and meet me,  
quickly greet me! With deep earning, Lord,  
I look for your returning.

5 Lift up the voice and strike the string,  
let all glad sounds of music ring  
in God's high praises blended.  
Christ will be with me all the way,  
today, tomorrow, ev'ry day  
till trav'ling days are ended.  
Sing out ring out triumph glorious,  
O victorious chosen nation;  
praise the God of your salvation.

## **PRAYER**

Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart, that being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

**☉ 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.**

## **BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look on you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**Amen**

**CLOSING HYMN**

*Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun* | **380**

1 Jesus shall reign where'er the sun  
does its successive journeys run;  
his kingdom stretch from shore to shore  
till moons shall wax and wane no more.

2 To him shall endless prayer be made  
and endless praises crown his head;  
his name like sweet perfume shall rise  
with ev'ry morning sacrifice.

3 People and realms of ev'ry tongue  
dwell on his love with sweetest song,  
and infant voices shall proclaim  
their early blessings on his name.

4 Blessings abound where'er he reigns:  
the prisoners leap, unloosed their chains,  
the weary find eternal rest,  
and all who suffer want are blest.

5 Let ev'ry creature rise and bring  
worship and honor to our King;  
angels descend with songs again,  
and earth repeat the loud amen.

## NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Today:** NO Sunday School and Bible Class, 10:30 AM Worship, 11:30 AM Fellowship, Choir Practice

**Monday:** 10:30 AM Bethel Women's Guild

**Saturday:** 8:30 AM Men's Bible Fellowship in Utica

**Sunday:** 9:30 AM Sunday School and Bible Class, 10:30 AM Worship with Communion, 11:30 Fellowship, Choir Practice.  
Quarterly Voters Meeting.

### Call Meetings with District President Hirsch

January 16 – Pre-Call meeting for all members – 3 PM, at Grace

January 30 – Call Meeting for all Voters – 3 PM, at Bethel

Everyone Outreach is our Mission Festival seminar for this year. We would like as many members as possible to attend. January 22 Session 1 at Grace, January 23 Session 2 at Bethel. Please sign up online using this code.



### Parish Status/Pastoral Needs Assessment (from District President Hirsch)

The link to the online form is too long to publish here so use the QR Code, or you can click on the link that will be sent out in the weekly email announcements. Paper forms are available in the entry way.



Find us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/bethelyork](http://www.facebook.com/bethelyork)



Personal assisted listening devices are available.

**Given to the Lord:** Attendance: Worship 47, Facebook live 6, clicks 37. Audio/YouTube 21. Offerings: Operating: Needed 2,583.54, Given, 2,809.86, East Parking 1,000.00, Organ 1,500.00. Christmas Eve 240.00, Christmas Day 1,204.60. **To God be the glory!**

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