

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next **MEN'S BREAKFAST** is on January 13th at the Chances R Restaurant at 9 a.m.

WORSHIP & MUSIC MEETING on Monday, Jan. 15 at 6:30.

OTTAWA MISSION ITEMS: Until January 7th, we are collecting items for residents of The Ottawa Mission. The list of needed items is posted on the bulletin board. Please place your contributions in the boxes in the cloakroom. Thank you!

DAILY BREAD: The new 'Daily Bread' booklets for Dec/Jan/Feb have arrived and are available near the mailboxes.

THANK YOU to the volunteers who manage our church property, especially during these times of renovation and repair when the responsibilities are so much greater. We are truly blessed to have such active and caring people as part of our church family.

FLORAL ARRANGEMENTS: For altar floral arrangements in memory of a person or for an event, please contact Carole Koch at mc.koch@sympatico.ca or 613-224-7184, at least 4 weeks ahead.

Please check the bulletin board in the narthex for details about these and other community events.

Please send bulletin announcements to secretary@faithottawa.ca before noon on Wednesdays.

Epiphany Sunday, Dec. 31st, 2017

Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW)
Setting 10, p. 203



Assisting Today:

Reader – Randy Rodgers

Assistant – Joanna Malina

Next Sunday:

Reader – Sharon Wirth

Assistant – Ron Shearer

Piano/Organ/Choir Director: David Santry
Church Secretary: Debra Boyd-Chisholm

Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church

GATHERING AND WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (ELW p. 94)

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Gracious God, **have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

OPENING HYMN: *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice* (ELW 288)

GREETING (ELW p. 203)

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.

KYRIE (ELW p. 203)

CANTICLE OF PRAISE: *Glory to God* (ELW p. 204)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty and ever-living God, you revealed the incarnation of

GREAT THANKSGIVING (ELW p. 206)

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW p. 207)

LORD'S PRAYER (ELW p. 208)

COMMUNION HYMNS:

The Bells of Christmas (ELW 298)

Lo How a Rose E'er Blooming (ELW 272)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

O God, our life, our strength, our food, we give you thanks for sustaining us with the body and blood of your Son. By your Holy Spirit, enliven us to be his body in the world, that more and more we will give you praise and serve your earth and its many peoples, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

BLESSING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENDING SONG: *Cold December Flies Away* (ELW 299)

DISMISSAL

All who desire communion with Jesus and approach the sacrament with faith, are welcome at the Lord's Table. While both the common cup and individual glasses are offered, we encourage the use of the common cup to emphasize the unity we share in the Body of Christ, the church (please indicate your preference to the servers). A non-alcohol option is available in the tray. You may also partake of bread only, or come to the table for a blessing only.



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.

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: *As With Gladness Men of Old* (ELW 302)

NICENE CREED (Back cover of hymn book or ELW p. 104)

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

SHARING THE PEACE

GIFT GATHERING AND SONG

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your
pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me.
Re - store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me
with your free Spir - it. Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God,

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. **Merciful God, as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together to become one bread, so let your church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever. Amen**

your Son by the brilliant shining of a star. Shine the light of your justice always in our hearts and over all lands, and accept our lives as the treasure we offer in your praise and for your service, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

FIRST READING: Isaiah 60:1-6

A reading from Isaiah.

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.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14

¹Give the king your jus - | tice, O God,
and your righteousness to | the king's son;

²that he may rule your | people righteously
and the | poor with justice;

³that the mountains may bring prosperity | to the people,
and the | hills, in righteousness.

⁴Let him defend the needy a - | mong the people,
rescue the poor, and crush | the oppressor.

⁵May he live as long as the sun and | moon endure,
from one generation | to another.

⁶Let him come down like rain upon | the mown field,

like showers that wa- | ter the earth.

⁷In his time may the | righteous flourish;
and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon
shall | be no more.

¹⁰May the kings of Tarshish and of the | isles pay tribute,
and the kings of Sheba and Seba | offer gifts.

¹¹May all kings bow | down before him,
and all the nations | do him service.

¹²For the king delivers the poor who cry out | in distress,
the oppressed, and those who | have no helper.

¹³He has compassion on the low- | ly and poor,
and preserves the lives | of the needy.

¹⁴From oppression and violence he re- | deems their lives,
and precious is their blood | in his sight

SECOND READING: Ephesians 3:1-12

A reading from Ephesians.

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

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: Matthew 2:1-12

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

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; for so it has been written by the prophet:

⁶"And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel."

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