WORSHIP SPOTLIGHT

What is Epiphany?

The English word "Epiphany" is derived from the Greek *epiphainein*, which means "to appear" or "to manifest." The Epiphany season has to do with the Lord's manifestation, or appearance, to the nations. Epiphany (January 6) and the season called by the same name (from January 6 through February 7) celebrate the manifestation of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles, beginning with the visit of the Magi in Matthew 2.

Of course, the manifestation of the person and mission of Jesus was only gradually unveiled, so the season focuses on the progressive unveiling of our Lord's mission to the world in his teaching. The four main events commemorated during Epiphany are the adoration of the Magi, the story of Christ's visit to the temple as a twelve-year-old boy, our Lord's baptism in the Jordan, and the miracle of turning water into wine for the marriage feast at Cana in Galilee. All four events served progressively to unveil the Lord Jesus Christ to humanity in significant ways at the beginning of his life and the inauguration of his earthly ministry.

The Lord has manifested himself to the Gentiles (representatively to the Magi), he is still manifesting himself to them (in the mission work of the church), and will finally manifest himself fully to all nations on the last day as Lord and King. Epiphany therefore is a time to reflect upon all of these ways in which the Lord manifests himself, a time to reflect upon and pray for the evangelistic mission of the Church.



January 26th, 2025

The Third Sunday after Epiphany

Prelude

Announcements

GOD SUMMONS US TO WORSHIP

Call to Worship

Psalm 95:1-6

†Congregational Singing #27 "Tell Out My Soul"

†Responsive Scriptures

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

Amen.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Christ has appeared to us.

O come, let us worship Him.

†Collect

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

†Congregational Singing

#177 "What Wondrous Love Is This"

GOD SANCTIFIES US TO HIMSELF

Call to Confession

Psalm 139:23-24

Silent Confession

Corporate Confession

God of glory, you sent Jesus among us as the light of the world, to reveal your love for all people. We confess that our sin and pride hide the brightness of your light. We turn away from the poor; we ignore cries for justice; we do not strive for peace. In your mercy, cleanse us of our sin, that we may show forth your glory shining in the face of Jesus Christ. Amen.

†Assurance of Forgiveness

†Congregational Singing "The Lord Is My Salvation"

GOD SPEAKS TO US IN HIS WORD

Old Testament Reading Psalm 32:1-5
Epistle Reading James 5:13-16
†Gospel Reading Mark 2:1-12

tProfession of Faith The Apostles' Creed

Sermon Pastor David Salyer

"Authority to Forgive, Authority to Raise" Sermon Series: The Gospel According to Mark

Offertory

†Doxology #625 (a cappella)

†Prayer of the Church

...let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

...through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

†The Lord's Prayer

Taught by Our Lord and trusting in His promises, we are bold to pray:

Our Father who art in Heaven...

GOD STRENGTHENS US AT HIS TABLE

All who are baptized and trust in Jesus Christ are invited to share the Lord's Supper. Baptized children are welcomed to the Supper once they have been admitted by the Elders.

If you do not trust in Jesus, please allow the bread and cup to pass you by. If you desire to follow Jesus and share in His Feast, please speak with one of our pastors after the service.

The outer ring contains wine. All other cups contain grape juice. Take your portion, pass the rest to your neighbor, then eat and drink as soon as you desire.

During the passing of the cup, we encourage you to offer words of blessing to your neighbors such as: "May the Peace of Christ be with you" (Jn. 14:27), and the response: "And also with you."

Declaration of God's Invitation and Promises

Prayers and Distribution

†Congregational Singing "He Will Hold Me Fast"

GOD SENDS US INTO THE WORLD

†Commission and Benediction

†Congregational Response #628 IV "Threefold Amen"

Postlude

Worship Leader: Pastor David Salyer Nursery Volunteers: Kay Johnson, Sarah Salyer

CHURCH LIFE

Sunday, January 26th - The Third Sunday after the Epiphany

9:00 a.m. . . . Sunday School 10:30 a.m. . . . Worship Service

Monday, January 27th

6:00 p.m. . . . WIC Meeting

Wednesday, January 22nd

7:00 p.m. . . . Women's Bible Study

Saturday, February 1st

Platte Valley Presbytery meeting in Omaha

- ◆ Sunday School classes have resumed. Join us Sundays at 9:00 a.m. Children will be studying the sermon passages from the Gospel of Mark. Adults will be studying Romans.
- **♦ Financial Report:** Budgeted need each week: \$4,392.91. Budgeted need year-to-date: \$4,392.91. Received 1/5: \$3,680.72. Received year-to-date: \$3,680.72.
- **♦ January Birthdays:** (26) Levi Williams
- ◆February Birthdays: (9) Janet Lutkemeier, Maddyx Reiter 2012, (10) Jane Holl 2023, (11) Charlotte Hajda, (14) Eliana Hooton 2014, (16) Carol Holl, Edmund Rodgers 2012, (17) Sterling Reiter 2015, (18) Betsy Williams 2013, (19) Todd Holl 2022, (22) Owen Johnson 2009, (24) Roger Schillinger

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

- ◆ That God would bless our church with many children and give us grace to nurture them in the faith.
- ◆ Presbytery: Grace Covenant Church in Grand Island (Pastor Todd Bowen)
- ♦ Missions: Chuck and Nancy Larsen Water4Haiti
- ◆ For our expecting mothers and their children: Megan Holl, Bethany Remm.

STAFF

Pastors: Chad Anderson (Senior), David Salyer (Associate)

Elders: Michael Freitag, David Holl, Tory Hooton, Jordan Hughett, David Lano **Deacons:** Josh Goodbrake (Offering and Service), Josiah Holl (Mercy), Micah Holl (Facilities), Doug Sykes (Chair)

WIC: Kacia Hughett (President), Servant Support (Julie LeFeber), Vacant (Nursery), Sarah Salyer (Secretary, Christian Growth), Jen Zimmerman (Missions/Outreach), Megan Holl (Kitchen), Kristin Holl (Women's Events), Karen Salyer (Church Fellowship)

Youth Group: Eric Wood Custodian: Charlotte Hajda