

LIVETHESTORY
God is writing a story in our world
and inviting us to live it out

Epiphany Worship Celebration

St. John's Lutheran
Church, Sweet Air

January 5, 2020
8:08 & 11:08am

3911 Sweet Air Road,
Phoenix, MD 21131
410.592.6565

www.stjohnssweetair.org

WELCOME ALL

INVITATION TO THE PRELUDE

Pastor Lisa Arrington

WELCOME TO EPIPHANY

Pastor Lisa Arrington

Epiphany is the season of revelation of who Jesus is.

P = pastor L = Leader

PRELUDE

“The Coventry Carol” -arr. Shavik and Holsinger
Bronze & Ivory

*“Coventry Carol” is not actually a Christmas carol;
it is the failed lullaby for the Slaughter of the Innocents.*

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Assisting Minister

L: As we start this new year, let us start with a clean slate. Please kneel or sit as you are able for corporate confession and forgiveness for all humanity.

Pause for silence and reflection.

L: We confess our sins before God and one another.

Pause for silence and reflection.

L: Merciful Lord,

All: We come before You with heavy hearts. We do not always follow Jesus. We insist on our own way, putting worldly things before you. We doubt, we discriminate; we hate—preferring sin to the brilliance of your love. For all this we ask your mercy and forgiveness, that our hearts may be healed with forgiveness again. Amen.

L: As a loving shepherd gathers his sheep, so our Lord protects and cares for us. As patient as a parent for a wayward child, so is God’s mercy for us. Let us rejoice that we have God’s real forgiveness, and that every day our Lord seeks to renew us in the image of our Creator, in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

L: Please rise as you are able to sing the opening hymn.

HYMN

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

ELW # 289

GREETING FROM APOSTLE PAUL (2 Corinthians 13:13)

Assisting Minister

L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: And also with you.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Lift up in prayer:

John Abendschein
Jack Arsenault
Pastor Partee Boliek
James Brunner
Wendy Caffrey
Diane Corkran
Gertrude Fox
Mitchell Greene
Lynn Habicht
Ron Harman
The Hobbs family
Ray Lawson
WynShauna LaVere
Jackie Lober
Jim Marshall
Howard Matthews
Bill Moesinger
Jo Morrison
The Murphy family
Heike Neisius
Ernie Nuetzel
James & Pearl Plummer
Katy Stevens’ Family
Warren & Ann Theill
Bob Weyforth

Special needs:

Prayers for our Jewish siblings in the midst of anti-Semitic attacks.
Prayers for all people of faith to rise and protect others.
Prayers for Pastor Sarah and Mychael Wright as they discern a new sense of call.
Prayers for our search committee for a Director of Contemporary Worship and Communications
Prayers for our search committee for a Director of Adult Discipleship
Prayers for Australia and the situation in Iran

This week we pray for:

† Deborah Women’s Circle
† Lydia Woman’s Circle
† Pettijohn Scholarship Team

Our mission partners:

Amazing Grace Lutheran Church
– Prs. Gary Dittman & Carol Perlie
Prs. Mercedes & Isaias Nelson (Dom. Rep.)
Pr. Tyrone Smith (New Orleans)
National ELCA Bishop Elizabeth Eaton
Delaware Maryland synod Bishop Bill Gohl
Nicole & Kevin Fuhr, serving Guatemala
Crucified Church in Johnstown, PA
– Pr. Josh Knipple
Freestate ChalleNGe Academy

Members of the week:

Joel Chiralo
Ed & Simone Chmar
Angel & Armand Christman

*Names on the prayer list are printed with permission of the person named. After receiving permission you may place a completed yellow prayer request card in the offering plate or contact the church office to add a name to the prayer list. After four weeks on the list a name will be removed unless the office is notified for an extension of time. **Visitation:** please notify the church office if you anticipate a hospital stay. Thank you!*

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

"Love Has Come " ELW # 292
"Of the Father's Love Begotten" ELW # 295

BLESSING AND PRAYER

Assisting Minister

- L: Receive the blessing. May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace. **Amen.**
- L: Let us pray. Lord we thank you for the word made flesh, the Word of life and bread of heaven. Thank you for connecting us as the body of Christ. Rebuild your church. Rebuild each of us. That, fed by your Word, we may be your church rising in grace, learning the story, loving to tell the story as student disciples on a big mission following Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

NEXT STEPS

Pastor Lisa Arrington

BENEDICTION

Pastor Lisa Arrington

- P: Go in peace, Love and care for one another in the name of Christ. May the warm light of Christ shine in the dark valleys of the world. May the spirit of God lead us out to love God's creatures and creation. Amen.

HYMN

"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice" ELW # 288

MISSION

- L: Let us live the story:
All: **Welcome All. Tell the Story. Grow as Disciples.**

KYRIE means "Lord"

ELW setting one pg. 98

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 all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.

A - men, a - men.

THIS IS THE FEAST

ELW setting one pg. 101

Refrain

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
2 Sing . . with all the peo - ple of God, and

blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:

Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and
Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to

Refrain

hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -

covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Lord bring us now to the celebration of your feast today. Cast out our fears and fill us with your love. May our hearts embrace the revelation of Christ.

LORD'S PRAYER

L: Let us pray the Lord's Prayer in unity.

All: 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.

Today, Communion will be celebrated at the altar rail. Follow the guide of the ushers to start at the center of the rail. You're invited to receive the bread (gluten-free), then individual glasses of red wine or white grape juice. The presiding pastor will bless and dismiss everyone once all have received. If you have difficulty making it up the steps to the railing, notify an usher and it would be our privilege to bring Communion to you.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

LAMB OF GOD

Setting one ELW page 112

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have

mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

Refrain

world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -

way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

All: You provide our needs, down to the smallest detail. May we never doubt that each act of kindness, each gift of love, is blessed with your grace and received with thanksgiving. Bestow your blessing upon these offerings, and all those who give them, that we may be joined to one another in love, wherever we may be in this wide world. In Jesus' name, Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

Pastor Lisa Arrington

P: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, good and our joy to seek the Lord. May the light of Christ shine upon our anxious hearts and peace descend upon our hurting world. Bless the bread of heaven and the cup of forgiveness. So with people of faith around the world, we praise your name and join the unending hymn...

HOLY HOLY HOLY

ELW setting one pg. 108

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new

gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Assisting Minister

L: Let us pray. (pause) We sing to You a new song oh Lord. We sing to bless your holy name. We sing to praise your saving help day to day. Thank you for calling us by name to a living faith. Thank you for calling us to be modern day disciples. In the midst of Winter, you are radiant epiphany light! Help us follow the light of your Word into this new year with vision and courage and love, in Jesus' name. let the people of God say: Amen.

L: Please be seated.

TELL THE STORY

PSALM 96

Reader

Reader: Please join me in reading the Psalms of Epiphany responsively. I will read the odd verses and I invite you to read the even verses.

¹O sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth.

²Sing to the LORD, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day.

³Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples.

⁴For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; he is to be revered above all gods.

⁵For all the gods of the peoples are idols, but the LORD made the heavens.

⁶Honor and majesty are before him; strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.

⁷Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

⁸Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts.

⁹Worship the LORD in holy splendor; tremble before him, all the earth.

¹⁰Say among the nations, "The LORD is king! The world is firmly established; it shall never be moved. He will judge the peoples with equity."

¹¹Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar, and all that fills it;

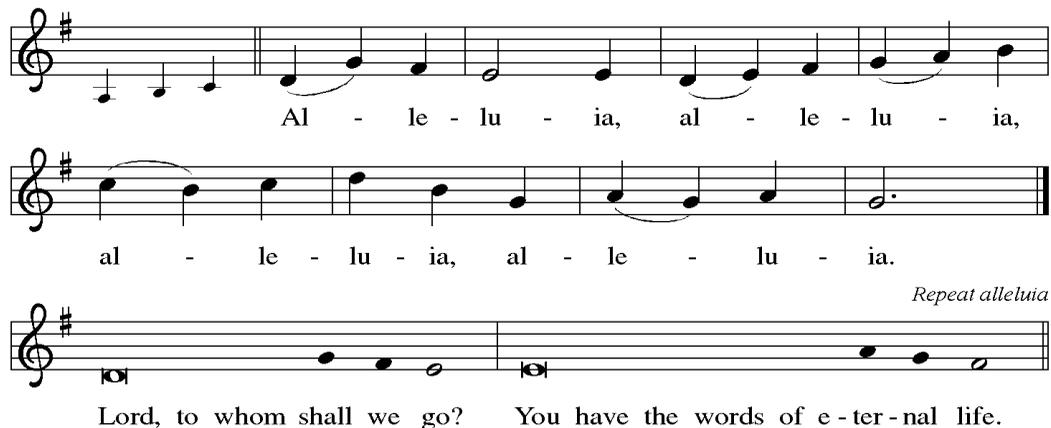
¹²let the field exult, and everything in it. Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy

¹³before the LORD; for he is coming, for he is coming to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with his truth.

Reader: Please rise as you are able for the Gospel Alleluia.

GOSPEL ALLELUIA

ELW setting one pg. 102



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
Repeat alleluia
Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

BIBLE READING Mark 1:16-20

Reader

Reader: The Holy Gospel is according to Mark the 1st chapter.

All: **Glory to you O Lord.**

An introduction for our reading on Act 5 Jesus. Mark is the shortest of the Gospels and probably the earliest Gospel written thirty years after Jesus' death and resurrection. 66-70 AD. Mark's gospel is helpful for the season of Epiphany that Jesus is revealed as God's Son immediately. A reading from the Gospel of Mark:

¹⁶ As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. ¹⁷ And Jesus said to them, “Follow me and I will make you fish for people.” ¹⁸ And immediately they left their nets and followed him. ¹⁹ As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. ²⁰ Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

Reader: The Gospel of our Lord.

All: **Praise to you O Christ.**

MESSAGE

Pastor Lisa Arrington

HYMN

“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”

ELW # 282

APOSTLES' CREED

L: Let us together renew our faith with the Apostle's Creed

All: **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Assisting Minister

L: You are invited to sit or kneel as we pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

SHARING PEACE

Assisting Minister

L: Let us share peace and practice for the sake of God's world. The peace of the Lord be with you always.

All: **And also with you.**

Let us greet one another visitors.

Remember some people prefer to share the peace verbally due to flu season.

We are a very loving church but please ask someone if it is okay share a hug.

Hand sanitizer is in the back of the church

OFFERING & MUSIC

L: Let us celebrate the offering of time, talents and treasures. Don't forget your yellow pew card.

OFFERTORY MUSIC

“'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime”

-arr. Nancy Hascall

Bronze & Ivory

Don't forget to drop in a yellow or green card.

Did you know you can safely text your offering to St. John's 410 698 6178?

OFFERTORY

“Bright and Glorious Is the Sky”

ELW # 301

Please rise; offering plates will be brought forward.

Bright and glorious is the sky, radiant are the heavens high where the golden stars are shining.

All their rays to earth inclining beckon us to heav'n above, beckon us to heav'n above.

PRESENTING OUR OFFERING TO GOD

Assisting Minister

L: Let us pray,