



The Season of Epiphany

"Let your light shine" Matthew 5:16

February 17, 2019 | 8:30 am



St. John's Lutheran Church

Salisbury NC

Welcome to St. John's!

For more information about today's worship, please refer to the pew card found in the hymnal.



Gathering

Welcome *Please sign the Friendship Pad and pass it to your neighbor in the pew.*

Prelude

If You but Trust in God to Guide You

Paul Manz

WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT

Prayers of Confession. *Please stand, turning towards the cross of Christ.*

We make the sign of the cross as a sign of our baptism.

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Let us pray. 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.**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Gracious God,

Have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin and darkness. 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. Reveal to us your light, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

God's Promise of Forgiveness

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. May Almighty God strengthen you with his light, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

Sharing the Peace of Christ The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

Entrance Hymn 631

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

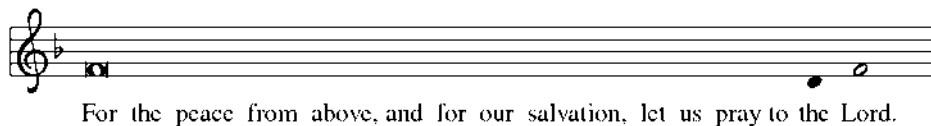
HYFRYDOL

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. *A centering prayer asking for God's mercy and peace.*



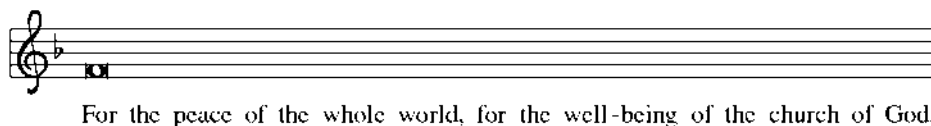
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



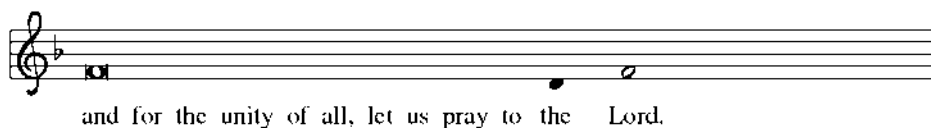
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



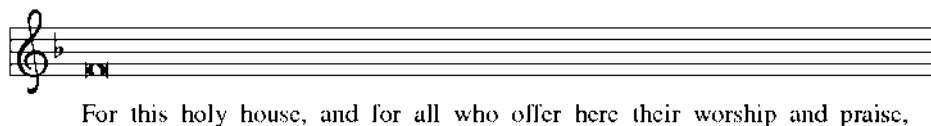
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



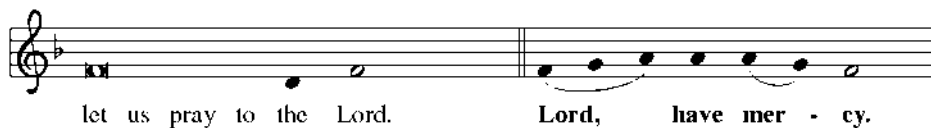
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



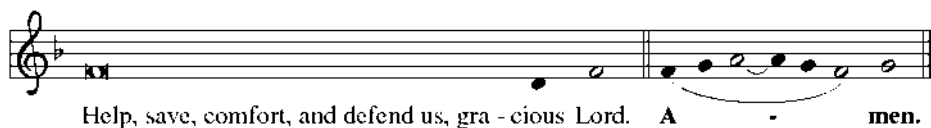
Lord, have mer - cy.



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 defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

Let all things their Creator bless and worship God in humbleness.

Oh, praise him! Alleluia!

Oh, praise the Father, praise the Son. And praise the Spirit, Three in One,

Oh, praise him! Oh, praise him! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Let us pray together. **Lord, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Please be seated



Word

First Reading:

Exodus 19:1-8

God's message from Mount Sinai

¹On the third new moon after the Israelites had gone out of the land of Egypt, on that very day, they came into the wilderness of Sinai. ²They had journeyed from Rephidim, entered the wilderness of Sinai, and camped in the wilderness; Israel camped there in front of the mountain. ³Then Moses went up to God; the LORD called to him from the mountain, saying, "Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the Israelites: ⁴You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. ⁵Now therefore, if you obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession out of all the peoples. Indeed, the whole earth is mine, ⁶but you shall be for me a priestly kingdom and a holy nation. These are the words that you shall speak to the Israelites."

⁷So Moses came, summoned the elders of the people, and set before them all these words that the LORD had commanded him. ⁸The people all answered as one: "Everything that the LORD has spoken we will do." Moses reported the words of the people to the LORD.

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

Second Reading:

Psalms 20

Trust in God

¹May the LORD answer you when you are in distress;
may the name of the God of Jacob protect you.

²May he send you help from the sanctuary
and grant you support from Zion.

- ³May he remember all your sacrifices
and accept your burnt offerings.
- ⁴May he give you the desire of your heart
and make all your plans succeed.
- ⁵We will shout for joy when you are victorious
and will lift up our banners in the name of our God.
May the LORD grant all your requests.
- ⁶Now I know that the LORD saves his anointed;
he answers him from his holy heaven
with the saving power of his right hand.
- ⁷Some trust in chariots and some in horses,
but we trust in the name of the LORD our God.
- ⁸They are brought to their knees and fall,
but we rise and stand firm.
- ⁹O LORD, save the king!
Answer us when we call.

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

Please stand for the reading of the Gospel. "Alleluia" is an ancient Jewish acclamation that means "God be praised." In the Christian tradition, Alleluia means "He is risen!"



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

The Holy Gospel

Selection from Matthew 6

Jesus' Sermon on The Mount

Jesus said: ¹"Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven.

²"So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others.

⁵"And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others.

¹⁶"And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ¹⁷But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, ¹⁸so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

²²"The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light; ²³but if your eye is unhealthy, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!

³³But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Please be seated

Sermon

Pastor Rhodes Woolly

Please stand

Hymn 769

If You But Trust in God to Guide You

WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT

Apostle's Creed. *The three paragraphs of the Creed express our belief in the three-fold nature of God as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.*

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.**

Please be seated

Collection of our Tithes and Offerings

Musical Offering

Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring
Celia Jarrett, soloist

J. S. Bach

Offertory Hymn

As the gifts are presented, the congregation stands and sings the Doxology.

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

Prayers of Intercession. *Each petition ends: Lord in your mercy. Hear our prayer.*

The 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.**



Sending

Benediction

Sending Hymn 537

On Our Way Rejoicing

HERMAS

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord! **Thanks be to God!**

Postlude

Allegro Vivace
WATER MUSIC SUITE

G. F. Handel

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North Carolina Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America