



Faith Lutheran Church

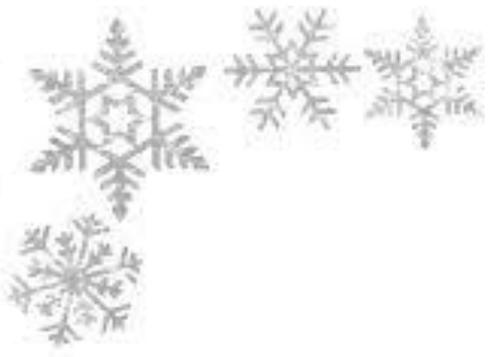
Faithfully Growing, Welcoming, and Caring through Christ

Sunday, January 6, 2019

Epiphany of Our Lord

9:30 am



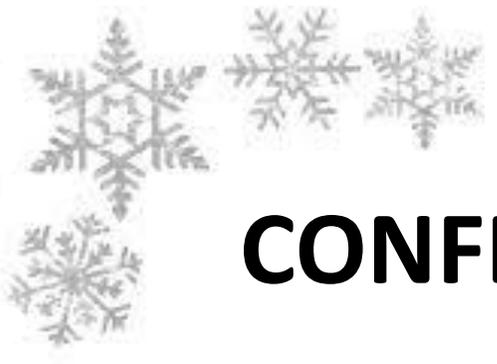


PRELUDE

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS





CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS



P: Blessed be the Holy Trinity,
✚ one God who shines in glory,
clothes us in compassion
and bears gifts of mercy for all.

C: Amen.



P: Let us confess our sins with confidence in God's promise of forgiveness.

(A brief silence.) God, wonderful counselor,

C: **We confess that we have turned from your gifts and chosen our own way. We have not made room for you in our hearts or in our world.**





We have lived in fear; we have not welcomed the stranger; we desire gifts that will not endure. Forgive us our sins, known and unknown, and open us to receive the peace of Jesus dwelling in and among us. Amen.



P:

God's loving kindness has appeared to us in Christ our Savior. We are saved, not by anything we have done, but by God's mercy poured out on us richly. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

Through the Spirit living in you, God gives you faith to trust Jesus, who is Love born for you, now and always.

C: Amen.



OPENING SONG

“As with Gladness Men of Old”



**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.**



**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.**



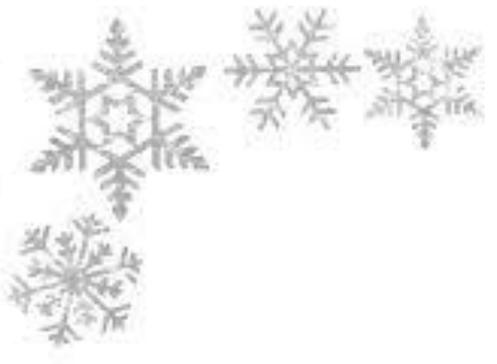
**As they offered gifts most rare
at thy cradle, rude and bare,
so may we with holy joy,
pure and free from sin's alloy,
all our costliest treasures bring,
Christ, to thee, our heav'nly king.**



**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.**

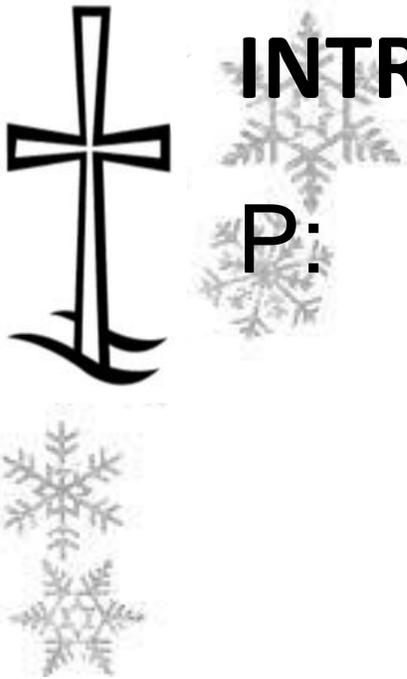


**In the heav'nly country bright
need they no created light;
thou its light, its joy, its crown,
thou its sun which goes not down;
there forever may we sing
alleluias to our king.**



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

C: Amen.



INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

P: Epiphany means “manifestation.”

On this day we celebrate the revelation of Christ to the Gentiles - that is, to all nations. Some Christian traditions celebrate three great epiphanies on this day:

- the magi’s adoration of the Christ child,
- Jesus’ baptism in the Jordan River,
- and his first miracle, in which he changes water into wine.



The word and sacraments are for us the great epiphany of God's grace and mercy. We go forth to witness to the light that shines brightly in our midst.

C: Amen.

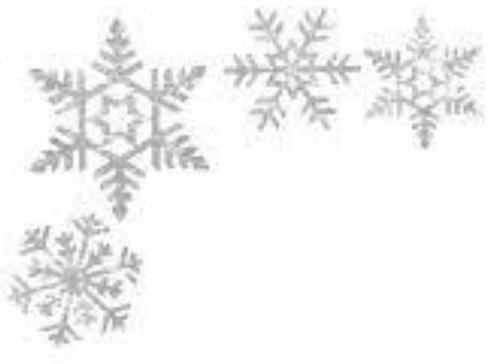


PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. *(A brief silence.)*

C: on this day you revealed your Son to the nations by the leading of a star. Lead us now by faith to know your presence in our lives, and bring us at last to the full vision of your glory, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.





CHILDREN'S CHURCH



FIRST READING: Isaiah 60:1-6

A reading from Isaiah, the 60th chapter.

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.





Lift 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. Then 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.

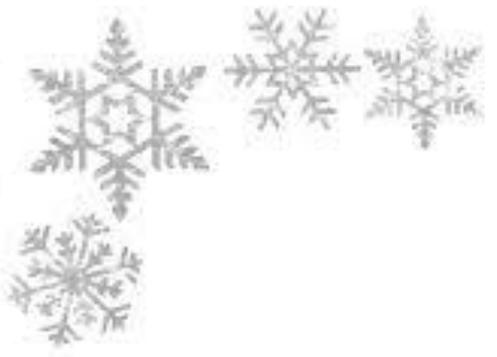




A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

R: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

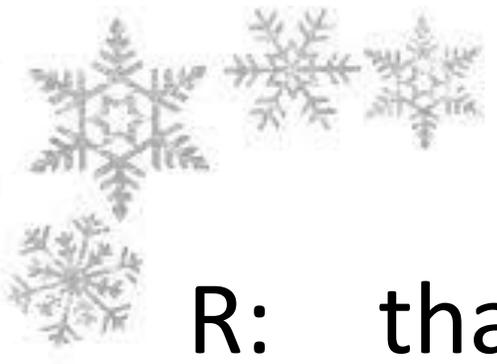


A Responsive Reading From Psalm 72

R: Give the king your justice, O God,
and your righteousness to the king's son;

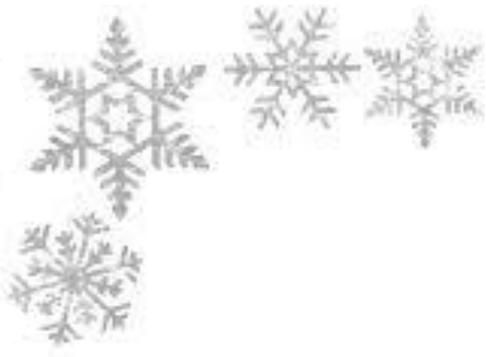
C: **that he may rule your people righteously
and the poor with justice;**





R: that the mountains may bring prosperity to the people and the hills, in righteousness.

C: Let him defend the needy among the people, rescue the poor, and crush the oppressor.

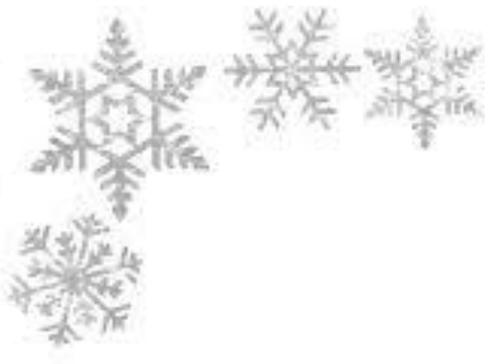


- R: May he live as long as the sun and moon endure, from one generation to another.
- C: Let him come down like rain upon the mown field, like showers that water the earth.**



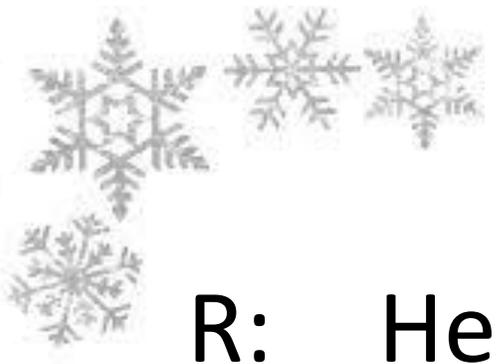
R: In his time may the righteous flourish;
and let there be an abundance of peace till
the moon shall be no more.

**C: May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles
pay tribute, and the kings of Sheba and
Seba offer gifts.**



R: May all kings bow down before him,
and all the nations do him service.

**C: For the king delivers the poor who cry
out in distress, the oppressed,
and those who have no helper.**



R: He has compassion on the lowly and poor, and preserves the lives of the needy.

C: From oppression and violence he redeems their lives, and precious is their blood in his sight.



SECOND READING: Ephesians 3:1-12

A reading from Ephesians, the 3rd chapter.

This is the reason that I, Paul, am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles - for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ.

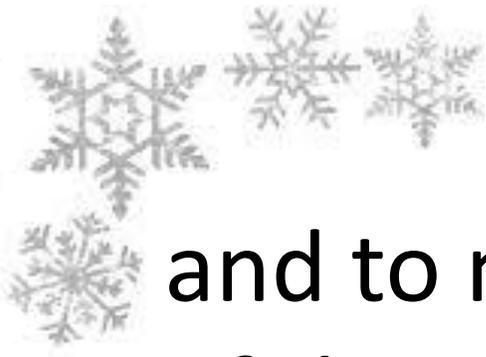




In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.



Of 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. Although 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,



and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so 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.



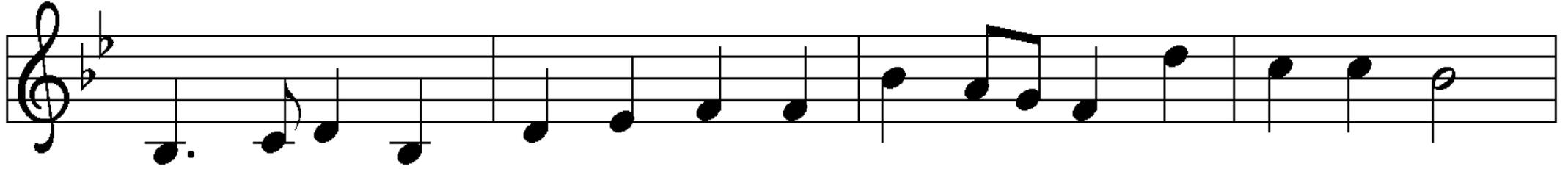
This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

R: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.



“ALLELUIA”



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.



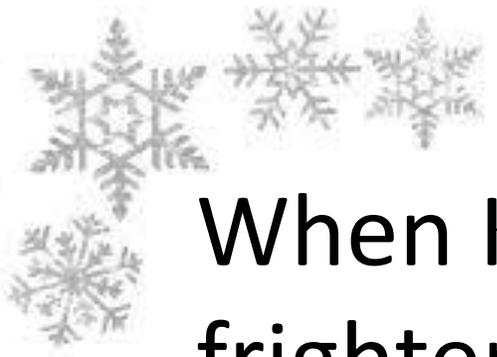


GOSPEL: Matthew 2:1-12

P: The holy gospel according to Matthew, the 2nd chapter.

C: *Glory to you, O Lord.*

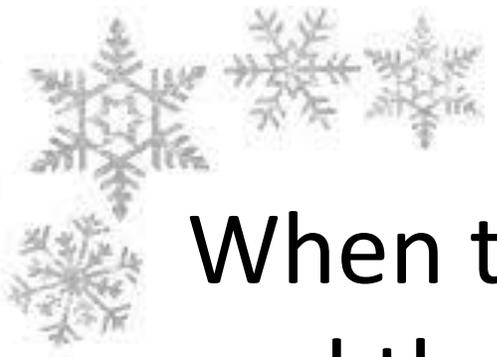
In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.”



When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: ‘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.’ ” Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then 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.”



When 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. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage.

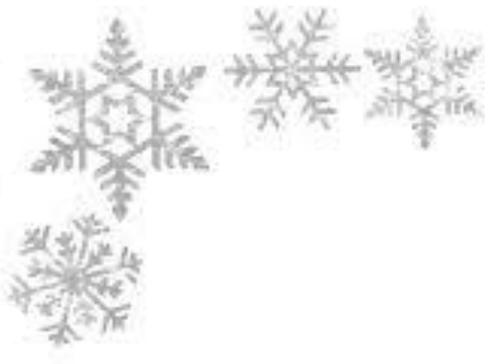


Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**





SERMON

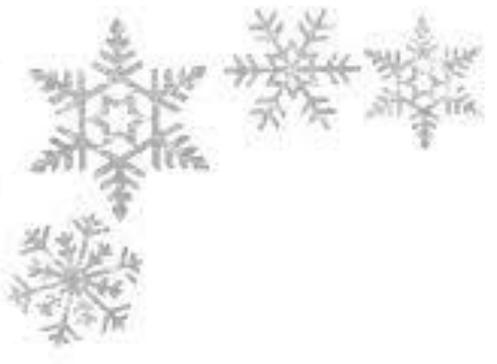
“Light in Time of Darkness”



HYMN OF THE DAY

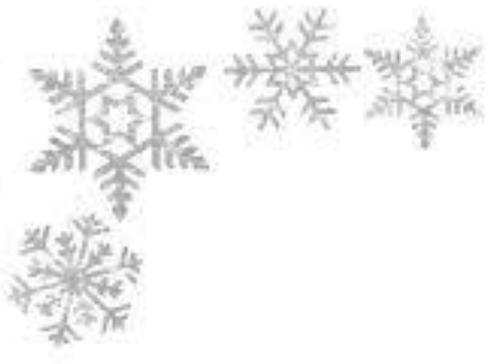
“We Three Kings of Orient Are”

**We three kings of Orient are;
bearing gifts we traverse afar,
field and fountain, moor and
mountain, following yonder star.**

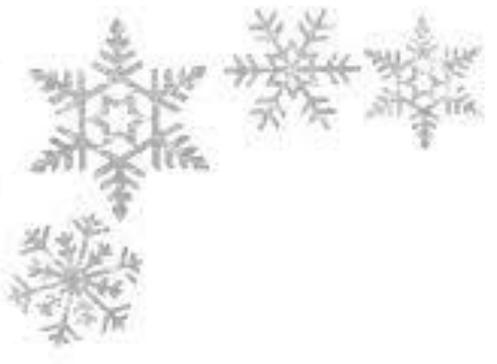


Refrain

***Oh, star of wonder, star of night,
star with royal beauty bright;
westward leading, still proceeding,
guide us to thy perfect light!***

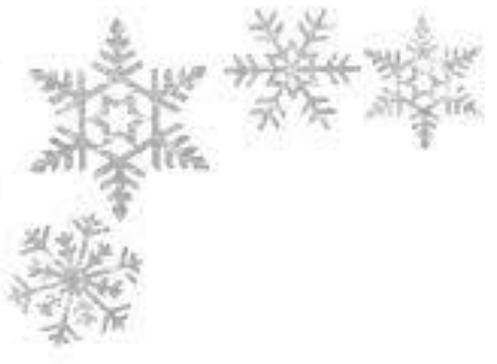


**Born a king on Bethlehem's plain,
gold I bring to crown him again;
king forever, ceasing never,
over us all to reign. *Refrain***

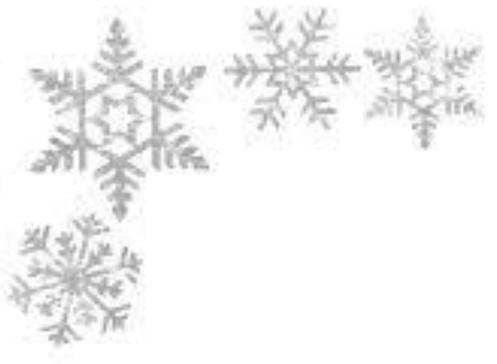


Refrain

***Oh, star of wonder, star of night,
star with royal beauty bright;
westward leading, still proceeding,
guide us to thy perfect light!***



**Glorious now behold him arise,
King and God and Sacrifice;
heav'n sings alleluia:
alleluia the earth replies. *Refrain***



Refrain

***Oh, star of wonder, star of night,
star with royal beauty bright;
westward leading, still proceeding,
guide us to thy perfect light!***



THE APOSTLES' CREED

***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 INTERCESSION

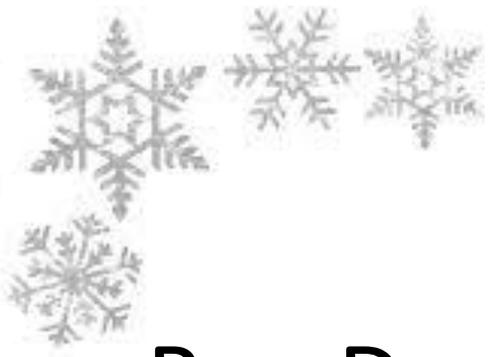
P: Dwelling in the presence of God with us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all in any need. (*A brief silence.*) Drawn into the light of God, we pray for the proclamation of the grace of Jesus Christ. Give us courage and boldness to go forth into the world to tell the good news of what God has done. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.



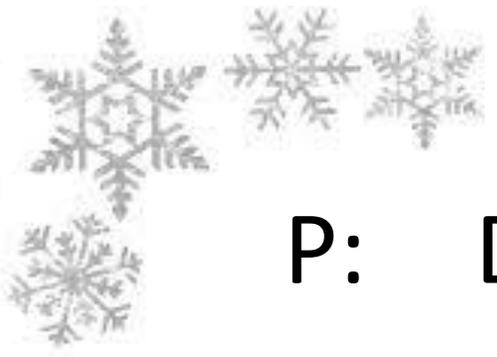
P: Drawn into the glory of creation, we pray for the earth. Sustain every living thing with abundant resources, clean water, and sustainable harvests. Help us to steward all that you have provided. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.



P: Drawn into the brightness of God's presence, we pray for the nations of the world. Reveal your compassion and peace for the sake of all who live in the shadow of oppression, violence, and fear. Hear us, O God.

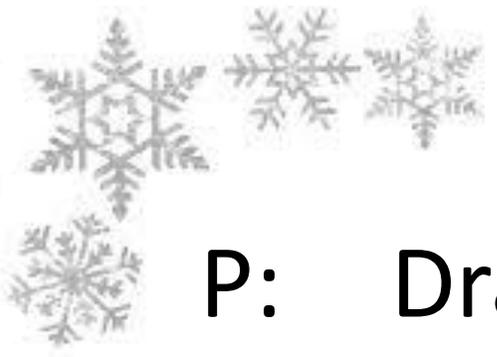
C: Your mercy is great.



P: Drawn into the light of healing mercy, we pray for all who wait for healing and relief of suffering (*especially*). Give us hope in the promise of new life where pain and suffering will be no more.

Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.



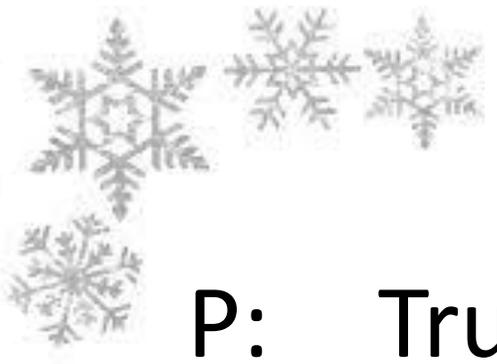
P: Drawn into the dawn of a new day, we pray for the ongoing reconciliation between people. Make us bold to name sin in our lives and unite us in the promise of forgiveness and mercy. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.



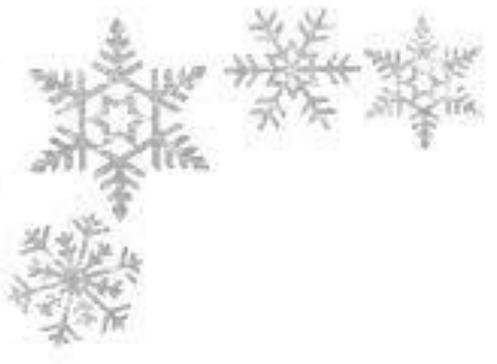
P: Drawn into the promise of everlasting light, we pray for those who mourn and give thanks for all the saints who now rest in the brightness of God's presence (*especially*). Make us confident in our worship as we reflect the light of God with eternal praise. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.



P: Trusting in the presence of God by the power of the Holy Spirit, we commend all for whom we pray, dwelling in the light and hope of Christ, our Savior.

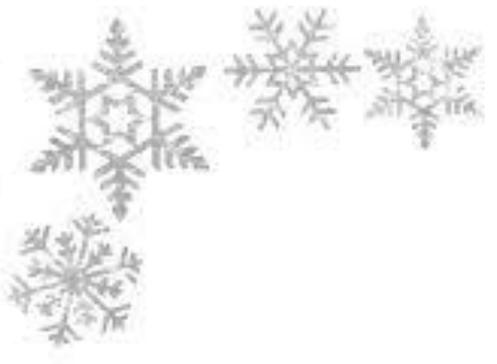
C: Amen.



PEACE

P: The peace of Christ
be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**



~ VIDEO DURING OFFERTORY ~
“We Three Kings”

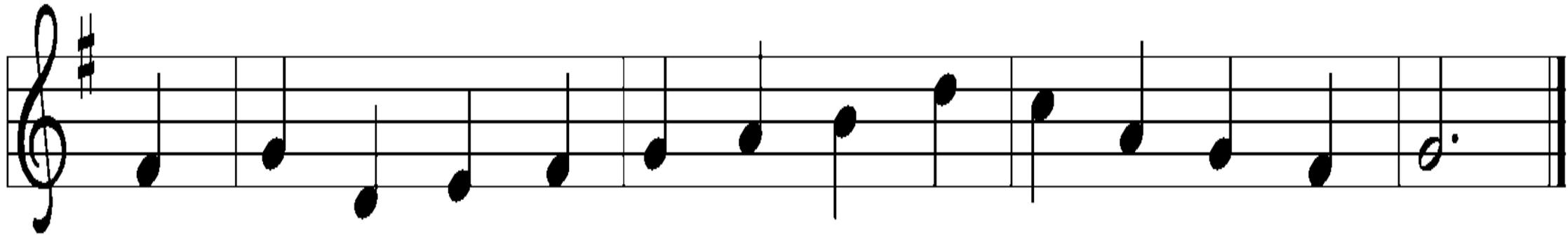




OFFERTORY RESPONSE



1 We give thee but thine own, what - e'er the gift may be;
2 May we thy boun - ties thus as stew - ards true re - ceive,



all that we have is thine a - lone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.
and glad - ly, as thou bless - est us, to thee our first - fruits give.

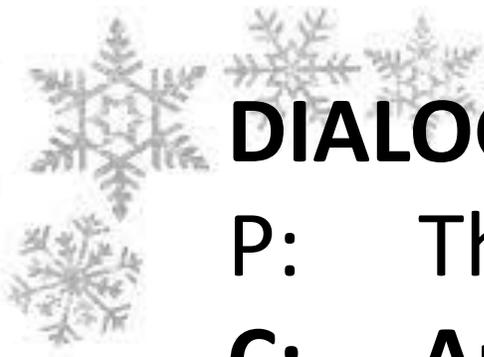




OFFERING PRAYER

P: Holy God, your beauty shines forth from the manger, and your love flows from the cross. As you gather us around these signs of your love, come among us, warm us to extend your care among the hungry and all in need. In Jesus' name we pray.

C: Amen.



DIALOGUE

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

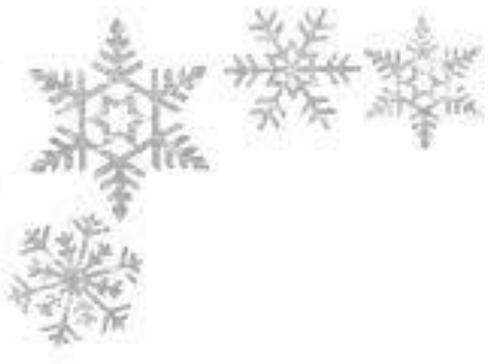
P: Let us give thanks and praise
to the Lord our God.

C: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

P: Joy to the world! The Lord is come.
Let every heart receive your Savior.

C: **Amen.**





WORDS OF INSTITUTION



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;

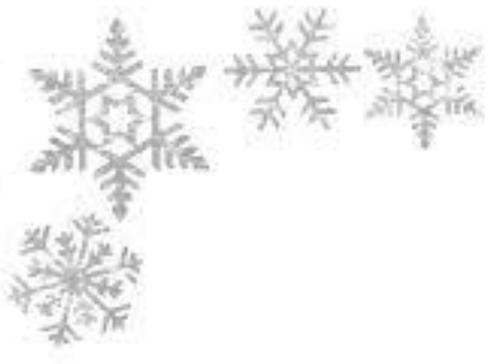
and forgive us our trespasses,

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.



~ **COMMUNION** ~



PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION



P: God of wonder, in Jesus we behold the light of the world come near. As you have come among us now, send us out in joy, hastening to share the good news of your love. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit dwelling among us, now and forever.

C: Amen.



BLESSING

P: Almighty God, Father, + Son,
and Holy Spirit, bless you
now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

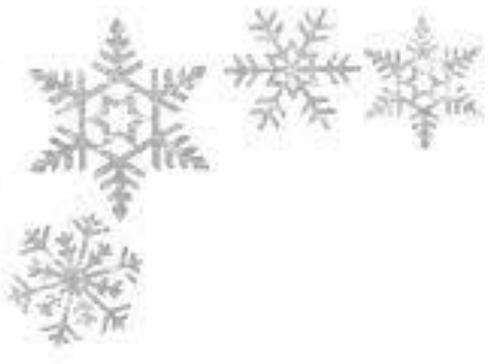


CLOSING HYMN

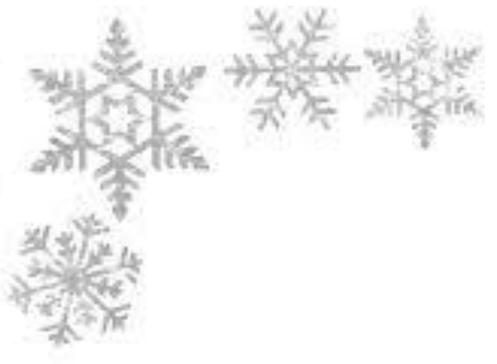
“This Little Light of Mine”

**This little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
this little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
this little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.**

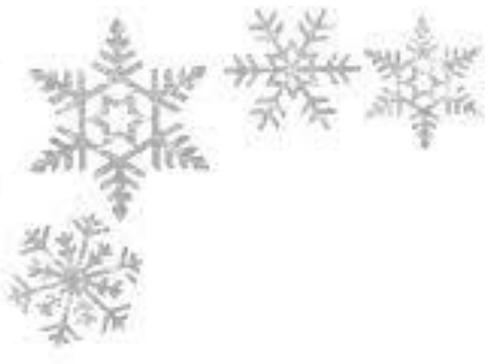




**Ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.**



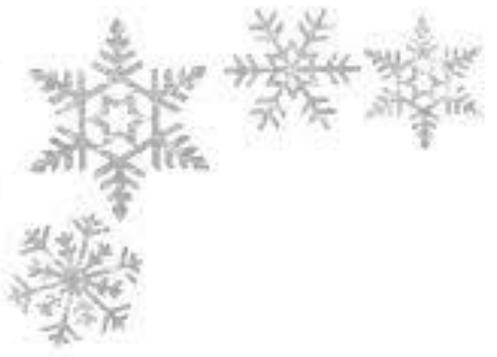
**Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.**



DISMISSAL

P: Honor all people; love and serve God,
and rejoice in the power of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**



Date _____  Envelope # _____

My Offering to My Church

Name _____ Amount \$ _____

Address _____

**Year-End Statements are ready;
please take yours!**



