



## PRELUDE

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

## OPENING HYMN “O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright” 395

### INVOCATION

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

### CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

**P** Jesus Christ is the Light of the world,

**C** the light no darkness can overcome.

**P** In Him was life, and that life was the light of men.

**C** The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not overcome it.

**P** Let us confess our sins to God our Father.

**C** Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

**P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore declare to you the forgiveness of all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray,

**C** O God, by the leading of a star You made known Your only-begotten Son to the Gentiles. Lead us, who know You by faith, to enjoy in heaven the fullness of Your divine presence; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

*We sit.*

## OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 60:1-6

**A** This is the Word of our Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## EPISTLE LESSON

Ephesians 3:1-12

**A** This is the Word of our Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*We stand.*

## GOSPEL CANTICLE “As With Gladness Men of Old” 397

- 1 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.
  
- 2 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.

- 3 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.
- 4 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.
- 5 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.

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## **HOLY GOSPEL**

**Matthew 2:1-12**

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter.

**C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

*The Gospel is read.*

**P** This is the Gospel of our Lord.

**C** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

*We sit.*

## **SERMON**

Pastor William Gittner

**HYMN OF THE DAY      “We Three Kings”**

**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)***

**Frankincense to offer have I; incense owns a deity nigh;  
Prayer and praising, gladly raising, worshipping God Most High  
*(refrain)***

**Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume breathes a life of gathering gloom;  
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying, sealed in a stone cold tomb.  
*(refrain)***

**Glorious now behold him arise, King and God and Sacrifice;  
Heav’n sings alleluia: alleluia the earth replies. *(refrain)***

*We stand.*

**NICENE CREED**

*Inside back cover of LSB*

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

*We sit.*

**OFFERING**



*We stand.*

**DISMISSAL**

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

**BENEDICTION**

**CLOSING HYMN**      **“Angels from the Realms of Glory”**      **367**

**POSTLUDE**