

Epiphany of Our Lord
January 5, 2025
8:30am & 11:00am



Central Lutheran Church
1857 Potter Street
Eugene, Oregon
541-345-0395
www.welcometocentral.org

Central Lutheran Church - Eugene

*Our mission is to be the hands and feet of Jesus by:
loving God and one another; nurturing faithful living;
serving those in need; and sharing the Gospel.*

Please let us know if you would like a pastoral visit or if you would like to be assigned a Eucharistic Minister to bring communion to your home. Requests can be sent to Pastor Laurie and/or Pastor Ben via email, text, or phone (see below). Finally, if you'd like to find out how to engage more fully at Central, or if you are not currently on our email list and would like to be added, please reach out to one of us.

Central Lutheran Staff

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Prayers Requests may be
submitted to:
prayers@welcometocentral.org

Epiphany means “manifestation.” On this day we celebrate the revelation of Christ to the Gentiles—that is, to all nations. We recall how wisemen from the east followed a star until they found the Christ-child. Bearing gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh, they bowed down and worshipped him. The word and sacraments are for us the great epiphany of God’s grace and mercy. When our worship service concludes, empowered by the Holy Spirit, we go forth to witness to the light that shines brightly in our midst.

PRELUDE

O Come Little Children

Dale Wood

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Carillon

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (*please stand*)

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who shines in glory, clothes us in compassion, and bears gifts of mercy for all. **Amen.**

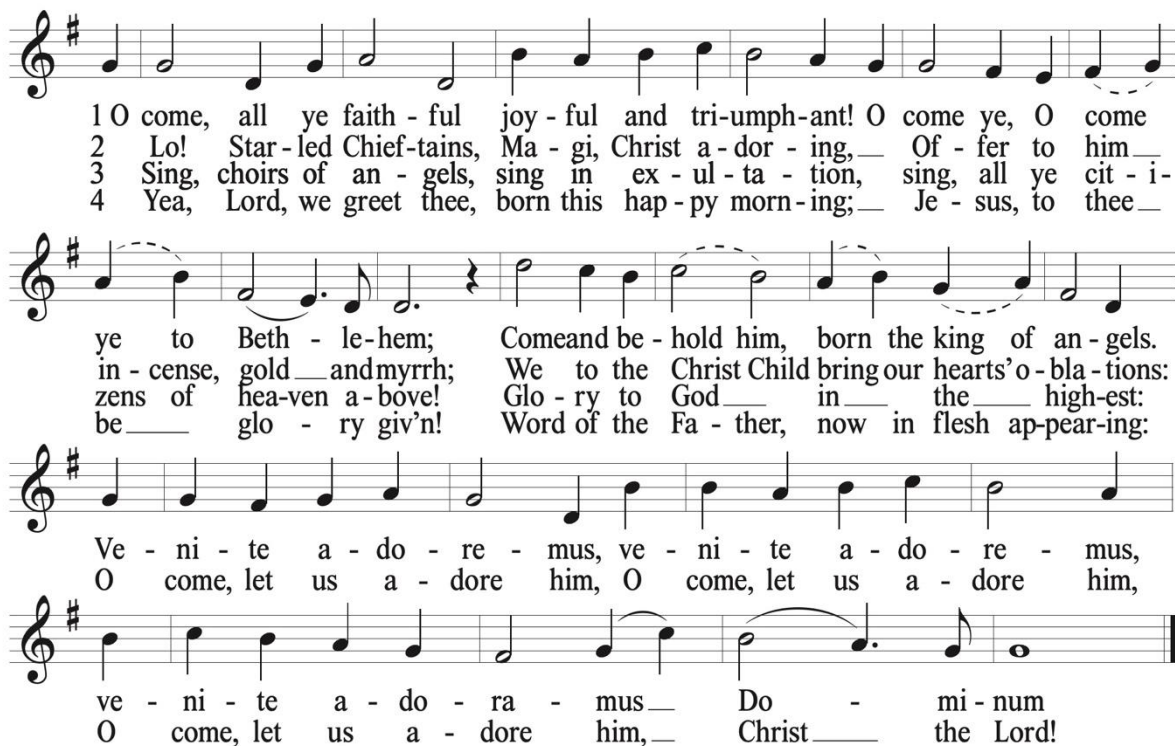
Let us confess our sins before God and one another.

Silence is kept for self-examination.

God, Wonderful Counselor, **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.**

God’s lovingkindness has appeared to us in Christ our Savior. We are saved, not by anything we have done, but by God’s mercy being richly poured out on us. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Through the Spirit living in you, may God grant you faith to trust Jesus, who is Love born for you, now and always. **Amen.**

ENTRANCE CAROL O Come, All Ye Faithful



The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp). The lyrics are as follows:

1 O come, all ye faith - ful joy - ful and tri-umph-ant! O come ye, O come
2 Lo! Star - led Chief - tains, Ma - gi, Christ a - dor - ing, Of - fer to him
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion, sing, all ye cit - i -
4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing; Je - sus, to thee

ye to Beth - le - hem; Come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels.
in - cense, gold and myrrh; We to the Christ Child bring our hearts' o - bla - tions:
zens of hea - ven a - bove! Glo - ry to God in the high - est:
be glo - ry giv'n! Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing:

Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus, ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus,
O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,

ve - ni - te a - do - ra - mus Do - mi - num
O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

GREETING

The grace of our Savior Jesus Christ, Word made flesh, born of Mary, be with you all. **And also with you.**

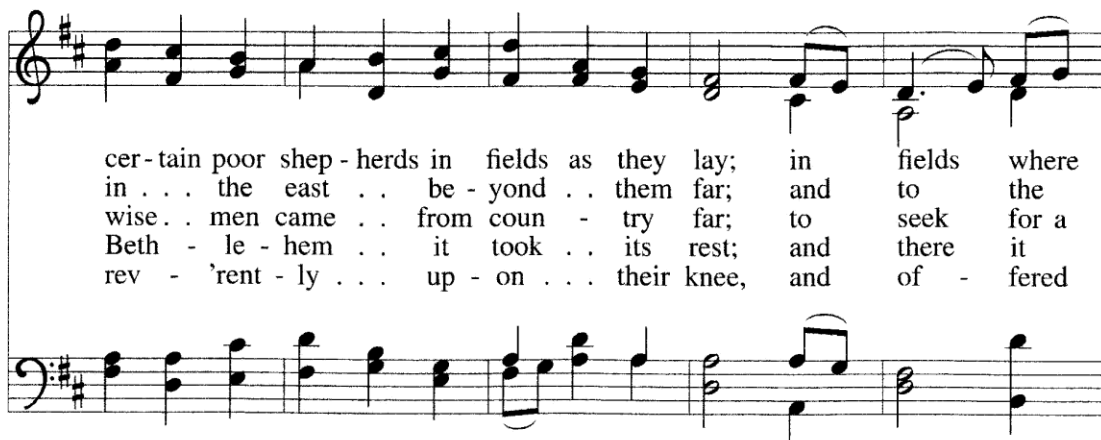
PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Almighty and ever-living God, you revealed the incarnation of your Son by the brilliant shining of a star. Shine the light of your justice always in our hearts and over all lands and accept our lives as the treasure we offer in your praise and for your service, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. *(please be seated)*

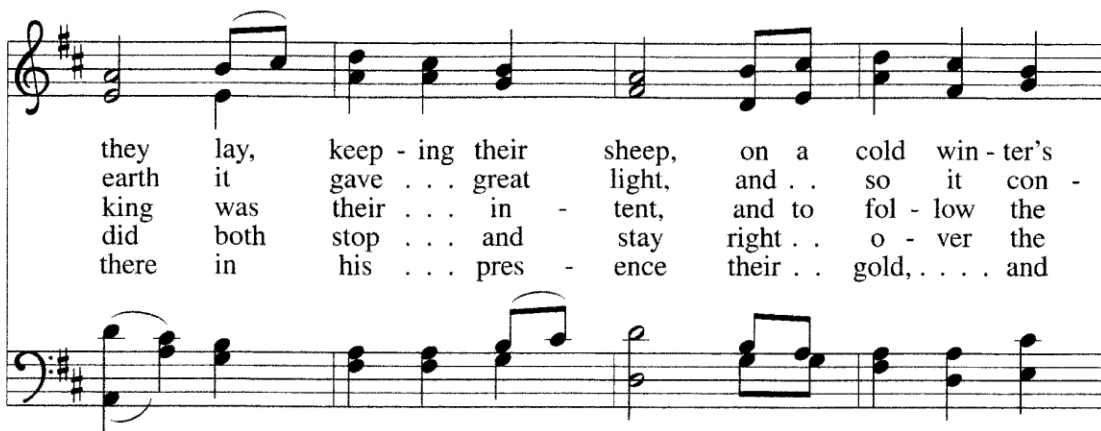
CAROL #300 The First Noel - Stanzas 1-2 (remaining stanzas after lesson)



1 The first No - el the an - gel did say was to
 2 They look - ed up and saw . . a star shin - ing
 3 And by the light of that . . same star three . .
 4 This star drew near to the . . north - west, o'er . .
 5 Then en - tered in those wise . . men three, full . .



cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay; in fields where
 in . . the east . . be - yond . . them far; and to the
 wise . . men came . . from coun - try far; to seek for a
 Beth - le - hem . . it took . . its rest; and there it
 rev - 'rent - ly . . up - on . . their knee, and of - fered



they lay, keep - ing their sheep, on a cold win - ter's
 earth it gave . . great light, and . . so it con -
 king was their . . in - tent, and to fol - low the
 did both stop . . and stay right . . o - ver the
 there in his . . pres - ence their . . gold, . . . and

Refrain

night that was so deep.
 tin-ued both day and night.
 star wher - ev - er it went. No - el, No - el, No -
 place where Je - sus lay.
 myrrh, and frank - in - cense.

el, No - el! Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

FIRST LESSON Isaiah 60:1-6

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.

The Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

CAROL #300 The First Noel - Stanzas 3-5 (*see above*)

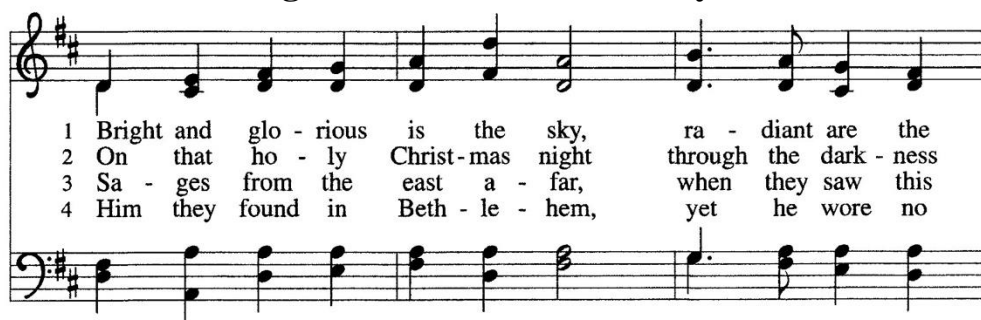
PSALM 72:1-7, 10-14

Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to a king's son. May he judge your people with righteousness, and your poor with justice. May the mountains yield prosperity for the people, and the hills, in righteousness. May he defend the cause of the poor of the people, give deliverance to the needy, and crush the oppressor. May he live while the sun endures, and as long as the moon, throughout all generations. May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth. In his days may righteousness flourish and peace abound, until the moon is no more. May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles render him tribute, may the kings of Sheba and Seba bring gifts. May all kings fall down before him, all nations give him service. For he delivers the needy when they call, the poor and those who have no helper. He has pity on the weak and the needy, and saves the lives of the needy. From oppression and violence he redeems their life; and precious is their blood in his sight.
The Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

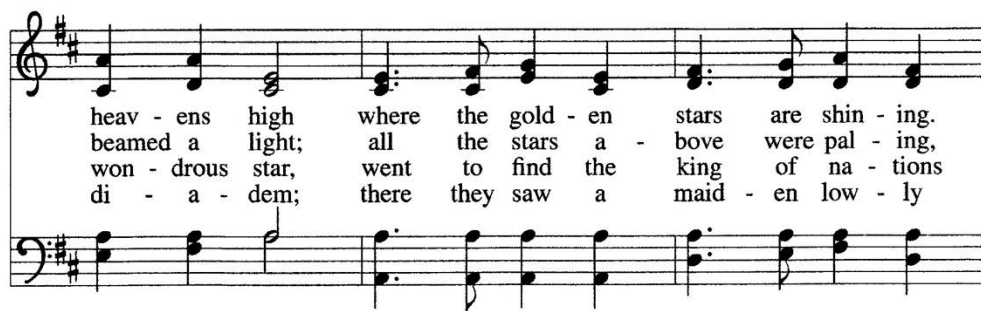
ANTHEM (8:30) *See the Grand Procession* – Hal Hopson Cantors

In lieu of the Gospel Acclamation, the congregation is invited to join in singing Carol #301, Bright and Glorious is the Sky. During the hymn, our children are invited to join Pastor Ben in the chapel for a special message. They will return during the Sharing of the Peace.

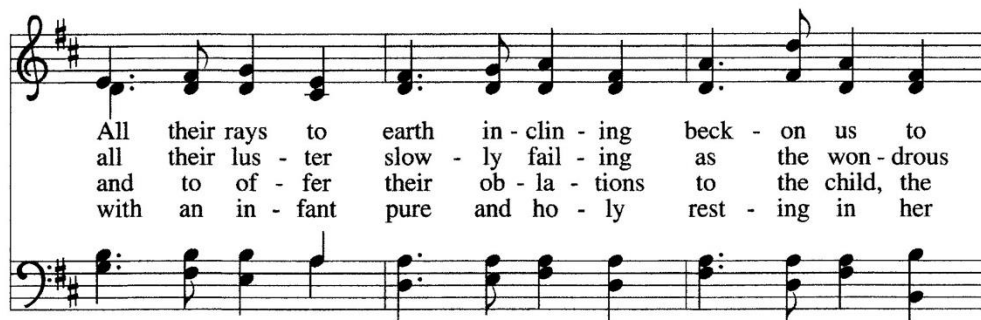
CAROL #301 Bright and Glorious is the Sky



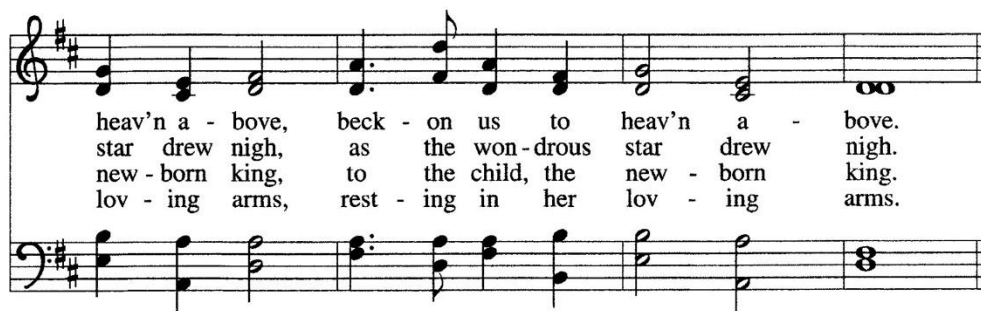
1 Bright and glo - rious is the sky, ra - diant are the
2 On that ho - ly Christ - mas night through the dark - ness
3 Sa - ges from the east a - far, when they saw this
4 Him they found in Beth - le - hem, yet he wore no



heav - ens high where the gold - en stars are shin - ing.
beamed a light; all the stars a - bove were pal - ing,
won - drous star, went to find the king of na - tions
di - a - dem; there they saw a maid - en low - ly



All their rays to earth in - clin - ing beck - on us to
all their lus - ter slow - ly fail - ing as the won - drous
and to of - fer their ob - la - tions to the child, the
with an in - fant pure and ho - ly rest - ing in her



heav'n a - bove, beck - on us to heav'n a - bove.
star drew nigh, as the won - drous star drew nigh.
new - born king, to the child, the new - born king.
lov - ing arms, rest - ing in her lov - ing arms.

5 Guided by the star, they found
him whose praise the ages sound.
We too have a star to guide us,
which forever will provide us
with the light to find our Lord,
with the light to find our Lord.

6 And this star, as bright as day,
that will never lead astray
with its message so appealing,
is the word of God, revealing
Christ, the way, the truth, the life,
Christ, the way, the truth, the life.

HOLY GOSPEL **Matthew 2:1-12** (*please stand as you are able*)

The Gospel according to Matthew, the 2nd chapter: **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. The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.** (*you may be seated*)

SERMON

Pastor Laurie A Jones

CAROL OF THE DAY *We Three Kings of Orient Are* (*please stand*)

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

REFRAIN O, star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright;
Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!

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

3. Frankincense to offer have I; incense owns a deity nigh;
Prayer and praising, gladly raising, worshiping God Most High. **Refrain**

4. Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume breathes a life of gathering gloom;
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying, sealed in the stone-cold tomb. **Refrain**

5. Glorious now behold him arise, King and God and sacrifice;
Heav'n sings alleluia; alleluia the earth replies. **Refrain**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (*please be seated*)

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OUR LIFE TOGETHER

CAROL (8:30) *Saw You Never in the Twilight*, a French Carol Cantors

CAROL (11:00) *See the Grand Procession* – Hal Hopson Cantor

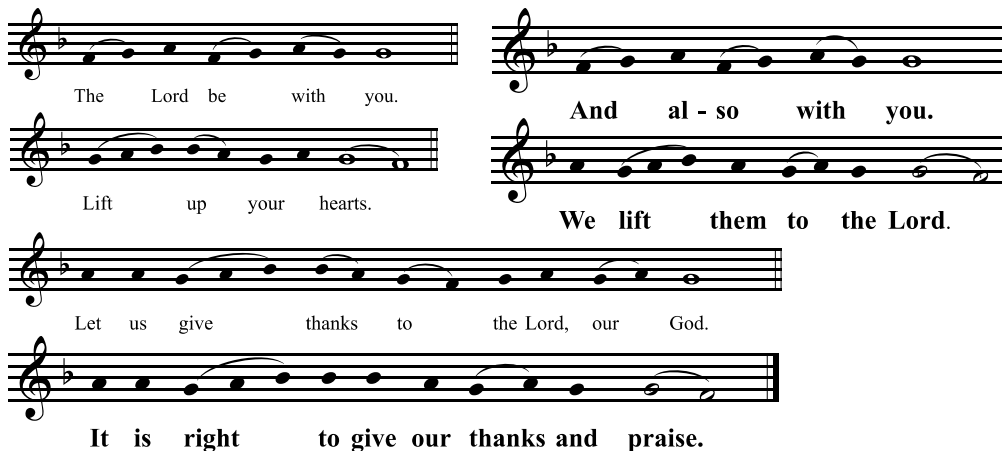
OFFERING

*You are invited to place your offering in the plate
as you come forward for communion.*

OFFERTORY PRAYER *(please stand)*

Let us pray. God with us: 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, and as we prepare to receive the gifts of bread and wine, warm us to extend your care among the hungry and all in need. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING



The Lord be with you.

Lift up your hearts.

And al - so with you.

We lift them to the Lord.

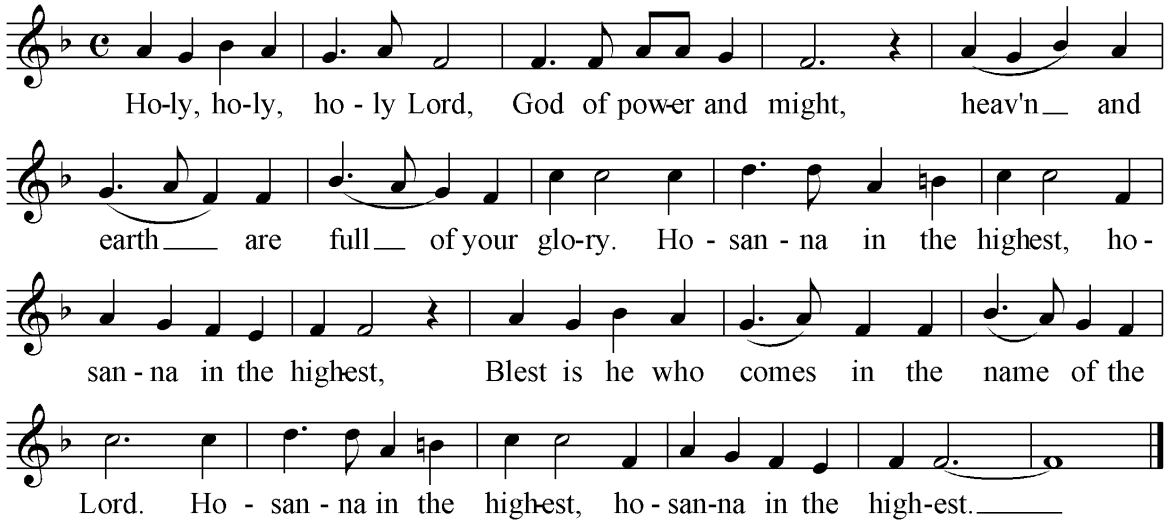
Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son, and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might, heav'n__ and
earth__ are full__ of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na in the highest, ho -
san - na in the highest, Blest is he who comes in the name of the
Lord. Ho - san - na in the high-est, ho - san-na in the high-est._____

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered by the Holy Spirit, let us pray the prayer our Lord Jesus taught us:
**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. (please be seated)**

COMMUNION INSTRUCTIONS & DISTRIBUTION

COMMUNION CAROLS (*sung during distribution*)

ELW #269 Once in Royal David's City

ELW #281 Silent Night

BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you, now and forever. **Amen.**

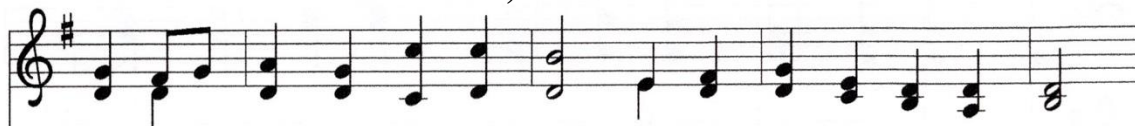
POST-COMMUNION PRAYER (*please stand*)

Let us pray. 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. **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

God the Creator who delights in you, Jesus the Savior who is born for you, and the lifegiving Spirit who shines on you, ☩ bless you and keep you in hope, peace, joy, and love. **Amen.**

CAROL #302 As with Gladness, Men of Old



1 As with glad - ness men of old did the guid - ing star be - hold;
 2 As with joy - ful steps they sped, Sav - ior, to thy low - ly bed,
 3 As they of - fered gifts most rare at thy cra - dle, rude and bare,
 4 Ho - ly Je - sus, ev - 'ry day keep us in the nar - row way;
 5 In the heav'n - ly coun - try bright need they no cre - a - ted light;



as with joy they hailed its light, lead - ing on - ward, beam - ing bright;
 there to bend the knee be - fore thee, whom heav'n and earth a - dore;
 so may we with ho - ly joy, pure and free from sin's al - loy,
 and when earth - ly things are past, bring our ran - somed souls at last
 thou its light, its joy, its crown, thou its sun which goes not down;



so, most gra - cious Lord, may we ev - er - more be led by thee.
 so may we with will - ing feet ev - er seek thy mer - cy seat.
 all our cost - liest trea - sures bring, Christ, to thee, our heav'n - ly king.
 where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glo - ry hide.
 there for - ev - er may we sing al - le - lu - ias to our king.



DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the light of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

You may remain seated during the Organ Voluntary, however if you choose to depart, we kindly ask you to do so in silence until you reach the Narthex.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Jig Fugue

Diderik Buxtehude

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Today's Cantors: (8:30) Alyse Jamieson & David Gustafson
(11:00) Honora Mathisen-Lund

On the first Sunday of every month a few of our Prayer Ministers are available to offer individual prayer in the Chapel following the 8:30am worship service. You are also welcome to submit a prayer request via email (prayers@welcometocentral.org).

Bulletin Cover Photo: Banner of the Magi made by Sheri Hammerstad for Central Lutheran in 1973. Photo of the Banner taken in 2004 and given to the archives by Marcia Jarrett. Due to the banner's wear and tear it is no longer displayed in worship, so we are greatly thankful for the photograph of this beautiful part of Central's legacy!

OUR LIFE TOGETHER

Parents and teens (current 8th-12th graders) are invited to join Crystal Miller at United Lutheran today at noon for information regarding a summer youth servant trip. Tentative dates and locations are: July 6-12 in San Diego, CA or July 25-Aug 2 in Del Norte County, CA. If you are interested, but are unable to attend this initial meeting, please reach out to Crystal via text or call her at 503-320-4055.

Together Tuesdays resume on January 7th with the community meal served from 5:15-6pm, followed by Children's Choir & Junior Cantor's Rehearsal starting at 5:45pm, and Adult Education starting at 6pm. (**Note: Music Together classes resume on January 14th.**)

Spread the word... Registration is still open for the winter term of Music Together classes beginning the week of January 13th. For a complete list of classes or to register, go online at: musictogethereugene.com.

Join us for our mid-week coffee hour on Wednesday, January 8th from 1-2pm in the Terrace Room. Enjoy a cup of coffee or tea and something sweet while catching up with members and friends of Central.

Campus Ministry News: Hearth & Table, Central's outreach meal for college students, resumes Thursday, January 9th. The meal is served from 6:30-7:30pm as eat-in (served family style) or as take-out. **All are welcome to join us for Vespers at 7pm in the Sanctuary.**

Mark your calendars... St. Cecilia Music Endowment Fund presents the first of a series of "*Pocket Concerts*" on Tuesday, January 14th from 12-1pm in the Sanctuary. Spread the word, invite a friend, bring your lunch, then come and enjoy some great music over the noon-hour! This first one features the gifts of Central member Alyse Jamieson, Mezzo-Soprano.