JANUARY 7, 2024 EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

CHRIST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

467 Main St., P. O. Box 494 CONYNGHAM, PA 18219



Weekly Worship: Saturday @ 5:00pm Sunday @ 10:30am

MISSION STATEMENT

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church is a redeemed family of God's people empowered by the Holy Spirit to proclaim the love of God in Jesus Christ in this community and in the world.

As an active and growing congregation, we share ourselves, our time, and our possessions to serve the Lord by serving others. Inspired in worship, nurtured through teaching, supported with fellowship, and strengthened by prayer, we reach out to others with the Gospel, now and in future generations.

Patterson Derr - Minister of Music/Treasurer

Cynthia Derr – Church Secretary/Congregation Council Secretary

Sexton – Margie Yost

Congregation Council – Betty Anne Bernstein, Julia Bobrowski, Joyce Bradbury, Beth Brown Barbara DeLong, Jean Frye, Deb Jones, Marty Kellow, Dave Kisenwether, Scott Steiner, Jessica Thorne(vice-president) and Ken Welsh (president)

Designated Pastor – Rev. Wayne Lupole

Welcome in the name of Christ, whose church this is! If you are seeking a church home, please notify the church office. Contact information is on the front of the bulletin.

FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE: Hearing Assistive Devices are located on the table at the entrance to the worship space. An ADA Compliant restroom and changing station are located in the entrance hallway. A first aid kit, water, juice and snacks are in the kitchenette adjacent to the Parlor (main entrance room).

FOR SECURITY: During worship, only the upper-level main entrance doors are openall other doors are locked.

Have any questions? An usher will be glad to help you!

Individual communion cups are ready for pick up for you to use at home. They are inside the front door of the parlor and may be picked up during office hours. Please help yourself. You may also commune with what you have handy at home; bread, crackers, juice, wine, etc.

Our Sunday morning 10:30am service is on our FaceBook page "Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church Congregation' or catch the service on the website video tab using 'clcconyngham.org'. The bulletin is on the web site using the bulletin tab.

CHRIST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH JANUARY 7, 2024 EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD 10:30am Worship Service

PRELUDE "On This Day Earth Shall Sing" arr. Larry Shackley

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING

PLEASE STAND

GATHERING HYMN "The First Noel" ELW(red) #300

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

- P Blessed be the holy Trinity, 4 one God, the Word made flesh, our life and our salvation.
- C Amen.
- P Trusting the goodness and lovingkindness of God our Savior, let us confess our sin.

PLEASE KNEEL OR BE SEATED

Silence is kept for reflection.

- P God of life,
- C you promise good news of great joy for all people, and call us to be messengers of your peace.

 We confess that too often we hoard our joy, our resources, and our security.

 We nurture conflict and build barriers.

 We neglect the needs of our neighbors and ignore the groaning of creation.

 Have mercy on us.

 Where we are self-centered, open our hearts.

 Where we are reluctant, give us courage.

 Where we are cynical, restore our trust.

 Renew us with your grace and give us again the hope of eternal life in you.

 Amen.
- Hear the good news:
 We are children of God and heirs of God's promises through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.
 In + Jesus we are forgiven and redeemed.
 Sing with joy, for all the ends of the earth shall know the salvation of God.
- C Amen.

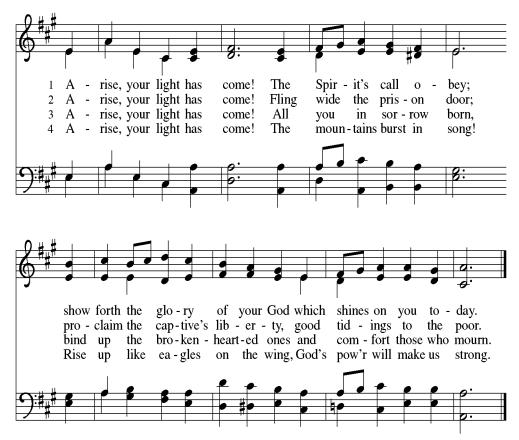
PLEASE STAND

GREETING

- The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- **C** And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Arise, Your Light Has Come!



Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1825–1893

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

A Let us pray.

O God, 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.

C Amen.

PLEASE BE SEATED

WORD

A READING FROM ISAIAH

Isaiah 60:1-6

Jerusalem is assured that nations will make a pilgrimage to her because the light of God's presence is in her midst. The bountiful food of the sea and the profits of international trade will come streaming to Jerusalem and thereby declare God's praise.

¹Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

²For darkness shall cover the earth,

and thick darkness the peoples;

but the LORD will arise upon you,

and his glory will appear over you.

³Nations shall come to your light,

and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

⁴Lift 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.

⁵Then 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.

⁶A 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.

- L The Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.
- L Please join in reading the Psalm Congregation responses are in **bold** type

Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14

All kings shall bow down before him. (Ps. 72:11)

¹Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the king's son;

²that he may rule your people righteously and the poor with justice;

³that the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, and the hills, in righteousness.

⁴Let him defend the needy among the people, rescue the poor, and crush the oppressor.

⁵May he live as long as the sun and moon endure, from one generation to another.

⁶Let him come down like rain upon the mown field, like showers that water the earth.

⁷In his time may the righteous flourish; and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.

¹⁰May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles pay tribute, and the kings of Sheba and Seba offer gifts.

¹¹May all kings bow down before him, and all the nations do him service.

¹²For the king delivers the poor who cry out in distress, the oppressed, and those who have no helper.

¹³He has compassion on the lowly and poor, and preserves the lives of the needy.

¹⁴From oppression and violence he redeems their lives, and precious is their blood in his sight.

A READING FROM EPHESIANS

Ephesians 3:1-12

What had been hidden from previous generations is now made known through the gospel ministry of Paul and others. In Christ both Jews and Gentiles participate in the richness of God's promised salvation.

¹This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles—
²for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you,
³and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, ⁴a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. ⁵In 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: ⁶that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

⁷Of 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. ⁸Although 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, ⁹and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; ¹⁰so 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. ¹¹This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹²in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

- L The Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

PLEASE STAND

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ST. MATTHEW THE 2nd CHAPTER



Matthew 2:1-12

God's promise shines bright in the night as magi follow a star to honor a new king. Strangers from a faraway land, they welcome the long-awaited messiah of Israel.

¹In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ²asking, "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." ³When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

6'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."

⁷Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then 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." ⁹When 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. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On 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. ¹²And 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.



PLEASE BE SEATED

SERMON Pastor Fairchild

PLEASE STAND

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Brightest and Best of the Stars"

ELW(red) #303

APOSTLES' CREED

P Let us join in confessing our faith using the words of the Apostle's Creed.

C 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

A Trusting in God's good news of great joy for all people, we offer our prayers for ourselves, our neighbors, and the world God loves.

A brief silence.

- Humble the hearts of your faithful people, that we seek to be servants of your gospel and witnesses to your mysteries. Give us boldness in faith, that we make the good news of Christ's birth known to all people. Hear us, O God.
- C Your mercy is great.

A Establish justice on earth for all its inhabitants. Lead us to protect fragile ecosystems and endangered species. Empower the work of all who research, engineer, and make accessible alternative and renewable sources of energy. Make us careful stewards of your creation. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Nations shall come to your light and kings to your dawning. Remove corruption and fear from the hearts of leaders and authorities. Lead governments to expand policies and resources that care for refugees and all migrants. Strengthen the work of resettlement agencies. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Defend the cause of all who are in need, all facing poverty, and all who are oppressed. Come quickly to those who feel that their lives and livelihoods are fragile. Give them strength and lead them forth with hope. Especially we pray for all those on our prayer list and others we name in our hearts(pause).... Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

As the magi offered gifts to the Christ child, empower us to give generously. Prosper the work of ministry partnerships in our community. Together, help us share what we have to ensure that our neighbors have enough food, resources, and opportunities. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A You have redeemed the lives of your faithful departed. Through the love of Christ, gather us into one body with them, and reveal to us the mystery hidden for ages in the One who created all things. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Abide with us, O God of mercy, and receive our prayers according to your abundant grace.

C Amen.



SHARING OF THE PEACE

 \mathcal{P} The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

Please greet each other as you are comfortable.

PLEASE BE SEATED

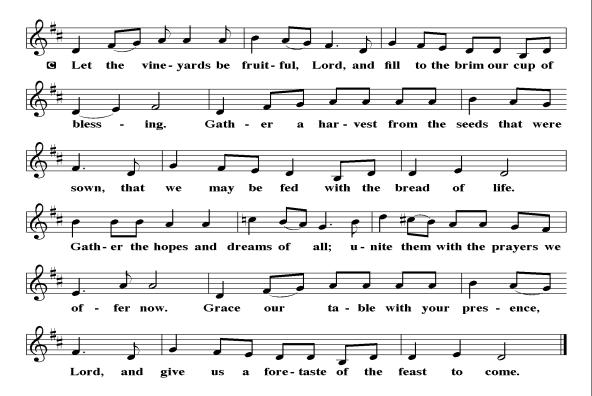
OFFERING

MUSIC AT THE OFFERING

"We Three Kings"
John H. Hopkins, Jr. – arr. Larry Shackley

PLEASE STAND

OFFERTORY



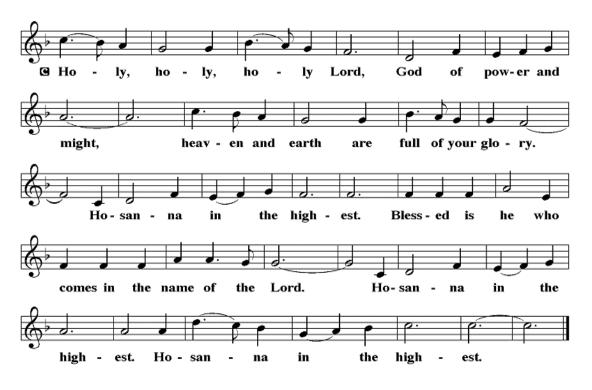
OFFERTORY PRAYER

In thanksgiving for our offerings, let us pray.
God of abundance,
receive and bless these gifts we have offered.
Join our hearts with the song of the angels,
and gather us at your table of celebration.
Strengthen us to share with all the world
the abundance of your grace upon grace,
poured out in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh.

C Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

- \mathcal{P} The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- P Lift up your hearts.
- C We lift them to the Lord.
- \mathcal{P} Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C It is right to give him thanks and praise.
- P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P Blessed are you, O holy God:

you are the Life and Light of all.

By your powerful word you created all things.

Through the prophets you called your people to be a light to the nations.

Blessed are you for Jesus, your Son.

He is your Light, shining in our darkness

and revealing to us your mercy and might.

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 covenant in my blood,

shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore,

his preaching and healing,

his dying and rising,

and his promise to come again,

we await that day when all the universe

will rejoice in your holy and life-giving light.

By your Spirit bless us and this meal,

that, refreshed with this heavenly food,

we may be light for the world,

revealing the brilliance of your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,

Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,

in your holy Church,

both now and forever.

C Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

- P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.
- C Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

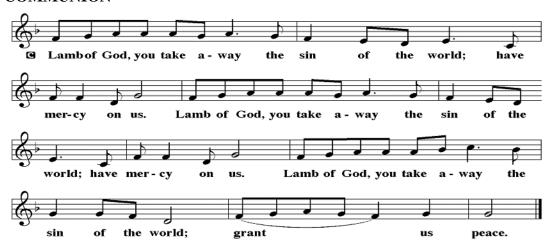
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Glory to God in the highest!
Come to the table of peace.

COMMUNION



PLEASE BE SEATED

HOLY COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

Those using the pre-filled communion elements and the people on Facebook will take communion first. Those taking communion from the altar will receive next. Proceed forward from your pew toward the altar. The Lectern side (right facing Altar) will proceed first and then the Pulpit side (left facing Altar). Pick up an empty communion glass as you approach, or use a cup filled with grape juice. Receive the bread and eat the wafer, then the assistant will fill your cup with wine and drink. Deposit empty cups in the bowls provided on the way back to your pews and be seated. If you need a gluten-free wafer, come forward with your arms crossed in front of you.

COMMUNION HYMN

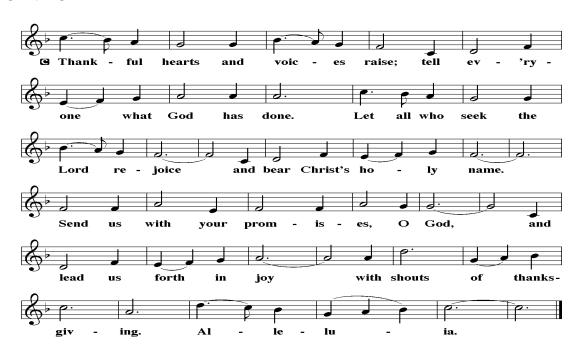
"What Feast of Love""

ELW(red) #487

COMMUNION BLESSING

- The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen us and keep us in His grace.
- C Amen.

CANTICLE



PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God our redeemer,
you have fed us at this table
with gifts of grace, truth, and life.
As you have gathered us in joy,
send us forth as messengers of your peace.
Make us shine with the good news of your glory,
born to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

SENDING

BENEDICTION

God bless you and keep you,
 I Jesus grant you grace and truth,
 and the Spirit send peace upon your hearts,
 now and forever.

C Amen.

SENDING HYMN

"Songs of Thankfulness and Praise"

ELW (red) #310

DISMISSAL

Christ the Savior is born!Go in peace. Proclaim this good news.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

"O Magnify the Lord"
Dick & Melody Tunney – arr. Tim Doran

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The flowers are offered to the glory of God by Margie Yost in memory of loved ones.

The bulletins are offered to the glory of God by Rose Marie Wagner in memory of Ed Wright.

Worship Helpers

Acolyte Ava Badamo
Asst. Minister Ashley Marsicano
Reader Rosalie Wright
Comm. Asst. Ashley Marsicano

Ushers Mary Lou Keck & Carol Crawford

Calendar of Events for the Week of January 7, 2024

Monday- 5:00pm Karate

7:00pm Congregation Council

Tuesday - 1:00pm Willing Workers

Wednesday- 7:00pm Bible Study

Thursday- 5:00pm Karate

6:30pm AA Meeting

Friday-Saturday-

Next Weekend:

January 13 & 14, 2024

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Saturday Worship Service 5:00pm Sunday Worship Service 10:30am Sunday School 9:15am

PASTORAL CARE

If you are in need of pastoral care or wish a visit, please contact the church office at 570-788-1572, email clccony@ptd.net. In case of emergencies, you can also reach Cindy at 570-788-3708 or 570-579-7732 or Pastor Lupole at 570-708-1690.

OUR PRAYER LIST

Betty Lou, Shirley, Jean, Wilma, Dawn, Bob, Betsy, George, Barbara, Frank, Patt, Dennis, Viola, Sandy, Kim, Rich, Eileen, Samantha, Emily, Jarrod, Amanda, Dawn, Nancy, Rob, Violet, Scarlet. Robbie, Seth, Josh, Dick, Tom, Judi, Rodney, Pauline, Tom, Anita, Alex, Madison, Patti, Bob, Jean, Doug, Dolores, Gene, Donna, Lee and Bruce.. A copy of the prayer list is on the bulletin board in the parlor for you to take home.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS NEEDED

Dates are open for volunteers to teach Sunday School in 2024. Open dates are: March 17, April 14, 21 & 28 and May 12, 19, & 26 for the Pre-K-4th grade class and January 14 & 21, February 11 & 18, March 10 & 17 and May 12 for the 5th-7th grade class. Please consider helping by picking one of the dates. All material is provided. See the sign-up sheet on the table in the parlor.

NEED A RIDE?

Would you like to come to church or go to a church event but are unable to get there on your own, especially at night?

Currently, this need is being assessed. Please call Dawn Whitfield (570-788-3256) or Betsy Fisher (570-788-6611) if you would be interested in getting a ride,

Also, if you are willing to possibly help provide transportation, let Dawn or Betsy know.

DEVOTIONS ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE

Have you seen and read the devotional prayers that are posted periodically on our congregation's Facebook page? Hopefully, when you read them, you will find encouragement and a sense of God's peace as you go about your daily life,

LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE

LDR is asking for gifts to help with the recent disasters and wars. The survivors need our support. Checks may be sent to:

Lutheran Disaster Response P. O. Box 1809 Merrifield, VA 22116-8009

If you send a check to our church, please make sure it is marked for LDR.

VALLEY FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

The pantry is in need of powdered drinks mixes, jelly and coffee. Please place your donation sin the grocery card in the vestibule.

STEPHEN MINISTRY

Christ caring for people through people. This is the motto of Stephen Ministry. The Stephen Minister's role is to bring God's love into the lives of people who are going through a difficult time or experiencing a crisis. What do Stephen Ministers do? They listen, care, support, encourage, and pray with and for a person who is hurting. And in the midst of this confidential, one-to-one, caring relationship, God's healing love comes pouring through. If the Spirit is moving you to learn more about this ministry, please talk with Deb Jones or any of our Stephen Ministers.

CASTING OUR NETS

The next gathering of Casting Our Nets ministry group will be on **Sunday January 14**th immediately following the worship service. Please feel free to join in on the 14th!

WILLING WORKERS

The Willing Workers will meet on **Tuesday, January 9th at 1:00pm**. We will be discussing and planning for events in the upcoming year. Yearly membership dues of \$5.00 will be collected. All women of the church are invited to attend. For more information, contact Deb Jones at 570-233-7675 or msjonesncc@gmail.com

FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER

Please note the deadline for all articles, information, etc. for the February newsletter is **January 21**st!!

SOUP SALE

Our annual soup sale is taking place **Saturday January 27**th with pick-up from Noon-2pm. Call the church office mornings at 570-788-1572, Joyce Bradbury at 570-788-5372 or use the order form on the table in the back of the church. **Order deadline will be** *Saturday January 20th* or until sellout (some restaurants donate a certain number of quarts). Soup is \$9.00 per quart and Chili is \$12.00 per quart. Soups are: Beef Noodle (Willing Workers); Chicken Pastene (church); Chili (church); Cream of Broccoli (Lookout House); Italian Wedding (church); Loaded Baked Potato (Lookout House); Manhattan Clam Chowder (Lookout House); Minestrone (Sand Springs); Rhode Island Clam Chowder (Meeting House); Spinach Cheese Noodle (church); Split Pea (Gould's Supermarket); Tomato Garlic (Tom's Kitchen); Turkey Corn Chowder (Sally Purcell's Country Inn). There will be Apple Dumplings for sale at \$5.00 each.

THE ANNUAL PORK AND SAUERKRAUT DINNER

will be held **Saturday February 3rd from 3:00pm-7:00pm.** The dinner will **be served both in-house and take-out.** Cost is \$12 for adults and \$4 for children 12 and younger. You may call Mary Lou Keck at 453-5969 or the church office at 788-1572 weekdays between 9am-Noon to make reservations. Sales at the door are limited as to prior sales. You may also purchase tickets at the church office. <u>Cakes are needed for desserts. Please see the sign-up sheet and use a disposable pan.</u>

2024 FLOWERS AND BULLETIN SPONSOR CHARTS ARE AVAILABLE

Look for the sign-up charts on the bulletin board in the parlor to choose your dates to sponsor. Special flower pieces need to be ordered through the office (i.e. altar piece).

CHRISTMAS



EPIPHANY 303 Brightest and Best of the Stars Bright-est of and best the stars of the morn - ing, 2 Cold on his cra dle the dew drops are shin - ing; What shall we vo - tion? 3 give him, in cost ly de Vain - ly of fer ob la - tion, we each am ple Bright-est the of the morn - ing, and best of stars dawn on our dark ness and lend us your aid. low lies his head with the beasts of the stall: Shall bring in cense and of f'rings di vine, we vain - ly with gifts would his fa vor se cure; dawn dark - ness and lend your aid. on our us Star the of the east, ho zon dorn ing, gels a dore him in slum ber re clin tain and pearls gems of the moun of the 0 cean, rich by far is the heart's ad tion, er ra Star the the ho of east, dorn guide where our deem laid. in fant re all. mak - er and mon arch and sav ior of

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What Feast of Love 487 What feast of love is of - fered here, what ban - quet come from What light of truth of - fered here, what cov - e - nant from 2 is heav-en? What wine of love is of - fered here, what crim-son drink from heav-en? What food of ev - er - last-ing life, what gra - cious gift is What hope of ev - er - last-ing life, what won-drous word is giv - en? What stream of ev - er - last-ing life, what pre - cious blood is giv - en? This, this is Christ the king, the bread come down from heav - en. This, this is Christ the king, the sun come down from heav - en. This, this is Christ the king, the sweet-est wine heav - en. taste and see and sing! How sweet the man - na Oh, hear and sing! The Word of God giv - en! see and is taste and see and sing! The Son of God is giv - en!

310 Songs of Thankfulness and Praise Songs of thank-ful - ness and praise, Je - sus, Lord, to thee we raise; 2 Man - i - fest at 3 Man - i - fest in Jor - dan's stream, proph-et, priest, and king su-preme; mak - ing whole weak-ened bod - y, faint-ing soul; 4 Grant us grace to see thee, Lord, pres - ent in thy ho - ly word; man - i - fest - ed by the from a - far, star sa - ges and at Ca - na wed - ding guest in thy God-head man - i - fest; man - i - fest in val - iant fight, dev-il's might; quell-ing all the grace to im - i - tate thee now and be pure, as pure art thou; branch of roy - al Da - vid's stem in thy birth at Beth - le - hem: pow'r di - vine, man - i - fest in chang-ing wa - ter in - to wine; ev - er bring-ing good from ill: man - i - fest in gra - cious will, that we might be - come like thee thy great e - piph - a - ny, at an - thems be thee ad-dressed, to an - thems be to thee ad-dressed. God in flesh made man - i - fest. an - thems be to thee ad-dressed, and may praise thee, ev - er blest,