

O star of wonder,
star of night

Star with royal
beauty bright

Westward leading,
still proceeding

Guide us to
thy perfect light

The Epiphany of Our Lord
January 5, 2020





Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church

Lutheran Church Canada

322 East Avenue, Kitchener, Ontario N2H 1Z5 (519)742-5812 www.holycrosskitchener.org

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The Epiphany of Our Lord

8:30 & 11:00 am - Holy Communion Services

9:45 am - Sunday School and Bible Classes for All Ages

2:00 pm - Nuer Language Service

Order of Service: Divine Service Setting Four, LSB page 203

Hymns: 367, 400, (397, 394), 832

Readings: Isaiah 60:1-6 (Pew Bible, Page 723)
Ephesians 3:1-12 (Pew Bible, Page 1134)
St. Matthew 2:1-12 (Pew Bible, Page 934)

Anthem: "One King" by Jeff Borders, Gayla Borders and Lowell Alexander
Olivia Clay (*solo*), Jennifer Massicotte (*accompanist*).

Sermon "THE GOD OF SURPRISES" St. Matthew 2:1-12

Serving in God's House Today: Pastor Roland Syens (*Officiant*), Pastor Joe Das, Pastor Konny Hahn (*8:30 Communion Assistants*), Pastor William Chuol, Pastor Gary Weber, Rick Hutfloetz (*11:00 Communion Assistants*), Jennifer Massicotte (*Organist*), Buk Reat (*8:30 Acolyte*), Maya Black (*11:00 Acolyte*), Carl Kuhl (*8:30 Sound Operator*), Claude Massicotte, Isaiah Bridgemohan (*11:00 Sound Operators*).

Prayer Concerns: In our prayers today we remember the family of **Don (Doc) Poll** who passed away on Tuesday and whose funeral was yesterday. May God comfort his family and all who mourn with the sure certain hope of life eternal. We also remember **Judy Hebner** in hospice care, **Ken Frank** as he undergoes cancer treatment, **Donna Sauder** as she prepares for surgery, and others of our congregation who look to the Lord for healing and strength. We ask God to bless this new year with his grace and peace!

Pastor Astley will be back in the office on Tuesday, January 7.

A HUGE Thank You! to everyone who helped at the St. John's Kitchen last week. Whether you helped weeks before, the day before, or the day of, thank you so much! Thank you for the wonderful support and volunteer time to make it possible, serving those in our community with the love of God.

Today's Education Hour...

Sunday School – Welcome back to a new term in Sunday School. We will be starting our journey through the life of Christ picking up with the story of Epiphany and working our way toward the cross.

Youth Bible Class – Will be up in the youth room!

Adult Bible Class – Next Sunday, Pastor Astley will begin a new series next week entitled “Christ our Treasure” based on selected readings from the Book of Hebrews. Life is a difficult journey: a journey from weariness into rest, and from isolation into the glorious city of God. Ultimately, we are all dreaming of home, and the only way we’re going to get there is by fixing our eyes on Jesus. He is our home, and in him, our passage is secure, and our resources are sufficient, whatever circumstances we face. Our topic next week is “Jesus – The Final Word”. This morning please join Pastor Syens as he leads Bible Class beginning at 10:00 in the sanctuary looking at missions.

Coming Events...

ESL Conversation Circle begins here at Holy Cross this **Monday, January 6** from **10:30 am until noon**.

GriefShare starts this **Monday January 6**, from 6:30-8:30 pm and runs for 13 weeks. GriefShare is a special weekly seminar/support group for people grieving the death of someone close. You’ll learn valuable information that will help you at this difficult time in your life. For more information, please contact Anita Syens at 519-896-7574.

The Board of Directors Meeting is this **Tuesday, January 7** at **7:00 p.m.**

Daniel Bible Study! Resumes this **Tuesday, January 7 at 7:00 pm**. Pastor Gary Weber leads us as we continue to delve into this fascinating chapter in the Bible and what it means for our lives today.

Grades 6-12! - Circuit Youth is **THIS FRIDAY, January 10** from **7-9:00 p.m.** at Redeemer Lutheran in Waterloo. Please RSVP to Lenora at: lenora@holycrosskitchener.org by Wednesday, January 8.

Officers and Board Directors, your reports are due to the church office next **Sunday, January 12** so that the report can be prepared for the Voter’s Assembly on **Sunday, January 26**.

Men’s Retreat registration forms are now available for the **February 28-29, 2020** Men's Retreat on the Holy Cross website (www.holycrosskitchener.org) and at the Welcome Centre. This year’s topic is “Jesus and Archaeology” by Dr. Stephen Chambers.

Last Week at Holy Cross...

Christmas Eve Attendance:	391 & 278	Total 669	('18 – 722)
Christmas Day Attendance:	212	Total 212	('18 – 232)
Christmas Day Communion:	157	Total 157	('18 – 157)
Sunday & Nuer Attendance:	76 & 187 & 16	Total 279	('18 – 245)
Sunday School:	Pupils: 18 Staff: 2	Total 20	('18 – 6)
Mission Presentation:	Pupils: 89 Staff: 1	Total 90	('18 – 45)
New Year’s Eve Attd:	136	Total 136	('18 – 106)
New Year’s Eve Communion:	142	Total 132	('18 – 95)

Thankoffering: In honour of **STEFEN WELKER'S 88th BIRTHDAY** to the Renovation Fund from Franziska Welker. In honour of **ROB & HEATHER SCHEIN'S 25TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY** to the Church Choir Music Ministry from Arnold & Cheri Drung and an anonymous donor; to the Welfare Fund from Doug & Joanne Grischow; to the Unified Church Budget from Jennie Bloch; to the Refugee Family Sponsorship Fund from Marjorie Snyder and Brian & Leslie Ann Webb.

Memorial: In memory of **ELAINE SCHAEFER** to the Unified Church Budget from Marian McGee and family. In memory of **JOE KIRKEY** to the Unified Church Budget from Sherry Swartz-Hill and Bruce & Norene Brubacher.

Weekly Calendar

Monday January 6 to Sunday January 12, 2020

Monday	ESL, <i>Church Basement</i>	10:30 a.m.
	Griefshare, <i>Confirmation Classroom</i>	6:30 p.m.
Tuesday	Board of Directors, <i>Library</i>	7:00 p.m.
	Daniel Bible Study, <i>Conference Room</i>	7:00 p.m.
Wednesday	Knotty Ladies, <i>Confirmation Classroom, Panel Room, Kitchen</i>	9:30 a.m.
	Outreach Board, <i>Library</i>	7:00 p.m.
Thursday	Beginnings, <i>Downstairs</i>	9:30 a.m.
	Prayer Group, <i>Library</i>	9:30 a.m.
	Stephen Ministry Training, <i>Panel Room</i>	1:30 p.m.
	Praise Singers, <i>Church</i>	7:00 p.m.
	Church Choir, <i>Church</i>	7:45 p.m.
Friday	Circuit Youth Event, <i>Redeemer Lutheran Church, Waterloo</i>	7:00 p.m.
Sunday	The First Sunday after the Epiphany	
	Divine Service , <i>Church</i>	8:30 a.m.
	Sunday School, <i>Downstairs</i>	9:45 a.m.
	Adult Bible Class, <i>Church</i>	9:45 a.m.
	YABS, <i>Conference Room</i>	9:45 a.m.
	Youth Bible Class, <i>Church</i>	9:45 a.m.
	Divine Service , <i>Church</i>	11:00 a.m.
Slovak Congregation Service , <i>Church</i>	3:30 p.m.	