

Good News of Great Joy

EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

January 11, 2026

9:00 a.m. Livestream

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Fugue and Contre-chant
(on *Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern*)

G. LIARDON

RINGING OF THE BELLS

Order of St. John

WELCOME

Pastor Jon Haug

CALL TO WORSHIP

MORNING STAR

As music begins, the congregation turns and faces the Processional Cross.

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

Arise, shine; for your light has come,
And the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

The Lord will rise upon you,
And God's glory will appear over you.
Then you shall see and be radiant;
Your heart shall thrill and rejoice.

(Adapted from Isaiah 60:1-6, the first reading for Epiphany)

And so together we say:

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.

GATHERING HYMN

Brightest and Best of the Stars

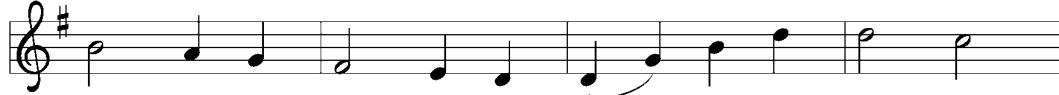
MORNING STAR
ELW HYMN 303



1 Bright-est and best of the stars of the morn - ing,
2 Cold on his cra - dle the dew - drops are shin - ing;
3 What shall we give him, in cost - ly de - vo - tion?
4 Vain - ly we of - fer each am - ple ob - la - tion,
5 Bright-est and best of the stars of the morn - ing,



dawn on our dark - ness and lend us your aid.
low lies his head with the beasts of the stall;
Shall we bring in - cense and of - frings di - vine,
vain - ly with gifts would his fa - vor se - cure;
dawn on our dark - ness and lend us your aid.



Star of the east, the ho - ri - zon a - dorm - ing,
an - gels a - dore him in slum - ber re - clin - ing,
gems of the moun - tain and pearls of the o - cean,
rich - er by far is the heart's ad - o - ra - tion,
Star of the east, the ho - ri - zon a - dorm - ing,



guide where our in - fant re - deem - er is laid.
mak - er and mon - arch and sav - ior of all.
myrrh from the for - est or gold from the mine?
dear - er to God are the prayers of the poor.
guide where our in - fant re - deem - er is laid.

GREETING

The grace of Jesus Christ our Savior, the reconciling love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Everlasting God,
the radiance of all faithful people, you brought the nations to the brightness
of your rising. Fill the world with your glory, and show yourself to all the world
through him who is the true light and the bright morning star, your Son, Jesus
Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

LESSON

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.

Holy wisdom, holy word.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

What Star Is This

PUER NOBIS
M. PRAETORIUS

Verse 1 only

1. What star is this, with beams so bright, More love - ly
2. O Je - sus, while the star of grace Im - pels us

1. than the noon - day light? 'Tis sent to an-nounce a
2. on to seek thy face, Let not our _ sloth - ful

1. new - born king, Glad tid - ings of our God to bring.
2. hearts re - fuse The guid - ance of thy light to use.

Before the reading: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 2nd Chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL READING

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.*

After the reading: The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

ACCLAMATION REPRISE

What Star Is This

See previous, verse 2

FIRST GLANCE

Steven Johnson

SERMON

Pastor Paul Baglyos

SERMON RESPONSE

Let the words of my mouth

**and the meditation of our hearts be acceptable to you, O Lord,
our rock and our redeemer. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Assisting Minister Gary Ely-Grisham

After each petition: Merciful God.

receive our prayer.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

MEAL

OFFERTORY

*As we come together living out our faith in unity we trust in our God's loving care to provide for all we need.
Let us respond generously to God's abiding love with our tithes and offerings. You are invited to visit our giving
page link at <https://www.stjohnslc.org/giving> and leave an online offering.*

OFFERTORY MUSIC

We Three Kings of Orient Are

KINGS OF ORIENT

WOV HYMN 646

1 We three kings of O - ri - ent are; bearing
 2 Born a king on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I
 3 Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I; in - cense
 4 Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a

gifts we tra - verse a - far, field and foun - tain,
 bring to crown him a - gain; king for - ev - er,
 owns a de - i - ty nigh; prayer and prais - ing,
 life of gath - er - ing gloom; sor - rowing, sigh - ing,

moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.
 ceas - ing nev - er, o - ver us all to reign.
 glad - ly rais - ing, wor - ship - ing God Most High.
 bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the stone - cold tomb.

Refrain

Oh, star of won - der, star of night, star with roy - al beau - ty bright;
 west - ward lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - fect light!

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. God of majesty,

great are your wonders among us and many are the blessings you bestow.

Use us and these your gifts for the needs of the world, that all the ends of the earth may rejoice in your saving grace, through Christ our Savior. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

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

MENDELSSOHN

**Holy, holy, holy Lord! God of hosts, by all adored!
Heav'n and earth cannot contain, all the glory of Your name!
Hail, hosanna, God most high! Blest is He who now draws nigh.
In the name of God the King! Hallelujahs glad we sing:
Hail, hosanna! Praises due, be forever, Lord, to you!**

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Blessed are you, O God, creator of heaven and earth. You rescued your covenant people, led them on all their journeys, and taught them by the prophets. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

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.

As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit in this meal, and make us one in this community of faith and with your people throughout the world. Glory and praise to you, O God, Author of life, Word made flesh, Power of the Most High, now and forever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as 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.

AGNUS DEI

Lamb of God

CHRISTMAS CAROL MASS
C. T. ANDREWS | J. T. KYLER

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world, have mer-cy on us, have mer-cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world, grant us peace, grant us peace.

SELF-DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

All are welcome here at God's table. We believe Christ is truly present in the bread and wine through the faith of those who gather. Jesus invites you to this meal that imparts God's free gift of grace.

You are invited to partake of the meal with the bread and juice/wine you prepared saying: "The body of Christ given for me/us." And "The blood of Christ shed for me/us."



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.



High Voices - 1. O Morn - ing Star, how fair and bright! You shine with -
 ALL - 2. Come, pre - cious dia - mond, light di - vine,
 Low Voices - 3. Al - might - y Fa - ther, in your Son and deep with -
 ALL - 4. Oh, let the harps break forth in sound! you loved us,
 Our joy be



God's own truth and light, a - glow with grace and mer - cy!
 in our hearts now shine; there light a flame un - dy - ing!
 when not yet be - gun was this old earth's foun - da - tion!
 all with mu - sic crowned, our voic - es gai - ly blend - ing!

Music continues on next page...



Of Ja - cob's line, King Da-vid's son, our Lord and Sav - ior
In your one bod - y let us be as liv - ing branch - es
Your Son has ran - somed us in love to live in him here
For Christ goes with us all the way to - day, to - mor - row,



you have won our hearts to serve you on - ly! Low - ly,
of a tree, your life our lives sup - ply - ing. Now, though
and a - bove: this is your great sal - va - tion. Al - le -
ev - 'ry day! His love is ne - ver end - ing! Sing out!



ho - ly! Great and glo - rious, all vic - to - rious, rich
dai - ly earth's deep sad - ness may per - plex us and
lu - ia! Christ the liv - ing, to us giv - ing life
Ring out! Ju - bi - la - tion! Ex - ul - ta - tion! Tell



in bless - ing! Rule and might o'er all pos - sess - ing!
dis - tress us, yet with heav'n - ly joy you bless us.
for - ev - er, keeps us yours and fails us nev - er!
the sto - ry! Praise to Christ, who reigns in glo - ry!

SACRAMENTAL BLESSING

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray. Radiant Gd,

we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. In the sacrament of his body and blood you have drawn us to your heart. Send us from this table with delight, that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love, and bear witness to all we have seen and heard, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

SENDING

BENEDICTION

SENDING FORTH HYMN

Arise, Your Light Has Come!

FESTAL SONG
ELW HYMN 314



1 A - rise, your light has come! The Spir - it's call o - bey;
2 A - rise, your light has come! Fling wide the pris - on door;
3 A - rise, your light has come! All you in sor - row born,
4 A - rise, your light has come! The moun - tains burst in song!



show forth the glo - ry of your God which shines on you to - day.
pro - claim the cap-tive's lib - er - ty, good tid - ings to the poor.
bind up the bro - ken - heart-ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.
Rise up like ea - gles on the wing, God's pow'r will make us strong.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace, serve the Lord,
and live God's love in the world.

POSTLUDE

Prelude in G Minor

J. S. BACH

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Presider	Pastor Jon Haug
Preacher	Pastor Paul Baglyos
Assisting Minister	Gary Ely-Grisham
First Glance	Steven Johnson
Lector	Karen Ross
Organ	Dan Nguyen, Dr. Lars Gjerde
Piano	Steven Johnson
Violin	Giorgi Khokhobashvili
Choirs of St. John's	Joel Barkel, Linda Bush, Heather Mercer,
Cantors in Rotation	Kathryn Mercer, Eliseo Paniagua
Altar Guild	Karen Olson
Eucharistic Servers	Lester Chew, Karen Ross
Greeters	Cory Hollingsworth, Mary Miller, Anne Smith
Ushers	Tom Harris, Mary Robinson, Anne Smith

ST. JOHN'S STAFF

Director of Missional Strategy	Rev. Paul Baglyos, Bridge Pastor
Director of Youth and Family	Rev. Jon Haug, Associate Pastor
Director of Worship & Music	Steven Johnson
Director of Communications and Community Engagement	Catherine Slabaugh
Director of Administration	Katherine Thorp
Associate Director of Worship & Music	Eliseo Paniagua
Associate Director of Volunteer Management	Joel Barkel
Property Staff	Matt Balara, Doug Droze, Julius Turner
Parish Nurse	Suzi Taylor, RN
Bridge Organist	Dan Nguyen
Audio Technician	John Bologni
Video Technicians	Tim Reese, Esperanza Foft
Nursery Attendants	Amy Afoa, Helen Disho

ST. JOHN'S MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Congregation Matters: Budget Hearing
Sunday, January 18th | 10:15 a.m. | Oehler Hall

As we prepare for the upcoming Annual Meeting, all are invited to this Budget Hearing. Church Treasurer John Bailey will lead the conversation around the proposed 2026 Budget, be available to answer questions, and lead thoughtful discernment on this important work.

- Pacific Lutheran University Choir Concert
Friday, January 23rd | 7:30 p.m. | St. John's Sanctuary

The PLU Choir of the West will perform at St. John's while on their tour, "Seeking Light and Beauty" later this month. Musical evocations of themes of strength, hope, healing, and joy will be on display as this 30-voice ensemble opens their tour here in Sacramento. Admission is free, donations are welcome!

- Connecting with our Native American Neighbors
Sundays, January 25th, February 1st, & 8th | 10:15 a.m. | Oehler Hall

For three Sundays this winter, the Justice-Making Ministry of St. John's will host an adult education class about Connecting with our Native American Neighbors. Throughout these classes, participants will learn about the Repudiation of the Doctrine of Discovery, learn about the History of Native Americans in the Sacramento area, and listen to Indigenous Guest Speakers. Come engage in this powerful and important dialogue!

- 2026 Annual Congregational Meeting
Sunday, January 25th | 1 p.m. | St. John's Sanctuary

The St. John's Congregational Council has called the 2026 Annual Congregational Meeting for Sunday, January 25th, 2026, 1:00 p.m. in the sanctuary and via zoom. The agenda will include the election of Council members and approval of the 2026 budget. Please plan to attend!

TODAY AT ST. JOHN'S

- Kings, Cake & Coffee | 10:15 a.m. | The Gathering Place

Come celebrate Epiphany at our 2nd annual Kings, Cake & Coffee event! This is an all-church gathering - complete with various cakes and coffee to enjoy. The community engagement committee will host and provide the treats, but be sure to bring your "wise men" figurines to share with your table. There may even be a surprise visit from some camel-riding wise people!



To make a one-time donation or to start a recurring donation,
or for updates and events in and around St. John's,
scan the QR Code or visit www.stjohnslc.org
to subscribe to our weekly e-newsletter.

