

# Good News of Great Joy

EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD  
January 11, 2026 | 9:00 a.m.\*\*

*\*\*Please note that this service is livestreamed  
and you may be recorded on video\*\**

## GATHERING

PRELUDE

*Fuguettes 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, please turn and face 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.**

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*\* You are invited to stand.*

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

MORNING STAR

*Brightest and Best of the Stars*

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 - f'rings 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 - dorn - 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 - dorn - 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.

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\*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.

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*Before the reading:* The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 scan the QR  
codes located in the pews in front of you and leave an online offering or you can leave any tithe, offering or  
connection cards in the collection plates as they are passed around or any located near the exits.*

*We Three Kings of Orient Are*


1 We three kings of O - ri - ent are; bear - ing  
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.**

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\*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.**

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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.**

**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.*

*We share the meal by intinction; as you approach the center you will be handed a wafer that you may dip into the wine or juice. Grape juice is in the smaller compartment, and gluten free wafers are available upon request.*

*If you do not wish to commune, you may come forward for a blessing.  
Indicate this by crossing your arms over your chest.*

**AGNUS DEI**

**Lamb of God**

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

The musical score is written for a single melodic line in treble clef, 3/4 time. It consists of four staves. The first two staves form the first phrase, and the last two staves form the second phrase. The lyrics are written below the notes.

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.

*As with Gladness Men of Old*

ELW HYMN 302



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.

*O Morning Star*

P. NICOLAI | ARR. C. W. ORE



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

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## SENDING

\*BENEDICTION

\*SENDING FORTH HYMN

FESTAL SONG  
ELW HYMN 314

### *Arise, Your Light Has Come!*



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

*Please help us secure the parking in a timely manner and avoid any "lock-ups" by having your vehicles out of either the parking garage or church parking lot by 2:00 p.m. (Special events will have parking times listed)*

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## SERVING IN WORSHIP

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

## ST. JOHN'S STAFF

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

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## ST. JOHN'S MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Congregation Matters: Budget Hearing  
Sunday, January 18<sup>th</sup> | 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 23<sup>rd</sup> | 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 25<sup>th</sup>, February 1<sup>st</sup>, & 8<sup>th</sup> | 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 25<sup>th</sup> | 1 p.m. | St. John's Sanctuary

The St. John's Congregational Council has called the 2026 Annual Congregational Meeting for Sunday, January 25<sup>th</sup>, 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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](http://www.stjohnslc.org)  
to subscribe to our weekly e-newsletter.**

