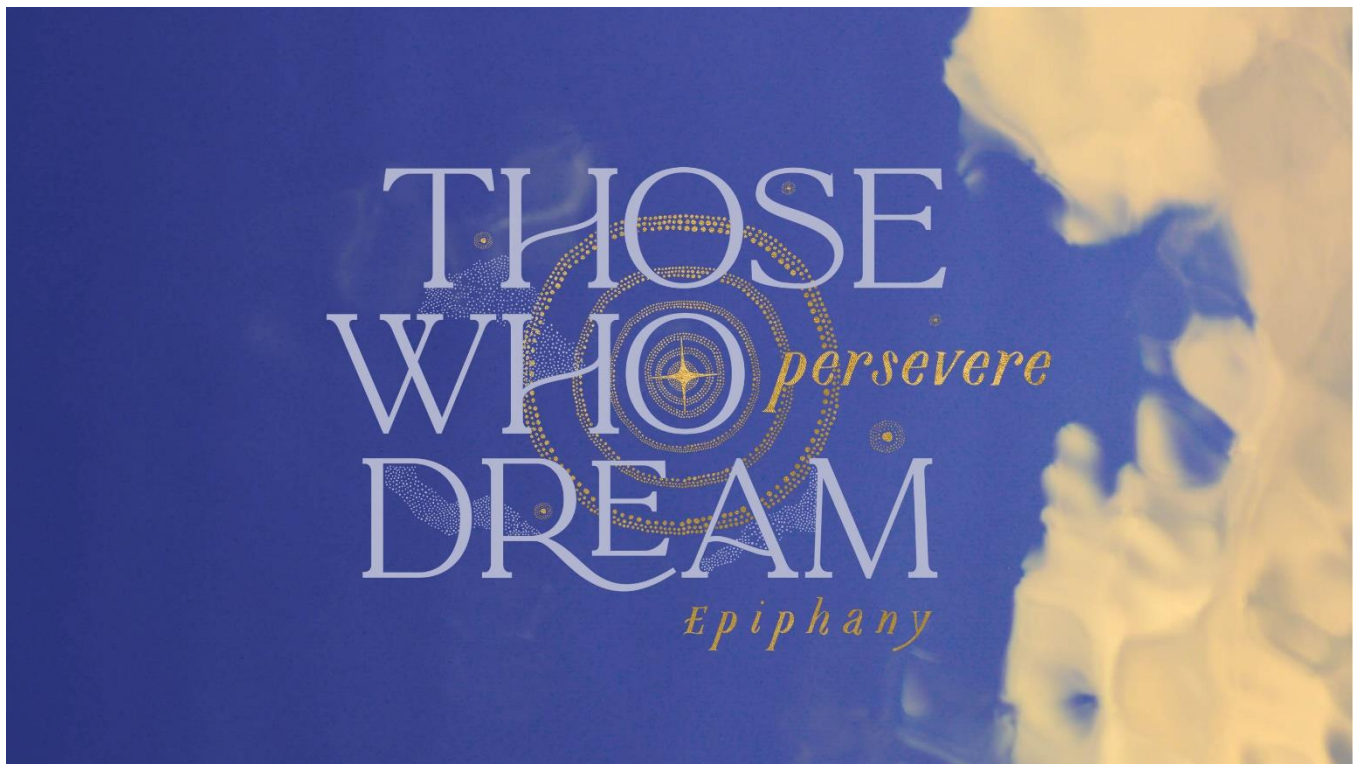




Worship Service
Saturday, January 2, 2021



CALL TO WORSHIP

The Magi had a dream... of a Messiah, of just rulers, of a new day for all people.
The Magi's dream led them to action... to journey to unknown places,
to follow a star, to walk for days, months, years, to reach Jesus.

For the journey of life, love and faith that is rarely easy,
and for the dream that does not end with a manger,

We ask for God's help to persevere and take courage
to follow the star and find God-made-flesh so that our dreams inspire action, too.

Glory to God in the highest... **And peace to God's people on earth.**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with us all.

Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

We 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.

FIRST READING – 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.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL – 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.

The gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

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.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Rev. Christina Garrett Klein

REFLECTIVE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

This Epiphany, the Magi disclose to us the power of dreams. We receive all of God's dreams: warnings, assurances, projections about how to persevere during this pandemic. The journey forward of how to flourish with courage and resilience will surely come to us in our dreams.

To practice perseverance in our prayers and dreams for this world, we invite you to write three things, following these prompts:

1. Upon seeing Jesus, the Magi are overcome with joy.
 - a. Write something that gives you joy that you are grateful for—a piece of good news, worthy of praise.
2. Arise, shine, for your light has come is the message Isaiah brings to a people who are hurting, oppressed, and cast-aside. Everyday they can wake up in our world is a day they persevere and continue to dream for a better world.
 - a. Think of one person or group of people that persevering amid trouble or chaos. May this be a reminder that God comes to those who are downtrodden, and that the star shines bright for them.
3. Through a dream, God sends the Magi home by another way.
 - a. Think of one word or phrase that can be your prayer to God as you journey into this new year.

As we pray together, you are invited to give voice and speak your prayers aloud or typing them into the comments or chat box.

We pray together...

Holy Dreamer, when they saw Jesus, the Magi were overwhelmed with joy and responded to your glory with the giving of gifts. In this time, we now lift our own prayers of gratitude and joy:

Worshippers speak their prayers aloud or type them into the chat.

Holy Dreamer, the Magi witnessed Jesus' divinity and the dream for a better world. We, too, have these dreams, for those who look to see your star and your light, and are met first with clouds. Praying for those who persevere, we now offer our prayers to you:

Worshippers speak their prayers aloud or type them into the chat.

Holy Dreamer, you led the Magi to the child and then again to their homes through a dream. Though they left for home another way, you guided them on a journey of faithfulness. Through uncharted waters and unprecedented times, you lead us into a new year of hope, promising to be with us along the journey. We now lift our prayers for the journeys we will take in 2021:

Worshippers speak their prayers aloud or type them into the chat.

Holy God, we lift all these prayers, written and unwritten, spoken and unspoken, to you. Hold them with care. Give them life, for the sake of the one before whom we kneel, we pray, now and forever.

Amen.

MEAL

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

COMMUNION

*The Word is revealed in a manger, in simple bread and wine.
Come meet Christ in this meal.*

+ + + *Receive the Meal* + + +

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.

*We pause for prayer and reflection, and to give time to commune those gathered
with others in the household.*

OFFERING/ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

Almighty God, who sent the Holy Spirit to Mary, proclaimed joy through the angels, sent the shepherds with good news, and led the magi by a star,
bless you this day ☩ through the Word made flesh.
Amen.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the gift of Jesus.
Thanks be to God.

MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR!!



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Our Mission:

Transforming lives by sharing a saving faith in Jesus Christ
and living the Gospel through service

If you would like to add a name to our prayer list, connect with our ministries,
meet with one of our pastors, or learn more about ELC and how to join, feel free to
call or email us. You are always welcome here.

+ Pastor Christina Klein

Reverend Christina Klein	pastorchristina@edgebrooklutheran.org	Pastor
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Artwork by Lauren Wright Pittman. Call to Worship adapted from a liturgy by Sarah Are. &
Reflective Prayers of the People adapted from Dr. Marcia Y. Riggs | A Sanctified Art LLC |
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***See you next week for worship at 5pm on Saturday
and livestream at 8:45am & 10:45am on Sunday!
We continue sharing in communion. Please call/email the church
office if you need elements brought to you.***



Thank you for worshipping with us today as we seek to be in community with one another while minimizing physical contact. As a gentle reminder, please continue to wash your hands for the recommended 20 seconds, wear a mask and create safe boundaries through physical distancing.

We know that God is with us and God is at work, wherever we worship. With coronavirus cases on the rise, we will continue worshipping online at this time. Please be vigilant and check your email, Facebook, etc., for additional notifications and updates in the coming weeks, and contact the church council (council@edgebrooklutheran.org) with any concerns. Stay safe and be well! God's peace to you!!