



Reach Out. Proclaim. Inspire.

# Epiphany of Our Lord

Sunday, January 4, 2026

9:30 a.m.

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

— Isaiah 60:1

## Welcome!

If you are looking for a church home or would like to know more about St. Philip the Deacon and its ministries, please visit our website: [spdlc.org](http://spdlc.org).

Please visit [spdlc.org/livestream](http://spdlc.org/livestream) for worship resources, including bulletins, materials for children, links to our Family Faith Creek (Sunday School) online programming, and Confirmation worship notes.

Video archives of past services and sermons can be found at [spdlc.org/videoarchive](http://spdlc.org/videoarchive).

Audio archives of past sermons can be found at [spdlc.org/sermons](http://spdlc.org/sermons).

Visit [facebook.com/spdlc](https://facebook.com/spdlc) for additional online resources.

There are also many video resources from the church on our YouTube channels. Search "St. Philip the Deacon" on YouTube to find past events, sermons and podcasts.

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## Prelude

"Resonet in Laudibus" from *Cathedral Windows* Sigfrid Karg-Elert

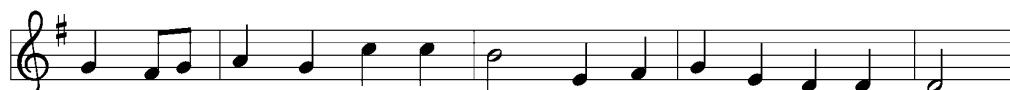
## Welcome

*Please stand*

## Opening Hymn

*As with Gladness Men of Old*

Red Hymnal #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.

## Invocation, Confession, Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the Creator of heaven and earth, the Word who spoke life into being, the Wind stirring the waters. **Amen**

Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Mighty God, lover of justice,

**you call us to life in community, but we have served our own interests at the expense of our neighbors. Turn us to seek your face. Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ, that we may do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen**

The former things have passed away, and new things God now declares: Like a spring of water that never fails, God covers you in the righteousness of Christ, and forgives your sin in † Jesus' name. May the Spirit give you strength to live for others, and bless you with the gift of peace. **Amen**

## Today's Worship

### Participants

#### Musicians

Celina Kobetsch, organ

#### SPD Quartet

Debi Kilde

Susan Ramlet

Laurent Kuehnl

Woody Woodward

#### Reader

Lynda Berglund

#### Altar Guild

Nicole St. John

Mary Steinbicker

#### Altar Flowers

Would you like to sponsor altar flowers? Your commemoration will be printed here and on the opening slide of the livestream. Thank you!

## Greeting

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

## Kyrie

Red Hymnal page 156

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. **Amen**

## Hymn of Praise

Red Hymnal page 159

All glory be to God on high, and peace to earth be given! Let angels sing, let all reply; goodwill breaks forth from heaven! Lord God Almighty, heaven's king, we worship you, our thanks we sing, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, creation's author, O Lamb of God, your death alone takes sin away forever. Stretch out your arms to ev'ry land, and, as you reign at God's right hand, receive our prayer; have mercy. To you alone, O God, we cry, the Holy One we name you; for you alone are God most high, one living God we claim you: we worship you, Lord Jesus Christ, with God the Spirit ever blest, in God the Father's glory. Amen

## Salutation and Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray... **Amen**

## Lesson

Isaiah 60:1-6

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand*

## Gospel Acclamation

Red Hymnal page 151



## The Holy Gospel

Matthew 2:1-12

*After the announcement, the people say, "Glory to you, O Lord."*

*At the conclusion, the people say, "Praise to you, O Christ!"*

*Please be seated*

## Children's Message

Kathy Hagedorn, Early Childhood Ministry

## Hymn of the Day

## Brightest and Best of the Stars

## Red Hymnal #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 - 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.

## Homily

Pastor Tim Westermeyer

## Prayers of the People... Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

The names mentioned in the prayers represent a much longer list. If you have made a prayer request and do not hear the name mentioned here please know that the Healing Prayer Group prays daily for each and every person brought to our attention.

## Offering

## O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright!

J.S. Bach  
ed. Augsburg Fortress

Your offerings can be left in the offering plates at the entrance to the sanctuary, mailed to the church, given electronically at [spdlc.org/give](http://spdlc.org/give), or by scanning the QR code located on the back of the bulletin. Thank you for your generous support of God's mission and ministry at St. Philip the Deacon. Remember: Your gifts make a difference.

Please stand

## Offertory

## Red Hymnal #186

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.

## We Remember in Prayer...

Mike Windsor  
Kathy Adam  
Jack Osberg  
Karen Kleinstuber  
Tess Soholt  
Jane Johnson  
Suzanne Nelson  
Carol Grabow  
Frank Bunch  
Bonnie Mallberg  
Douglas Eayrs  
Violet Kluver  
Helen Nagel

## Those Grieving

Marti Dixon, mourning the death of her husband, Thom Dixon

## Those Rejoicing

Leah & Cole Bartels, as they celebrate the baptism of their daughter, Sophie Carolyn Bartels

## A Rose on the Font

As an expression of our life together, a red rose on the baptismal font indicates that we have received news of a birth and a white rose that we have received news of a stillbirth or a miscarriage. As Paul writes, we "rejoice with those who rejoice and mourn with those who mourn." (Romans 12:15)

To make a prayer request, send an email to [prayers@spdlc.org](mailto:prayers@spdlc.org).

## Next Week's Scriptures

To prepare for worship next week, please read the following scripture passages:  
Isaiah 42:1-9  
Psalm 29  
Acts 10:34-43  
Matthew 3:13-17

## New Member Class

If you are interested in joining St. Philip the Deacon, please attend our next New Member Class:

Monday, Jan. 26 at  
6:30 p.m.

Register at [spdlc.org/register](http://spdlc.org/register) or contact Cindy Carlson at 763-475-7115. Childcare is available. New Members will be received on Sunday, Feb. 1.

## Offertory Prayer

God of majesty, no eye has seen, no ear has heard what you have prepared for those who love you, yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy. Use what we have gathered to feed us with the reign of God come near, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

*Please know that all are welcome to receive Holy Communion. You may receive Holy Communion in one of two ways. First, you may choose to come forward to receive by intinction, receiving a wafer in your hand and dipping it into the chalice of wine or juice. The gluten free chalice is located near where the pastors sit. Or second, you may pick up individually wrapped elements at the usher stand in the Narthex and receive while remaining in your pew.*

## The Great Thanksgiving

Red Hymnal page 152

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 our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

## Words of Institution

### The 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

## Reception of Communion

Red Hymnal page 154

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.**

## Communion Music

*Epiphany Carol*

Bruce Neswick

## Post Communion Blessing

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood strengthen, keep and unite us, now and forever. **Amen**

## Post Communion Hymn

Red Hymnal #207

Thankful hearts and voices raise; tell ev'ryone what God has done. Let ev'ryone who seeks the Lord rejoice and bear the name of Christ. Send us with your promises and lead your people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

## Post Communion Prayer

## Benediction

**Closing Hymn***Bright and Glorious Is the Sky*

Red Hymnal #301

1 Bright and glo - rious is the sky, ra - diant are the  
 2 On that ho - ly Christ - mas night through the dark - ness  
 3 Sa - ges from the east a - far, when they saw this  
 4 Him they found in Beth - le - hem, yet he wore no

heav - ens high where the gold - en stars are shin - ing.  
 beamed a light; all the stars a - bove were pal - ing,  
 won - drous star, went to find the king of na - tions  
 di - a - dem; there they saw a maid - en low - ly

All their rays to earth in - clin - ing beck - on us to  
 all their lus - ter slow - ly fail - ing as the won - drous  
 and to of - fer their ob - la - tions to the child, the  
 with an in - fant pure and ho - ly rest - ing in her

heav'n a - bove, beck - on us to heav'n a - bove.  
 star drew nigh, as the won - drous star drew - nigh.  
 new - born king, to the child, the new - born king.  
 lov - ing arms, rest - ing in her lov - ing arms.

5 Guided by the star, they found  
 him whose praise the ages sound.  
 We too have a star to guide us,  
 which forever will provide us  
 with the light to find our Lord,  
 with the light to find our Lord.

6 And this star, as bright as day,  
 that will never lead astray  
 with its message so appealing,  
 is the word of God, revealing  
 Christ, the way, the truth, the life,  
 Christ, the way, the truth, the life.

**Dismissal**

Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.

**Thanks be to God.****Postlude***Epiphanie*

Gaston Litaize

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**Worship Schedule**

Saturday	5 p.m.
Sunday	8:15, 9:30 <sup>+</sup> & 10:45 <sup>+</sup> a.m.

\*Sunday School meets.

Childcare is available at all  
Sunday services.

**Join us in Fellowship Hall**  
 for refreshments following  
 8:15 & 9:30 a.m. services.

**Pastors**

**Tim Westermeyer**  
Senior Pastor  
**Mark Schmid**  
Executive Pastor  
**Valerie Strand Patterson**  
Adult Ministry Pastor  
**Makayla Dahleen**  
Pastor of Family Life

**Program Staff**

**Cindy Carlson**  
Congregational Life  
**Joan Harper**  
Hospitality  
**Jen Galley**  
Adult Education  
**Renee Putnam**  
Engagement & Service  
**Susan Path**  
Parish Nurse  
**Kathy Hagedorn**  
Early Childhood  
**Norah Long**  
Children's & Music Ministry  
**Trish Arndt**  
Children's Ministry  
**Amanda Berger**  
Spiritual Growth  
**Olsen Pancoast**  
High School & Young Adult  
**Charlie Olson**  
Middle School

**Musicians**

**Sam Grace**  
Director of Music Ministry  
**Celina Klobetsch**  
Organist  
**Steve Griffiths**  
Associate Organist  
**JoBeth Ranfranz**  
Bell Choir Director

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ReflectionsonFaith

**Give Online:**

**St. Philip the Deacon**  
17205 County Road Six  
Plymouth, MN 55447

763-475-7100

[spdlc.org](http://spdlc.org)

**This Week at St. Philip the Deacon****SUNDAY, January 4—Epiphany**

8:15 a.m. **Worship with Holy Communion**  
9:30<sup>†</sup> a.m. **Worship with Holy Communion**  
Sunday School/Sunday Friends  
10:45 a.m. **Worship with Holy Communion**  
Sunday School

**MONDAY, January 5**

9:45 a.m. **Holy Grounds**  
11:30 a.m. **Chair Yoga**

**TUESDAY, January 6**

8 a.m. **Men's Discussion Group**  
1 p.m. **Thrive Cancer Support Group**  
3 p.m. **Spirit Beads Open Studio**  
6:30 p.m. **AA Group**  
6:30 p.m. **Joy Circle**  
7 p.m. **SPD Ringers**

**WEDNESDAY, January 7**

6:30 a.m. **Men's Fellowship Group**  
9:30 a.m. **SPD Bible Study**  
9:30 a.m. **Bible Study Fellowship**  
1 p.m. **Caregivers Support Group**  
6 p.m. **Grade 5 Gathering**

**THURSDAY, January 8**

9 a.m. **Yoga**  
9:30 a.m. **Moms in Prayer**  
11:30 a.m. **Chair Yoga**  
7 p.m. **Pathfinders**  
7 p.m. **Naomi Circle**

**FRIDAY, January 9**

9:30 a.m. **Ruth Circle**  
5:45 p.m. **Youth Snow Tubing**

**SATURDAY, January 10**

9:30 a.m. **Writing the Spiritual Life**  
**5 p.m.** **Worship with Holy Communion**

**SUNDAY, January 11—Baptism of Our Lord**

**8:15 a.m.** **Worship with Holy Communion**  
**9:30<sup>†</sup> a.m.** **Worship with Holy Communion**  
Sunday School/Sunday Friends  
**10:45 a.m.** **Worship with Holy Communion**  
Sunday School

<sup>†</sup> Livestreamed

*"May we, like the Magi, go home by another way. Having encountered the holy, may we protect it, guard it, trail its light behind us wherever we go."*

—Cameron Bellm

**Your Gifts Make a Difference**

Our gratitude extends to everyone on our Altar Guild team who faithfully serve the church throughout the year, and who take on many additional duties during Advent and Christmas. Thank you also to all who helped decorate our church, inside and out, during the Advent and Christmas seasons. You created a beautiful, welcoming atmosphere for everyone who worshiped with us. Remember: Your gifts make a difference!

**Did You Know**

This coming Tuesday, January 6, is the festival of Epiphany ("manifestation"), which comes 12 days after Christmas. Anticipating that festival, we celebrate Epiphany in our worship this weekend. Epiphany commemorates the visit of the Magi, an event which represents God's glory revealed to all nations through the person of Jesus Christ. Like the light of the star that guided the wise men to Jesus, the light of Christ reveals who we are: children of God claimed in baptism and sent out to share the good news of God's love to all people.