

**The Epiphany of Our Lord Jesus Christ  
Living Faith Lutheran Church  
January 2, 2022**

Preservice Music/Announcements/Welcome

**GATHERING**

In this time and place we gather on the unceded ancestral lands of the shíshálh nation.

**From many places and peoples, we come to this house of prayer.**

In this time and place we remember the coming of Emmanuel, God with us.

**Come, Lord Christ, Come.**

In this time and place we celebrate God's transformation of the world.

**Come, Lord Christ, Come.**

In this time and place we await the coming of the Commonwealth of peace.

**Come, Lord Christ, Come.**

In this time and place we commit ourselves to work with Christ  
that all these things may be accomplished.

**In the name of God, Source of all being, Eternal Word and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

**Thanksgiving for Baptism**

In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, the fountain of living water,  
the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation. **Amen.**

Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters  
and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family.

Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.

At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons,  
making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life,  
and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.

Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives  
with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

To you be given honour and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **AMEN!**

**Gathering Song**     #302     As with Gladness Men of Old (v.4 music only)

**PRAYER OF THE DAY:**

Let us pray.

O God, on this day you revealed your Son to the nations by the leading of a star. Lead us now by faith to know your presence in our lives, and bring us at last to the full vision of your glory, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**WORD**

**First Reading** – Isaiah 60: 1-6

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

**Second Reading** – Ephesians 3: 1-12

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation: Hallelujah!** (Leonard Cohen)

**Holy Gospel** – Matthew 2:1-12

**Glory to you God**

Response to Gospel Reading: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon**

**Hymn of the Day** #300 The First Noel (verses 1,3,4,5)

**Affirmation of Faith** (Iona Community)

**We believe in God above us,  
Maker and sustainer of all life,  
of sun and moon,  
of water and earth,  
of male and female.**

**We believe in God beside us,  
Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh,  
born of a woman, servant of the poor,  
tortured and nailed to a tree.  
A man of compassion, he died forsaken;  
he descended into the earth  
to the place of death.  
On the third day he rose from the tomb;  
he ascended into heaven  
to be everywhere present;  
and his kingdom will come on earth.**

**We believe in God within us,  
the Holy Spirit of Pentecostal fire,  
life-giving breath of the Church,  
Spirit of healing and forgiveness,  
source of resurrection and eternal life. Amen.**

### **Prayers of Intercession**

God of wanderers, you sent the magi from afar to witness the mystery and majesty of your birth. Send us into the world with your will in our hearts and on our lips. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

You created heaven and earth. Through your Spirit send your all-encompassing love over the cosmos. Bless the stars that guide our way and the night sky that invites the earth into slumber. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

You sent the magi to follow the star into an uncertain future. May all leaders and peoples seek your face, especially when paths are not clear, conflicts rage, tyrants oppress, and fear abounds. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

You sent your Spirit to dwell with Paul in prison. Send your Spirit to those who are imprisoned and enslaved . . . Give courage and wisdom for building roads that lead to justice and freedom. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

You sent the holy family to seek safety in a new land. Protect all who make similar journeys. Send your guiding Spirit to asylum seekers, refugees, and all who journey toward safety. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

God of healing mercy, there are many entering this year who are ill, poor, bereft of hope as they survey the damage of heat, fire, and flood. Bless those who suffer and struggle in these days and may your Spirit grant encouragement and hope. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

And hear us as we remember before you those whose needs are heavy upon our hearts . . . Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Your glory is shown to the saints. We give thanks for those whose earthly journey has ended and now dwell with you forever. Give us signs of your continual presence until that day when we arise in you. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Rejoicing in your Word made flesh among us, we commend these prayers to you, confident of your grace and love made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Saviour.  
**Amen.**

### **Sharing of the Peace/Offering**

**Musical Reflection** (Table will be prepared for Communion)

## **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Let us pray.

God of mercy and grace, the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Fill us with good things at your table, that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer, and Light of the World.

**Amen.**

## **The Meal**

Prayer of Thanksgiving Over the Gifts

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory. Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honour and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

**Lord's Prayer** (sung)

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.**

**"Lamb of God"** (spoken)

**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.**

**Fraction** (Breaking of the Bread)

**The gifts of God for you, the beloved people of God. Thanks be to God.**

Invitation

**Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Come for all is ready!**

**Sharing of the Meal**

*(After we have all communed, join in Hymn 296 – What Child Is This)*

**Prayer after the Meal**

Jesus, Bread of life,

**we have received from your table more than we could ever ask.**

**As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us**

**to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray. Amen.**

**Benediction**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**Amen.**

**Sending Hymn**      #677    This Little Light of Mine

Dismissal

Go in peace. Share the good news.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude**