



A Great Light Has Come

Readings & Carols for Epiphany

January 1, 2023

Ringing of Bell

PRELUDE *Creator of the Stars of Night – 'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP:

- L:** Almighty Lord, we praise you for your shining light and glowing grace.
C: **Before the earth's foundation, you loved us and promised us life forever.**
L: Within earth's deep sadness, your mercy warms and cheers us.
C: **Despite our tears and sinning, we sing of the gladness of your mercy.**
L: We praise your Son, our Morning Star, our living Savior, who has ransomed us in love;
C: **and with the Spirit always near, keeps us yours and never fails us—
today, tomorrow, and every day.**
L: Glory to God in the highest
C: and peace to God's people on earth.

GATHERING SONG: *Angels from the Realms of Glory*

ELW 275 vss. 1 & 3

- 1** **Angels, from the realms of glory,
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;
Once you sang creation's story,
Now proclaim Messiah's birth:
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the newborn king.**
- 3** **Sages leave your contemplations,
Brighter visions beam afar;
Seek the great desire of nations,
You have seen his natal star.
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the newborn king.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY: *We pray together*

Everlasting God, the radiance of all faithful people, you brought nations to the brightness of your rising. Fill the world with your glory, and show yourself to all the world through the One 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.

LESSONS & CAROLS

LESSON 1: Genesis 1:1-5 *Let There Be Light*

¹In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, ²the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. ³Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

CAROL: *Creator of the Stars of Night*

ELW 245 vs 1 - 2

- ¹ Creator of the stars of night, your people's everlasting light,
O Christ, redeemer of us all, we pray you hear us when we call.**
- ² When this old world drew on toward night, you came; but not in splendor bright
not as a monarch but the child of Mary, blessed mother mild.**

LESSON 2: Exodus 13:17-22 *Israel is Led by Cloud & Fire*

¹⁷When Pharaoh let the people go, God did not lead them by way of the land of the Philistines, although that was nearer; for God thought, "If the people face war, they may change their minds and return to Egypt." ¹⁸So God led the people by the roundabout way of the wilderness toward the Red Sea. The Israelites went up out of the land of Egypt prepared for battle. ¹⁹And Moses took with him the bones of Joseph who had required a solemn oath of the Israelites, saying, "God will surely take notice of you, and then you must carry my bones with you from here." ²⁰They set out from Succoth, and camped at Etham, on the edge of the wilderness. ²¹The LORD went in front of them in a pillar of cloud by day, to lead them along the way, and in a pillar of fire by night, to give them light, so that they might travel by day and by night. ²²Neither the pillar of cloud by day nor the pillar of fire by night left its place in front of the people.

CAROL: *Creator of the Stars of Night*

ELW 245 vs 3-4

- ³ At your great name, O Jesus, now all knees must bend, all hearts must bow:
all things on earth with one accord, like those in heaven shall call you Lord.**
- ⁴ Come in your holy might, we pray, redeem us for eternal day;
defend us while we dwell below from all assaults of our dread foe.**

LESSON 3: Isaiah 9:2, 6-7 *A Great Light*

² The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness — on them light has shined.

⁶ For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

⁷His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

CAROL: *Hark! the Herald Angels Sing*

ELW 270 vs. 3

**3 Hail the heav'n-born Prince of peace!
Hail the Sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
Ris'n with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by,
Born that we no more may die,
Born to raise each child of earth,
Born to give us second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn king!"**

LESSON 4: Isaiah 60:1-6 *Your Light Has Come*

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.

CAROL: *What Child Is This*

ELW 296 v.3

**3 So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh;
Come, peasant, king, to own him.
The King of kings salvation brings;
Let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise the song on high, the virgin sings her lullaby;
Joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary!**

LESSON 5: Matthew 5:14-16 *You Are the Light*

¹⁴"You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. ¹⁵No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

CAROL: *This Little Light of Mine*

ELW 677 vs. 1

**1 This little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
This little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
This little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine,
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.**

LESSON 6: Ephesians 5:8-14 *Live as Children of Light*

⁸For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light — ⁹for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. ¹⁰Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. ¹²For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; ¹³but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, ¹⁴for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

"Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

CAROL: *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light*

ELW 815 v. 1

- 1 I want to walk as a child of the light.
I want to follow Jesus.
God set the stars to give light to the world.
The star of my life is Jesus.
In him there is no darkness at all.
The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God.
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.**

LESSON 7: 1 John 1:5-9 *Walk in the Light*

⁵This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. ⁶If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; ⁷but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. ⁸If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

CAROL: *Christ Be Our Light*

ELW 715 v. 1

- 1 Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people,
Light for the world to see.
Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness. Christ, be our light!
Shine in your church gathered today.**

LESSON 8: John 1:1-14 *The True Light*

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. ⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who

were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.
¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

CAROL: *Of the Father's Love Begotten*

ELW 295 v. 1 & 4

- 1 Of the Father's love begotten ere the worlds began to be,
he is Alpha and Omega, he the source, the ending he,
of the things that are, that have been, and that future years shall see,
evermore and evermore.**
- 4 Let the heights of heav'n adore him; angel hosts, his praises sing;
pow'rs, dominions, bow before him and extol our God and King;
let no tongue on earth be silent, ev'ry voice in concert ring
evermore and evermore.**

CONFESSION OF FAITH

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.

PRAYERS & SHARING OF PEACE

OFFERING—OFFERTORY—GLOBE OFFERING

Children are invited to bring forward an offering to the globe in the front of the church. Globe offerings will go to one of our global mission partners to be decided by our youth.

OFFERING PRAYER:

- L. Holy God, your beauty shines forth from the manger and your love flows from the cross.
- C. **As you gather us around these signs of your love come among us,
warm us to extend your care among the hungry and all in need.
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS:

Let us confess our sins with confidence in God's promise of forgiveness.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God, wonderful counselor

we confess that we have turned from your gifts

and chosen our own way,

We have not made room for you

in our hearts or in our world.

We have lived in fear;

we have not welcomed the stranger;

we desire gifts that will not endure.

**Forgive us our sins, known and unknown,
and open us to receive the peace of Jesus
dwelling in and among us. Amen.**

God's lovingkindness has appeared to us in Christ our Savior.
We are saved, not by anything we have done,
but by God's mercy poured out on us richly.
In the name of ☩ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.
Through the Spirit living in you,
God give you faith to trust Jesus,
who is Love born for you, now and always.
Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION — LORD'S PRAYER — INVITATION TO COMMUNION

DISTRIBUTION & HYMN *In the Bleak Midwinter*

ELW 294 All

- 1 In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan,
Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;
Snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow,
In the bleak midwinter, long ago.**
- 2 Heaven cannot hold him, nor earth sustain;
Heav'n and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign'
In the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed
The Lord God almighty, Jesus Christ.**
- 3 What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd I would bring a lamb;
If I were a wiseman I would do my part;
Yet what I can I give him — give my heart.**

COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

BLESSING

Grace from God's own heart,
peace from the ☩ Child in the manger,
and strength from the Spirit of life
be blessings for you today and forever.
Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: *Love Has Come*

ELW 292 vs. 1 & 3

- 1 Love has come— a light in the darkness! Love shines forth in the Bethlehem skies.
See, all heaven has come to proclaim it; hear how their song of joy arises:
Love! Love! Born unto you, a Savior! Love! Love! Glory to God on high.**
- 3 Love has come and never will leave us! Love is life everlasting and free.
Love is Jesus within and among us. Love is the peace our hearts are seeking.
Love! Love! Love is the gift of Christmas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!**

Ringing of Bell

DISMISSAL **Go in peace. Share the joy of Christ.**
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *We Three Kings*

PARTICIPANTS

PASTOR—Julie L. Rogness INTERN—Kris Kincaid KEYBD/PIANO—Annette Thunhorst

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

TEXTS USED WITH PERMISSION: From *sundaysandseasons.com* under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SB143702.

PUBLIC DOMAIN HYMNS: *Angels From the Realms of Glory, Hark the Herald Angels, What Child Is This, Of the Father's Love Begotten, In the Bleak Midwinter*

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This Little Light of Mine ELW 677 OL/SKU#01998

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light ELW 815 OL/SKU#123319

Christ Be Our Light ELW 715 OL/SKU#80229

Love Has Come ELW 292 OL/SKU#62232

CONNECTIONS

WEBSITE: flickenyon.org FACEBOOK: First Evangelical Lutheran Kenyon MN

YOUTUBE CHANNEL: <https://www.youtube.com/@flickenyon>

Pastor E-Mail: firstpastorkenyon@gmail.com Pastor Phone: 952-994-1201

Church E-Mail: firstlutherankenyon@gmail.com Church Office Phone: 789-5261

CALENDAR & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sun/1-1	9 AM	NEW YRS DAY WORSHIP—In-Person & Live-Streamed <i>NO Sunday School</i>
Sun/1-1	7 PM	AA
Wed/1-4	6:30 -7:30 PM	EPIPHANY PARTY for grades 7-12, Fellowship Hall <i>The magi arrived on Epiphany, which is celebrated January 6. Yay! We will celebrate with a Nativity House decorating contest, games, devotions, and food!</i>
Sat/1-7	7 PM 9 to 10:45 AM	ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN - Open to anyone (youth & adults) ages 12 & over. If under 12, need an adult chaperone. Must be over the age of 5. Location: 990 Lone Oak Road, Suite 136, Eagan, MN 55121. Follow this link to register: http://www.fmssc.org/join-group?joincode=DBZ1NG Or contact smhildebrandt7@gmail.com . Let us know if you need a ride.
Sun/1-8	9 AM	BAPTISM OF JESUS WORSHIP—In-Person & Live-Streamed <i>All are invited to bring their Baptism Candle and light it again from the Christ Candle.</i>

FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
309 Forest St., Kenyon, MN 55946

Worship Bulletin
January 1, 2023



A GREAT LIGHT HAS COME
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus
