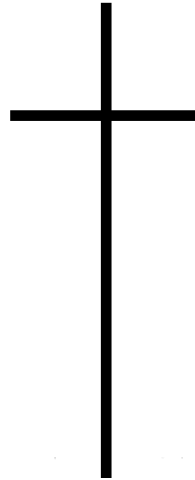


“JESUS LOVES ME, THIS I KNOW,” *Continued...*

2. Jesus loves me! This I know,  
As He loved so long ago,  
Taking children on His knee,  
Saying, “Let them come to Me.”  
*Refrain*
3. Jesus loves me! He who died  
Heaven’s gate to open wide;  
He has washed away my sin,  
Let His little child come in. *Refrain*
4. Jesus loves me still today,  
Walking with me on my way,  
As my Savior-God He lives:  
Light and love and peace to give.  
*Refrain*
5. Jesus loves me! He will stay  
Close beside me all the way;  
Since He loves me, when I die  
He will take me home on high.  
*Refrain*



“They offered Him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh.”

Matthew 2:11

## The Epiphany of Our Lord

January 6, 2019

### PRAYER AND BLESSING

CLOSING HYMN: #84:1,3,5 “Jesus Shall Reign Wher’er the Sun”

**BIRTHDAYS:** If you see the following members this week, wish them a "Happy Birthday!"—**Jan 6<sup>th</sup>**—Kinsley Huettl, Kathy Voight; **Jan. 8<sup>th</sup>**—Michael Laabs; **Jan.10<sup>th</sup>**—Irene Ruppel; **Jan.12<sup>th</sup>**—Virginia Gordee; Madyson Brandt.

## St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church

N926 Dale Avenue, Dale, WI 54931

Pastor Bill Finn • Church Office Phone: 779-6777

[www.stpauldale.com](http://www.stpauldale.com)





Sunday, January 6, 2019

### AS WE GATHER

The word "epiphany" is a Greek word that means "appearing or appearance." Centuries ago in the eastern churches the date chosen for the Christ Child's birth was January 6; the western or Roman date was December 25. Still today, in the Greek Orthodox churches January 6 is still the day Christ's birth is celebrated (and gifts exchanged), while the Western Church now stresses the visit of the Magi. We remember the coming of the Wise Men to worship the Christ Child on this day.

**Installation of Church Council Members today after the Offering** - We commend in prayer to the service the Lord the following new & returning Councilmen: Bob Grunwald (Council President); Scott Mueller & Lee Kohler (Elders); David Herfeldt, David Magolski & Chris Ploense (Trustees). Like the Wise Men of old may God guide our leaders by the star of His holy Word! We pray for God's blessing upon them and our congregation today.

### BELLS & WELCOME BY PASTOR

**OPENING HYMN: #83:1,3,4 "As With Gladness Men of Old"**

Verse 1:           **As with gladness men of old  
Did the guiding star behold,  
As with joy they hailed its light,  
Leading onward, beaming bright,  
So, most gracious Lord, may we  
Evermore your followers be.**

Verse 3:           **As they offered gifts most rare  
At your cradle, rude and bare,  
So may we with holy joy,  
Pure and free from sin's alloy,  
All our costliest treasures bring,  
Christ, to you, our heav'nly King.**

**VERSE 1** - What star is this, with beams so bright,  
More beautiful than the noonday light?  
It shines to herald forth the King  
And Gentiles to His crib to bring.

**VERSE 2** - True spake the prophet from afar  
Who told the rise of Jacob's star,  
And Eastern sages with amaze  
Upon the wondrous sign did gaze.

**VERSE 3** - The guiding star above is bright;  
Within them shines a clearer light  
And leads them on with pow'r benign  
To seek the Giver of the sign.

**VERSE 4** - O Jesus, while the star of grace  
Impels on us to seek Thy face,  
Let not our slothful hearts refuse  
The guidance of Thy light to use.

### **THE MESSAGE TODAY: Based on Isaiah 60**

***"Shine!"***

*After the sermon, please rise to sing  
Hymn #82:1,5 "Songs of Thankfulness and Praise"*

### **THE OFFERING, INSTALLATION OF CHURCH COUNCIL AND PRAYERS**

### **SING: "JESUS LOVES ME, THIS I KNOW"**

1. **Jesus loves me! This I know,  
For the Bible tells me so.  
Little ones to Him belong;  
They are weak, but He is strong.**

#### *Refrain*

*Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me!  
The Bible tells me so.*

**THE GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 2:1-12 (*The Visit of the Magi*)**

**Pastor:** Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, saying,

**People:** "Where is He who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw His star when it rose and have come to worship Him."

**Pastor:** When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They told him,

**People:** "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet: 'And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.'"

**Pastor:** Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the Child, and when you have found Him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship Him."

**People:** After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the Child was.

**Pastor:** When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. And going into the house they saw the Child with Mary His mother and they fell down and worshiped Him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered Him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

**Pastor:** This is the Gospel of our Lord!

**People:** Thanks be to God!

**THE APOSTLES' CREED**, page 19 in front of the hymnal.

**HYMN OF THE DAY:** "What Star Is This?" (Tune CW #16)

*Printed on next page*

**Verse 4:**

**Holy Jesus, ev'ry day  
Keep us in the narrow way;  
And, when earthly things are past,  
Bring our ransomed souls at last  
Where they need no star to guide,  
Where no clouds your glory hide.**

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen** (*Spoken*)

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P: A star shall come out of Jacob,

C: **And a scepter shall rise out of Israel.** ~ Numbers 24:27

P: The Lord will rise upon you,

C: **And his glory will be seen upon you.**

P: Nations will come to your light,

C: **And kings to the brightness of your dawn.**

P: They will come bearing gold and incense,

C: **And proclaiming the praise of the Lord.** ~ Isaiah 60:2-3,6

P: Saying, "Where is he who has been born King of the Jews?"

C: **"We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him.**  
~ Matthew 2:1,2

P: As we come before the King, let us come humbly, confessing our sins to him and asking for forgiveness.

C: **Almighty God, we worship you as King, but we do not always live in obedience to you or acknowledge your reign in our lives. We have sinned against you in our thoughts, words and actions. We listen to the tempting voices of the world around us and follow our own sinful desires instead of following you. For this, we ought to be punished eternally. Have mercy on us we pray, and forgive us.**

P: God has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. He went to Calvary to carry our guilt and suffer in our place. He rose from the dead to defeat sin, death and the devil and shares his victory with us! You are forgiven of all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever!**

**SING: #83:5 "As With Gladness Men of Old"**

**In the heav'nly country bright  
Need they no created light;  
You its light, its joy, its crown,  
You its sun which goes not down.  
There forever may we sing  
Alleluias to our King!**

**THE PRAYER OF THE DAY** (*Spoken together*) **"Lord God, by the leading of a star you once made known to the nations your one and only Son. Guide us also who know him now by faith to come at last to the perfect joy of your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ, your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen."**

### **THE WORD**

**FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6** "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD rises upon you. See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples, but the LORD rises upon you and his glory appears over you. Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. "Lift up your eyes and look about you: All assemble and come to you; your sons come from afar, and your daughters are carried on the arm. Then you will look and be radiant, your heart will throb and swell with joy; the wealth on the seas will be brought to you, to you the riches of the nations will come. Herds of camels will cover your land, young camels of Midian and Ephah. And all from Sheba will come, bearing gold and incense and proclaiming the praise of the LORD."

**SING: #92:1,2 "Brightest and Best"**

Verse 1: **Brightest and best of the stars of the morning,  
Dawn on your darkness and lend us your aid.  
Star of the East, the horizon adorning,  
Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.**

Verse 2: **Cold on his cradle the dewdrops are shining;  
Low lies his head with the beasts of the stall.  
Angels adore him in slumber reclining,  
Maker and monarch and Savior of all.**

**THE SECOND LESSON: Ephesians 3:2-12** - For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles---assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for you, how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, which was not made known to the sons of men in other generations as it has now been revealed to His holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit. This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the Gospel. Of this Gospel I was made a minister according to the gift of God's grace, which was given me by the working of His power. To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things, so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in Him.



**VERSE OF THE DAY:** "Alleluia. We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him. Alleluia." (Mt.2:2)

**SING: #92:4,5 "Brightest and Best"**

Verse 4: **Vainly we bring him the finest of off'rings,  
Vainly with gifts would his favor secure.  
Richer by far is the praise that the heart brings;  
Dearer to God are the prayers of the poor.**

Verse 5: **Brightest and best of the stars of the morning,  
Dawn on your darkness and lend us your aid.  
Star of the East, the horizon adorning,  
Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.**

## CHURCH CALENDAR

<b>TODAY (Jan 6) Sunday School</b> .....	8:00 am
<b>WORSHIP (Bible Study follows worship)</b> .....	9:00 am
<b>TAKE DOWN CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS</b> .....	3:30 pm
<b>TUES (Jan 8) Pastor Teaches at Bethlehem</b> .....	8:15 am
Church Council Meeting.....	4:45 pm
<b>WEDS (Jan 9) Gr.7-8 Confirmation Class</b> .....	6:30 pm
<b>THURS (Jan 10) Teen &amp; 20-Something Class</b> .....	7:00 pm
<b>NEXT SUN (Jan 13) Sunday School</b> .....	8:00 am
<b>WORSHIP w/HC (Adult Bible Study follows worship)</b> .....	9:00 am

## OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S LOVE

December 23rd Plate Offerings: \$1657.00  
 Christmas Eve & Day Plate Offerings: \$3657.00  
 Dec 30th & New Year's Eve Plate Offerings: \$2341.00  
 Electronic Offerings Received: \$200.00  
 Total Offerings Received for the past 2 weeks: \$7855.00  
 OFFERINGS RECEIVED YTD (52 wks): \$123,586.21  
 TOTAL OFFERINGS NEEDED YTD: \$119,288.00  
 AMOUNT NEEDED EACH WEEK: \$2294.00  
**YTD SURPLUS: \$4298.21**



TOTAL FOR SPECIAL PROJECTS: \$5253.00  
 SPECIAL GIFTS RECEIVED FOR VIETNAM MISSION: \$225.00  
*(Visit [stpauldale.com](http://stpauldale.com) to give electronically or scan Q-R code)*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**SERVERS NEEDED--JANUARY / FEBRUARY:** Members are asked to take a look at the server sheet on the counter in the entryway where you can consider helping out in various ways in the new year--it's good to spread the work around--Thankyou!

**CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS COMING DOWN:** If you can help, we'll be taking down Christmas decorations today at 3:30 pm.

**AVAILABLE TODAY: JAN 2019 "FORWARD IN CHRIST" MAGAZINE:** FREE so take one home while supplies last! • **2019 OFFERING ENVELOPES:** You may pick up your box of giving envelopes today (available on the counter by guest book) • **JANUARY 2019 CHURCH CALENDARS:** Digital copies were emailed out; hard copies also available in entryway today.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS, *Continued...*

**INSTALLATION OF CHURCH OFFICERS:** All new & returning Councilmen are asked to take part in the installation giving your promise and stating your intent to serve the LORD and His people diligently together with your Pastor. *The next Council Meeting will be Tuesday, January 8<sup>th</sup> (6:30 pm).* **OTHER APPOINTMENTS:** We also thank the following serving in non-elected positions: Bonnie Finn (Treasurer), Warren Mueller (Properties Coordinator), David Theil (Financial Secretary), Bill Roesler (Money Counter), Beverly Herzfeldt, Cathy Heise, Sue Spiegel (Auditors).

**QUARTERLY VOTER'S MEETING:** The next quarterly meeting of the congregation will be on Tuesday, January 29<sup>th</sup> (6:30 pm). At this meeting membership changes will be finalized; the annual report will be reviewed.

**ANNUAL REPORTS:** The congregation's Annual Report will be published Tues, Jan 29<sup>th</sup> for the Quarterly Meeting. Copies will be made available to the congregation the Sunday following the meeting. The Following reports/articles are needed: • Property/Trustees Report • Stewardship & Evangelism • Pastor's Page & 2018 Statistics • Financial Rpt (Treasurer & Auditors) • Articles from various groups/activities may be included: (Women's Fellowship, LWMS, Choir; Library, Teens, Sunday School). *NOTE: Reports needed by Mon, Jan 28 at the latest.*



**VIETNAM MISSION EFFORT:** God has blessed WELS with an exciting new mission opportunity in Vietnam--you can read all about it in the flyer available in the entryway today and then consider a special gift to support this effort to bring Christ to the orient. More info is coming soon about a special mission Sunday to highlight this special opportunity in Vietnam. Thank you!

**MEN OF HIS WORD CONFERENCE:** The 2019 "Men of His Word" Conference registration is open. Cost: \$25.00 Youth/\$50.00 Adult (Increases to \$30.00 / \$60.00 after Jan.27). **Online Registration at [menofhisword.org](http://menofhisword.org).** Complete info on counter and poster in entryway at church.

