

Emanuel Lutheran Church, Napoleon, Ohio

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Epiphany — January 7, 2018

LBW—Lutheran Book of Worship WOV—With One Voice

*** Please stand as you are able**

(Please see page 8 for the 10:30 service.)

8:00 a.m. Service

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ringin

PRELUDE Procession on *We Three Kings*

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS *(you may remain seated)*

P Blessed be the Holy One of Israel, the Word made flesh, the Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Gathered in the name of Jesus, let us confess our sin against God and our neighbor. Gracious God,

C **in Christ Jesus you come among us as light shining in darkness. We confess our failure to welcome this light. Forgive us and renew our hope, so that we may live in the light of your grace, and welcome the truth of Christ the Lord. Amen.**

P I bring you good news of great joy for all the people: To you is born a Savior, Christ the Lord. Your sins are forgiven in Jesus' name.

C Amen

HYMN LBW # 84 *Brightest and Best of the Stars of the Morning*

GREETING

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

C And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE ♪

Watchman, tell us of the night, what its signs of promise are.

Trav'ler, o'er yon mountain's height, see that glory-beaming star!

Watchmen, does its beauteous ray, any joy or hope foretell?

Trav'ler, yes: it brings the day, promised day of Israel.

Trav'ler, yes: it brings the day, promised day of Israel.

Watchmen, tell us of the night, for the morning seems to dawn.
Trav'ler, darkness takes its flight; doubt and terror are withdrawn.

Watchmen, let your wand'ring cease; hasten to the quiet home!

Trav'ler, lo, the Prince of Peace, lo, the Son of God has come!

Trav'ler, lo, the Prince of Peace, lo, the Son of God has come!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

C Amen.

FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

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;

PSALM 72:1-7, 10-14

¹Give the king your justice, O God,
and your righteousness to the king's son;

²**that he may rule your people righteously
and the poor with justice;**

³that the mountains may bring prosperity to the people,
and the hills, in righteousness.

⁴**Let him defend the needy among the people,
rescue the poor, and crush the oppressor.**

⁵May he live as long as the sun and moon endure,
from one generation to another.

⁶**Let him come down like rain upon the mown field,
like showers that water the earth.**

⁷In his time may the righteous flourish;
and let there be an abundance of peace
till the moon shall be no more.

¹⁰**May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles pay tribute,
and the kings of Sheba and Seba offer gifts.**

¹¹May all kings bow down before him,
and all the nations do him service.

¹²**For the king delivers the poor who cry out in distress,
the oppressed, and those who have no helper.**

¹³He has compassion on the lowly and poor,
and preserves the lives of the needy.

¹⁴**From oppression and violence he redeems their lives,
and precious is their blood in his sight.**

all those from Sheba shall come.
They shall bring gold and frankincense,
and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

A The Word of the Lord

C **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND LESSON: Ephesians 3:1-12

¹This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles—²for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, ³and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, ⁴a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ.

⁵In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: ⁶that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

⁷Of this gospel I have become a

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

And then a bright star in the sky did appear,
It led those wise men from the east to draw near.
They found the Messiah, sweet Jesus our King,
Who brought us salvation – his praises we'll sing!

* **GOSPEL: Matthew 2:1-12** *(please stand as you are able)*

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."

servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. ⁸Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, ⁹and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; ¹⁰so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹²in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

A The Word of the Lord

C **Thanks be to God.**

⁶And 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.

P The Gospel of our Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

HYMN LBW # 56 *The First Noel*

SERMON

HYMN WOV # 646 *We Three Kings* (you may remain seated)

* **NICENE CREED** (please stand as you are able)

C We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became

incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds

from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We

acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen

THE PRAYERS (you may remain seated)

A Let us pray for the church, the planet that is our common home, communities near and far, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

A You are water that washes us into the communion of faith. Shower us anew with a sense of belonging and revive our commitment to the visible unity of the one holy catholic and apostolic church. Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A You are water that replenishes the earth. Help us see our place in the river of life, and inspire us to seek ways to cool warming tundra and warm cooling tropics. Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A You are water that touches near and distant shores. Bring an end to conflict among the rulers of this earth carried out on land and sea, and provide just and equitable access to water among all people. Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A You are water that flows from countless streams into rivers, lakes, and oceans. Give us vision to see and proclaim in our great diversity the singleness of humanity created in your likeness. Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A You are water that enlivens dry bones. Keep us in communion with all the saints who gather at the great and shining river, until at last we see you face-to-face. Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P You are water that refreshes parched bodies, minds, and spirits. Accompany refugees fleeing their homes by boat and by foot, heal those whose bodies are weak or fragile, and be near to those whose breath of life is fading. We pray especially for. . . . Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Tribes and nations bow down before you, O God. Hear our prayers and praise, and raise us up to be your living body, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen**

*** PEACE**

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

TITHES & OFFERINGS *The Light of Christmas* -Choir

OFFERTORY 

Silent night, holy night, guiding star, lend thy light;
See the eastern wise men bring, gifts and homage to our King.
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born.

~~Silent night, holy night, wondrous star, lend thy light,
With the angels let us sing. Alleluia to our King!~~
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born.

OFFERING PRAYER

A God with us: You came as a baby to a manger. You slept on straw and greeted shepherds. You come again in bread and wine. Remind us how good you are at blessing ordinary things. And then, through these gifts, help us to bless the lives of others in the strength of your holy name.

C **Amen.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*** LORD'S PRAYER** *(please stand as you are able)*

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

C **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**

HOLY COMMUNION

BLESSING

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

C **Amen**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A On this day, O God, you gave us Christ the Son to save us. As you sent the one foretold, send us now with good news for all people. Let the gladness of this feast have no end as we share with others the joy that fills us; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

HYMN LBW # 82 *As with Gladness Men of Old*

DISMISSAL

A Glory to God in the highest!

C **Peace to God's people on earth!**

A Go in peace. Share the gift of Jesus.

C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE *Masters in This Hall*

10:30 service

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ringing of the Bell

PRELUDE *Chatter With the Angels* -Emanubells

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS *(you may remain seated)*

P Blessed be the Holy One of Israel, the Word made flesh, the Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

P Gathered in the name of Jesus, let us confess our sin against God and our neighbor.
Gracious God,

C **in Christ Jesus you come among us as light shining in darkness. We confess our failure to welcome this light. Forgive us and renew our hope, so that we may live in the light of your grace, and welcome the truth of Christ the Lord. Amen.**

P I bring you good news of great joy for all the people: To you is born a Savior, Christ the Lord. Your sins are forgiven in Jesus' name.

C **Amen**

HYMN LBW # 84 *Brightest and Best of the Stars of the Morning*

GREETING

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

C **And also with you.**

HYMN OF PRAISE 🎵

Watchman, tell us of the night, what its signs of promise are.
Trav'ler, o'er yon mountain's height, see that glory-beaming star!
Watchmen, does its beauteous ray, any joy or hope foretell?
Trav'ler, yes: it brings the day, promised day of Israel.
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~~Watchmen, tell us of the night, for the morning seems to dawn.
Trav'ler, darkness takes its flight; doubt and terror are withdrawn.
Watchmen, let your wand'ring cease; hasten to the quiet home!
Trav'ler, lo, the Prince of Peace, lo, the Son of God has come!
Trav'ler, lo, the Prince of Peace, lo, the Son of God has come!~~

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

C **Amen.**

Special Music: *Amazing Grace* -Emanubells

FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

¹Arise, shine; for your light has come, and his glory will appear over you.
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. ³Nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.
²For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples;
⁴Lift up your eyes and look around;
but the LORD will arise upon you, 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.

A The Word of the Lord
C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 72:1-7, 10-14

¹Give the king your justice, O God,
and your righteousness to the king's son;
²**that he may rule your people righteously and the poor with justice;**
³that the mountains may bring prosperity to the people,
and the hills, in righteousness.
⁴**Let him defend the needy among the people,
rescue the poor, and crush the oppressor.**
⁵May he live as long as the sun and moon endure,
from one generation to another.
⁶**Let him come down like rain upon the mown field,
like showers that water the earth.**
⁷In his time may the righteous flourish;
and let there be an abundance of peace
till the moon shall be no more.
¹⁰**May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles pay tribute,
and the kings of Sheba and Seba offer gifts.**
¹¹May all kings bow down before him,
and all the nations do him service.
¹²**For the king delivers the poor who cry out in distress,
the oppressed, and those who have no helper.**
¹³He has compassion on the lowly and poor,
and preserves the lives of the needy.
¹⁴**From oppression and violence he redeems their lives,
and precious is their blood in his sight.**

SECOND LESSON: Ephesians 3:1-12

¹This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles—²for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, ³and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, ⁴a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ.

⁵In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: ⁶that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

⁷Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was

given me by the working of his power.

⁸Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, ⁹and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; ¹⁰so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places.

¹¹This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹²in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

A The Word of the Lord

C **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

And then a bright star in the sky did appear,
It led those wise men from the east to draw near.
They found the Messiah, sweet Jesus our King,
Who brought us salvation – his praises we'll sing!

* GOSPEL: Matthew 2:1-12 *(please stand as you are able)*

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.

P The Gospel of our Lord

C **Thanks be to God.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Special Music: *Masterpiece* -Joleen Brubaker

BAPTISM OF Luke James Moden

PRESENTATION

P In Holy Baptism our gracious heavenly Father liberates us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are born children of a fallen humanity; in the waters of Baptism we are reborn children of God and inheritors of eternal life. By water and the Holy Spirit we are made members of the Church which is the body of Christ. As we live with him and with his people, we grow in faith, love, and obedience to the will of God.

Parents and Sponsors: I present **Luke James Moden** to receive the Sacrament of Holy Baptism.

P In Christian love you have presented this child for Holy Baptism. You should, therefore, faithfully bring him to the services of God's house, and teach him the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments. As he grows in years, you should place in his hands the Holy Scriptures and provide for his instruction in the Christian faith, that,

living in the covenant of his Baptism and in communion with the Church, he may lead a godly life until the day of Jesus Christ. Do you promise to fulfill these obligations?

Parents and Sponsors: I do.

THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: We give you thanks, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and you created heaven and earth.

By the gift of water you nourish and sustain us and all living things. By the waters of the flood you condemned the wicked and saved those whom you had chosen, Noah and his family. You led Israel by the pillar of cloud and fire through the sea, out of slavery into the freedom of the promised land. In the waters of the Jordan your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Spirit. By the baptism of his own death and resurrection your beloved Son has set us free from the bondage to sin and death, and has opened the way to the joy and freedom of everlasting life. He made water a sign of the kingdom and of cleansing and rebirth. In obedience to his command, we make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, so that he who is here baptized may be given new life. Wash away the sin of him who is cleansed by this water and bring him forth as an inheritor of your glorious kingdom.

To you be given praise and honor and worship through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C Amen

RENUNCIATION AND PROFESSION

P I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the Church, the faith in which we baptize.

P Do you renounce all the forces of evil, the devil, and all his empty promises?

Parents and Sponsors: I do.

P Do you believe in God the Father?

C I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

C I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

P Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

C 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

BAPTISM

P **Luke James Moden**, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

LAYING ON OF HANDS

P God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we give you thanks for freeing your sons and daughters from the power of sin and for raising them up to a new life through this holy sacrament. Pour your Holy Spirit upon **Luke**: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence.

C Amen

SIGNING WITH THE CROSS

P **Luke**, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever. Amen

GIVING OF THE LIGHT

A Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

PRAYER FOR PARENTS

P O God, the giver of all life, look with kindness upon **Chris** and **Jenna**. Let them ever rejoice in the gift you have given them. Make them teachers and examples of righteousness for their child. Strengthen them in their own Baptism so they may share eternally with their child the salvation you have given them, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

WELCOME

A Through Baptism God has made this new brother a member of the priesthood we all share in Christ Jesus, that we may proclaim the praise of God and bear his creative and redeeming Word to all the world.

C We welcome you into the Lord's family. We receive you as a fellow member of the body of Christ, child of the same heavenly Father, and worker with us in the kingdom of God.

HYMN LBW # 56 *The First Noel*

SERMON

HYMN WOV # 646 *We Three Kings* (you may remain seated)

TITHES AND OFFERINGS *See Amid the Winter's Snow*

OFFERTORY (you may remain seated.)

Silent night, holy night, guiding star, lend thy light;
See the eastern wise men bring, gifts and homage to our King.
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born.

Silent night, holy night, wondrous star, lend thy light,
With the angels let us sing. Alleluia to our King!
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born.

THE PRAYERS (you may remain seated)

A Let us pray for the church, the planet that is our common home, communities near and far, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

A You are water that washes us into the communion of faith. Shower us anew with a

sense of belonging and revive our commitment to the visible unity of the one holy catholic and apostolic church. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

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C hear our prayer.

P Tribes and nations bow down before you, O God. Hear our prayers and praise, and raise us up to be your living body, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen

*** LORD'S PRAYER** (please stand as you able)

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

C 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

BENEDICTION

HYMN LBW # 82 *As With Gladness Men of Old*

POSTLUDE *Masters in This Hall*

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Gold ... symbolizes a gift for a king

Frankincense .. Symbolizes a gift for a priest

Myrrh ... symbolizes a gift for one who will die

Myrrh

Myrrh is an aromatic gum resin which oozes from the cut bark of the dindin tree. The myrrh hardens into tear-dropped shaped chunks and is then powdered and made into perfumes and ointments. This tree is 5-15' tall and one foot in diameter. Myrrh was an extremely valuable commodity during biblical times.

Frankincense

Frankincense is a sweet smelling gum resin from boswellia trees that, in Christ's time, grew in Arabia, India, and Ethiopia. During biblical times, frankincense was as valuable as gems or precious metals. It is often known as "liquid gold."

Altar flowers

Flowers are given to the glory of God by Larr & Denise Etzler in loving memory of Chandler Etzler.

Baptism

God's blessings to Luke James Moden, son of Chris & Jenna, who is being baptized this morning. Luke's sponsors are Rob Moden and Sara Lauf.

Altar Guild

This is a reminder to all Altar Guild members that you will have your annual meeting and cleaning on Saturday, January 20, at 9 a.m. Please mark your calendars!

✘ ✘ De-decorate Church

Your help would be very much appreciated on Saturday morning beginning at 9 a.m. as we take down the Christmas decorations!! ✘ ✘

Caring Corner for January — soap

We hope for a bright, clean start to a brand-new, shiny sparkling clean New Year, so this month, we'll collect soap –any brand, any size – for Together We Can Make A Difference Initiatives. We can even use small travel-size bars which we re-package as "school kits" for kids who shower at school with sports and/or phys ed.

Volunteers needed

Readers, sound board operators, and ushers are always needed!! You can sign up for one week or for a month. Please sign up on the bulletin board in the narthex! Thank you.

Serving Today

Pastor James L. Castello

Worship & Music Coordinator & Organist - Angela Tonjes

Bell Choir Director - Bill Panning

Lay Assistant - 8:00 Larr Etzler 10:30 Betty Mowery

Sound Board - 8:00 Maxine Eickhoff 10:30 Shelly Storch

Acolytes - 8:00 Derek Miller & Cale Perdeu 10:30 Laci Dachenhaus & Adara Hildebrandt

Ushers - 8:00 Carey Plummer, Dave Schwab, Steve Kloos, Leonard Sonnenberg

10:30 Kurt Rohrs, Terry Hershberger, Ken Lange, Casey Callaway

Altar Guild - Jeannie Wiechers & Cheryl Hershberger

Prayer Chain Co-ordinator - Carol Castello (419-592-0847) or cjcast@yahoo.com

Offering Envelopes

The offering envelopes for 2018 are available in the hallway outside the church offices.

Devotionals

Portals of Prayer Christ In Our Home are available at both entrances. There are both regular and large print editions.

This Week

Monday 9:30 a.m. Ruth Circle
Wednesday 3:15 p.m. After School Club
5:00 p.m. Soul Food
5:30 p.m. Emanubells
6:30 p.m. 7th grade
6:30 p.m. Choir
7:30 p.m. Catechism bells
7:30 p.m. Living Spirit
8:00 p.m. 8th grade
Thursday 9:00 a.m. Bible Study
Saturday 9:00 a.m. De-decorate church

Activity Bags

Activity/Busy/Church bags are available on the coat trees at each entryway and in the balcony. Please feel free to take one for your child to enjoy during the worship service, and then return it to the tree afterward. All are welcome to our service, as “it is better to have a child wiggle in church than to wiggle out of it.”

Statistics

12/31 9 a.m. (100) Tithes and Offerings \$4,111 (\$45 Bldg Fd; \$5 Wrld Hngr; \$50 Youth Gthring; \$100 Good Sam Fd; \$100 Together We Can...; \$20 mem to Endowm Fd-G.Wesche)
Simply Giving 12/25-01/07: \$105 Gen Fd; \$20 Bldg Fd

End-of-year Reports — NOW DUE!!!! Thank you!