THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

January 5, 2025 (observed) – 9:30 a.m.

Prelude

Confession and Absolution

Hymn of Invocation: "As with Gladness Men of Old"

LSB 397



- 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 at ed 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. our cost-liest trea - sures bring, Christ, to Thee, our heav'n-ly King. A11 guide, Where no clouds Thy glo - ry hide. Where they need no star to sing Al - le - lu - ias There for - ev - er to may we

Text: William C. Dix, 1837–98, alt. Tune: Conrad Kocher, 1786–1872 Text and tune: Public domain

- **P** In the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- **P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
- **P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as

ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

- Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 45:6-8a; antiphon: v. 17

(The congregation will chant the verses in **bold**.)



I will cause your name to be remembered in all gener- | ations;* therefore nations will praise you forever and | ever.

Your throne, O God, is forever and ever. The scepter of your kingdom is a scepter of uplightness;*

you have loved righteousness and hated | wickedness.

Therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your com- | panions;* your robes are all fragrant with myrrh and aloes and | cassia.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*

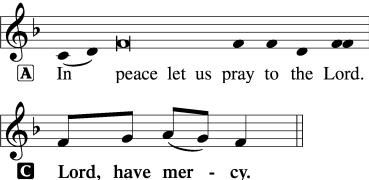
and to the Holy | Spirit;

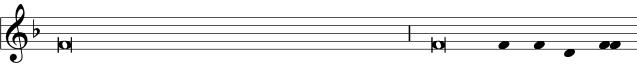
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. Amen.

I will cause your name to be remembered in all gener- | ations;* therefore nations will praise you forever and | ever.

Kyrie LSB 152



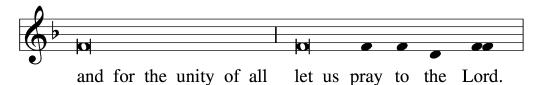


A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

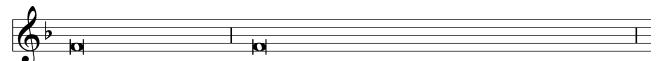




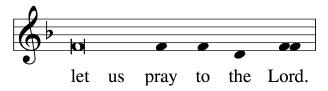
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,







A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise







A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra-cious Lord.



Gloria in Excelsis LSB 154 A Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His peo - ple on earth. C Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and We wor-ship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glo-ry. Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God: You take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer. For You a-lone are the Ho-ly One, You a-lone are the Lord, You a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,

in the glo - ry of God the Fa-ther. A - men.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **C** And also with you.
- Let us pray. O God, by the leading of a star You made known Your only-begotten Son to the Gentiles. Lead us, who know You by faith, to enjoy in heaven the fullness of Your divine presence; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 60:1–6

Epiphany

Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you. And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. Lift up your eyes all around, and see; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from afar, and your daughters shall be carried on the hip. Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and exult, because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. A 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 bring good news, the praises of the LORD.

- **A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 72:1–15; antiphon: v. 18

(The congregation will chant the verses in **bold**.)



Blessed be the LORD, the God of | Israel;* who alone does | wondrous things.

Give the king your justice, | O God,* and your righteousness to the | royal son!

May he judge your people with | righteousness,* and your poor with | justice!

Let the mountains bear prosperity for the | people,* and the hills, in | righteousness!

May he defend the cause of the poor of the people, give deliverance to the children of the | needy,* and crush the op- | pressor!

May they fear you while the | sun endures,* and as long as the moon, throughout all gener- | ations!

May he be like rain that falls on the | mown grass,* like showers that wa- | ter the earth!

In his days may the righteous | flourish,*
and peace abound, till the moon | be no more!

```
May he have dominion from | sea to sea,*
   and from the River to the ends | of the earth!
May desert tribes bow down be- | fore him*
   and his enemies | lick the dust!
May the kings of Tarshish and of the coastlands
   render him | tribute;*
   may the kings of Sheba and Seba | bring gifts!
May all kings fall down be- | fore him,*
   all nations | serve him!
For he delivers the needy | when he calls,*
   the poor and him who has no helper.
He has pity on the weak and the | needy,*
   and saves the lives of the | needy.
From oppression and violence he re- | deems their life,*
   and precious is their blood | in his sight.
Long may he live;
   may gold of Sheba be giv- | en to him!*
May prayer be made for him continually,
   and blessings invoked for him | all the day!
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
   and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
   is now, and will be forever. Amen.
Blessed be the LORD, the God of | Israel;*
   who alone does | wondrous things.
```

Epistle Ephesians 3:1–12

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.

- **A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.





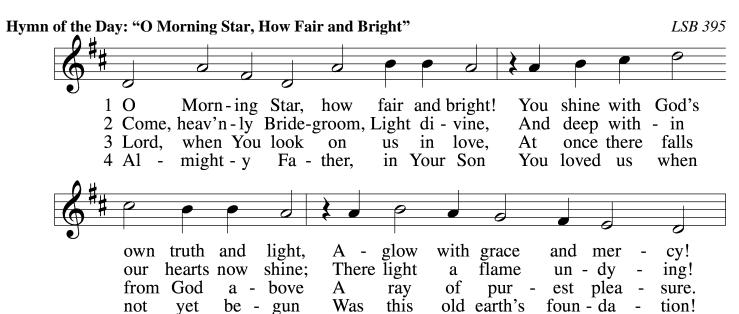
Holy Gospel Matthew 2:1–12

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the second chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

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, "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." 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, "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." 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." 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. 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.

- **P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- **C** Praise to You, O Christ.





- Olet the harps break forth in sound!
 Our joy be all with music crowned,
 Our voices gladly blending!
 For Christ goes with us all the way—
 Today, tomorrow, ev'ry day!
 His love is never ending!
 Sing out! Ring out!
 Jubilation!
 Exultation!
 Tell the story!
 Great is He, the King of Glory!
- What joy to know, when life is past,
 The Lord we love is first and last,
 The end and the beginning!
 He will one day, oh, glorious grace,
 Transport us to that happy place
 Beyond all tears and sinning!
 Amen! Amen!

Come, Lord Jesus!
Crown of gladness!
We are yearning
For the day of Your returning!

Text: tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978, alt.

Text and tune: Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608

Text: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License

Tune: Public domain

Sermon

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life + everlasting. Amen.

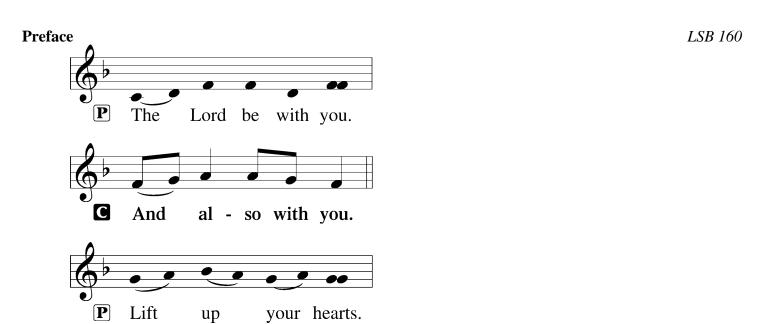
Prayer of the Church

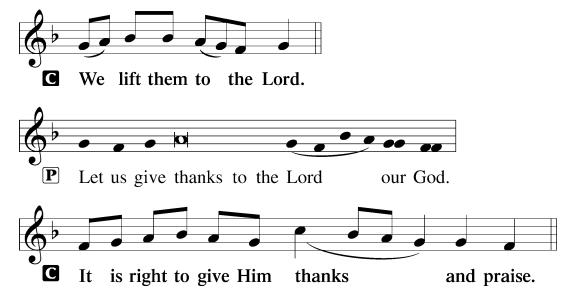
Offering

We offer our gifts to the Lord as we use this time in our service for contemplation and preparation for the sacrament of communion. Offerings can be placed in the plates at the back entrance doors as you enter the sanctuary, or as the offering plates are passed at this time.

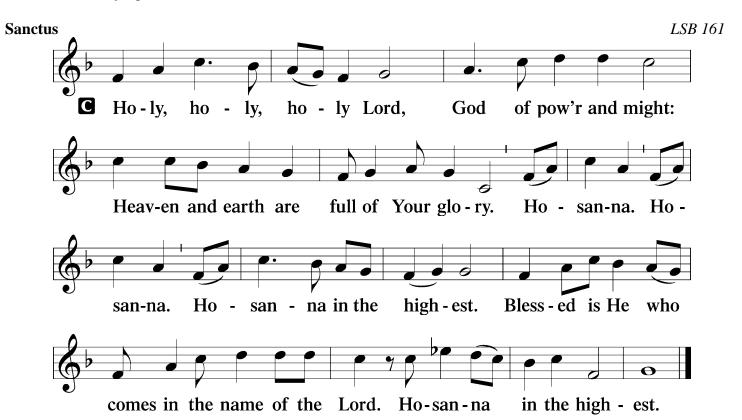


Service of the Sacrament





It is truly good, right, and salutary... Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



Prayer of Thanksgiving

LSB 161

Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood

as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

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

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.

The Words of Our Lord LSB 162

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

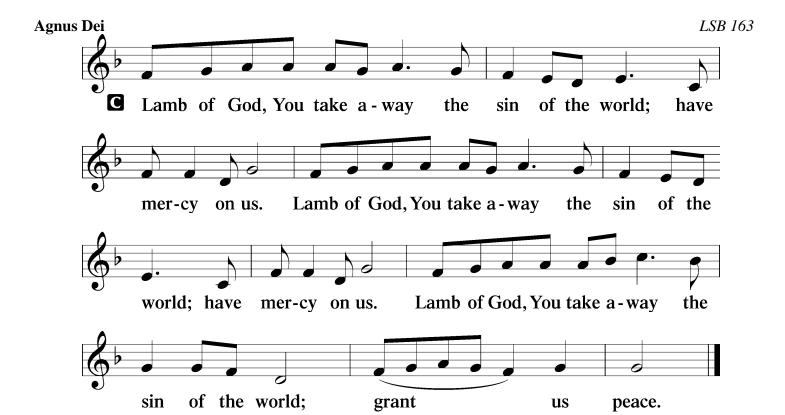
In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini LSB 163



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.





Distribution

You are invited to receive the Lord's Supper if you believe and confess that Jesus Christ is your Savior from sin, you are a baptized child of the Triune God, and you believe that He gives you His body and blood in the bread and wine you receive. White grape juice can be found in the center of each tray for those who cannot receive alcohol. Children are welcome to come forward for a blessing.

Communion is offered in two ways: the individual cup and the common cup. If you would like the individual cup, please partake as the assistant minister passes by after Pastor gives the bread. If you would like the common cup, let the assistant minister pass by, open your hands palm up, and Pastor will return to give you the common cup.

Special Music - Eric and Tracey R, Jim and Beth G



- 1 Hail to the Lord's a noint ed, Great Da vid's great er Son!
- 2 He comes with res cue speed y To those who suf fer wrong,
- 3 He shall come down like show ers Up on the fruit ful earth;
- 4 Kings shall fall down be fore Him And gold and in cense bring; 5 O'er ev 'ry foe vic to rious, He on His throne shall rest,



ap - point - ed, reign on earth be - gun! Hail, in the time His need - y To help the poor and And bid the weak be strong: flow - ers, Love, joy, and hope, like Spring in His path to birth. na-tions shall a - dore Him, His praise all peo - ple All From age to age more glo - rious, All bless-ing and all - blest.



He break op - pres - sion, To the cap - tive comes to set free, To give them songs for sigh - ing, Their dark-ness turn to light, Be - fore Him on the moun-tains Shall peace, the her - ald, Him shall prayer un - ceas - ing And dai - ly vows as - cend; tide of time shall nev - er His cov - e - nant re - move;



To a - way trans-gres-sion And rule in ea ui - ty. Whose souls, con-demned and dy - ing, Were pre-cious in His sight. righ-teous - ness in foun-tains From hill to val ley flow. And His king-dom still in - creas-ing, A king-dom with out end. His name shall stand for - ev - er— That name to us is Love.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt. Tune: Leonhart Schröter, c. 1532–c. 1601

Text and tune: Public domain



Text: Christian Knorr von Rosenroth, 1636–89; tr. Richard Massie, 1800–87 Tune: Geist-reiches Gesang-Buch, 1704, Halle, ed. Johann A. Freylinghausen

Text and tune: Public domain

Thank the Lord LSB 164



Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



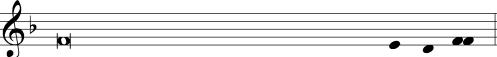
Post-Communion Collect

A Let us pray.

... through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Benediction LSB 166



P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

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





Text: William C. Dix, 1837–98

Tune: English, 16th cent. Text and tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2024 Concordia Publishing House.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Worship 9:30 a.m.

You are encouraged to take a walk this week with the Lord by reading Galatians. May the Lord make your heart burn with joy at the Good News and your place in His Kingdom!

GENEROSITY THOUGHTS: Matthew 2:11 – "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." Worship and the giving of gifts go together. This makes sense because God is the great Giver of every good gift, and we worship Him and desire to grow into His image. We receive His gifts in worship and then, being conformed to the likeness of His image, we imitate His generosity.

2025 ALTAR FLOWER CHART: The altar flower sign up chart for 2025 is now posted on the bulletin board by the office. Please sign up on the flower chart if you want to bring altar flowers on a certain Sunday. Write the occasion (birthday, anniversary, memorial) on the flower chart and it will be printed in the bulletins on that Sunday. Bring your flowers on Sunday morning and place them on the flower stand(s) by the altar.

TAKE DOWN CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS: We will be taking down the Christmas decorations after church today, January 5. If you're able to help, we would appreciate it! Thank you! Chris and Mark G

CIRCUIT EPIPHANY SERVICE: Celebrate the Epiphany of our Lord at Bethlehem! Bethlehem Lutheran Church (655 Forest Street, St. Paul, MN 55106) invites you to join in celebrating the Epiphany of our Lord with a Divine Service on Sunday, January 5, at 5:30 p.m. We will have an orchestra accompanying us for this festive service! Food and fellowship to follow (please bring a dessert or light appetizer to share). All are welcome!

MOBILE GIVING OPPORTUNITY: Keep in mind that you can make your stewardship contribution through Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement! Vanco's mobile giving app enables you to make one-time or recurring gifts from your smartphone. You can download the Vanco Mobile app for free from the App Store or Google Play. From there, you can make a one-time donation or set up recurring giving right through the app. Just select your fund and amount, enter a payment method and complete the donation. If you need to make changes, simply delete your recurring gift and set up a new one. Questions – contact Nancy W. We hope you enjoy this convenient way to contribute to our ministry, and thank you for your support.

LWML WINTER GATHERING: Saturday, January 25 at Bethlehem Lutheran Church (655 Forest St N) from 9:30 until 11 a.m., with refreshments or light breakfast beforehand. Dr. Reed Lessing from Concordia University will be the speaker on the book of Jeremiah. Do you need encouragement to remain hopeful despite trials, tribulations and life changes that may cause despair or worry? Dr. Reed Lessing will use his book, *Overcoming Life's Sorrows: Learning from Jeremiah*, to help us see that there is hope for overcoming life's difficulties. Everyone attending will receive a copy of the book.

STOCK DONATIONS: Emmaus is able to accept stock donations through an account with Charles Schwab. Our account number is 3785-7513. Members wishing to make contributions of stocks should initiate the transaction through their own brokerage account. Please tell Nancy W, Co-Financial Secretary, if you will be donating stock so that it can be correctly noted on your giving statement.

TEACHERS NEEDED: Trinity First School is looking for mission-focused teachers in the elementary (K-2) and middle school (5-8) levels! Begin immediately or in August for the 2025-2026 school year. If interested, please send your resume to info@trinityfirst.org or visit our website at www.trinityfirstschool.org/employment.

LWML MITES: Where do your LWML Mites go? Water and the Word: Evangelical Lutheran Church in Kenya | \$80,000. This grant will assist the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Kenya to provide clean water and pastoral care to students in 12 rural elementary and middle schools. About 10,000 lives will be impacted by this grant. It will also help cover the travel expenses for pastors to travel to the schools every three to four months to check on the water systems and provide pastoral care. To learn more, visit www.lwml.org/2023-2025-mission-grant-13.

HEAR "THE LUTHERAN HOUR" on Sunday mornings at 6:05 a.m. on WCCO 830 AM radio. Next week's broadcast: "What's This Neighborhood Coming To?" Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. When you're not limited by the size of your table, you can invite everyone. (John 1:14)

THIS WEEK AT EMMAUS:

Today: 9:30 a.m. Worship

10:30 a.m. Bible Study

Wed: Bulletin Deadline

1:30 p.m. Bible Study (SH)

Thurs: 1 p.m. Emmaus Quilters (SH)

4-9 p.m. Quilting Queens (SH)

Fri: Office closed – call Pastor in emergencies

Quilting Queens (SH)

Sat: Quilting Queens (SH)

12-5 p.m. Organist Rehearsal

Next Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Worship

10:30 a.m. Bible Study

SERVING OUR WORSHIP SERVICE TODAY:

PASTOR: Rev. Nick Kooi ALTAR GUILD: Jean G ORGANIST: Rebecca F SOUND TECH: Randy W VIDEO TECH: Don V

WORSHIP ASSISTANT: Mark G

USHERS: Gary B, Greg W

COUNTERS: Gary B, Roxann M

LECTOR: Chris G GREETER: Jan N

ACOLYTE: Elizabeth G