## VASHON LUTHERAN CHURCH



## Epiphany of Our Lord January 7, 2024 <br> 10:30 AM Worship

# Vashon Lutheran Church 

Epiphany of Our Lord
January 7, 2024
PRELUDE

The feast of Epiphany ("manifestation") concludes the Christmas season with a celebration of God's glory revealed in the person of Jesus Christ. In Isaiah and Ephesians, that glory is proclaimed for all nations and people. Like the light of the star that guided the magi to Jesus, the light of Christ reveals who we are: children of God who are claimed and washed in the waters of baptism. We are sent out to be beacons of the light of Christ, sharing the good news of God's love to all people.

## GREETING/ANNOUNCEMENTS CANDLELIGHTING

Patte Wagner, Lay Leader<br>Frankie Ericksen, Acolyte

## Congregation stands as able

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:
Rev. John Michael Barich
P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, $\mathrm{F}^{2}$ one God, who opens the heavens and draws near to us with salvation.
C: Amen.
Silence is kept for reflection.
P: Everlasting God,
C: you love justice and you hate wrongdoing. We confess the fear, greed, and selfcenteredness that make us reluctant to work against oppression. We are complicit in systems of exploitation. We choose comfort over courage. We are careless with creation's bounty. Look upon us with mercy. Turn our hearts again to you. Make us glad to do your will and to walk in your ways for the sake of our waiting world. Amen.

P: Hear these words of assurance:
God clothes you with garments of salvation and covers you with robes of righteousness. In the tender compassion of $\ddagger$ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. God’s covenant is eternal, and God's blessing rests upon us all.
C: Amen.

Gathering Hymn (next page):
ELW, \#275

## Angels, from the Realms of Glory



Text: James Montgomery, 1771-1854, alt., sts. 1-3; Salisbury Hymn Book, 1857, st. 4 Music: REGENT SQUARE, Henry T. Smart, 1813-1879

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.

KYRIE:
ACS, p. 31



## PRAYER OF THE DAY:

P: 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.

## Congregation sits

FIRST READING: Isaiah 60:1-6
Marlee Koch, Lector (L)
Lector: A reading from Isaiah, Chapter 60.
L: Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.
For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples;
but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you.
Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.
Lift 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.
Then 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.
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 proclaim the praise of the LORD.
Word of God, word of life. Thanks be to God.

Give the king your jus- ${ }^{-}$tice, O God, *and your righteousness to ${ }^{1}$ the king's son; that he may rule your ' ${ }^{\text {people righteously * and the }}$ ' poor with justice; that the mountains may bring prosperity $'$ to the people, *and the ${ }^{\prime}$ hills, in righteousness. Let him defend the needy a- ${ }^{\mid}$mong the people,*rescue the poor, and crush ${ }^{\mid}$the oppressor. May he live as long as the sun and ${ }^{\prime}$ moon endure, *from one generation ${ }^{\prime}$ to another.
Let him come down like rain upon 'the mown field, *like showers that wa- ${ }^{\prime}$ ter the earth. In his time may the ${ }^{1}$ righteous flourish;
*and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall ${ }^{\prime}$ be no more.
May the kings of Tarshish and of the ${ }^{1}$ isles pay tribute,
*and the kings of Sheba and Seba offer gifts.
May all kings bow ${ }{ }^{\prime}$ down before him, *and all the nations ${ }^{\dagger}$ do him service.
For the king delivers the poor who cry out ${ }^{1}$ in distress,
*the oppressed, and those who ${ }^{1}$ have no helper.
He has compassion on the low- ${ }^{1}$ ly and poor, *and preserves the lives ' of the needy.
From oppression and violence he re- ${ }^{-}$deems their lives,
*and precious is their blood ${ }^{\mid}$in his sight.

## SECOND READING: Ephesians 3:1-12

L: A reading from Ephesians, Chapter 3.
L: This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles-for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. In 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: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

Of 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. Although 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, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so 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. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him. Word of God. Word of Life. Thanks be to God. Please stand as able


GOSPEL: Matthew 2:1-12
Rev. John Michael Barich
P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, Chapter 2. C: Glory to you, O Lord.
P: In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "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." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:
'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.' "
Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then 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." When 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. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On 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. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road. P: The gospel of the Lord. C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Congregation sits

## When a Star Is Shining



Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955-1993
Music: WHERE THE PROMISE SHINES, Bob Moore, b. 1962
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## APOSTLES' CREED:

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. Please sit

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION: <br> Patte Wagner, Assisting Minister (A)

A: Trusting in God's good news of great joy for all people, we offer our prayers for ourselves, our neighbors, and the world God loves.

A: Humble the hearts of your faithful people, that we seek to be servants of your gospel and witnesses to your mysteries. Give us boldness in faith, that we make the good news of Christ's birth known to all people. Hear us, O God, your mercy is great.

A: Establish justice on earth for all its inhabitants. Lead us to protect fragile ecosystems and endangered species. Empower the work of all who research, engineer, and make accessible alternative and renewable sources of energy. Make us careful stewards of your creation. Hear us, O God, your mercy is great.

A: Nations shall come to your light and kings to your dawning. Remove corruption and fear from the hearts of leaders and authorities. Lead governments to expand policies and resources that care for refugees and all migrants. Strengthen the work of resettlement agencies. Hear us, O God, your mercy is great.

A: Defend the cause of all who are in need, all facing poverty, and all who are oppressed. Come quickly to those who feel that their lives and livelihoods are fragile. Give them strength and lead them forth with hope. We lift up those for whom we pray, either silently or aloud... Hear us, O God, your mercy is great.

A: As the magi offered gifts to the Christ child, empower us to give generously. Prosper the work of ministry partnerships in our community. Together, help us share what we have to ensure that our neighbors have enough food, resources, and opportunities.
Hear us, O God, your mercy is great.
A: You have redeemed the lives of your faithful departed. Through the love of Christ, gather us into one body with them, and reveal to us the mystery hidden for ages in the One who created all things. Hear us, O God, your mercy is great.

P: Abide with us, O God of mercy, and receive our prayers according to your abundant grace. C: Amen.

P: The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. C: And also with you.
P: (At the end of passing of the peace) Now is the time for the sharing of our gifts to God.


## OFFERING PRAYER:

P: Let us pray. God our provider, by your merciful hand abundance springs up from the earth. Receive and bless these gifts of your own bounty. Let them be a sign of your steadfast love and faithfulness for all people, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

## Congregation stands as able

GREAT THANKSGIVING:
P: The Lord be with you. C: And also with you.
P: Lift up your hearts. C: We lift them to the Lord.
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

## PREFACE:

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory, that, beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:


## WORDS OF INSTITUTION/LORD'S PRAYER/COMMUNION:

P: 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.

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.
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.

P: Invitation to Communion: This is the table, not of this church, but of Jesus Christ. It is made ready for those who love him and those who want to love him more. So come, you who have much faith, and you who have little; come, you who have been here often and you who have not been here in a long time. Come, you who have never been before; come, you who have tried to follow and you who have failed. Come, not because the church invites you; this is Christ, and he invites you to meet him right here.

Congregation Sits


Communion Hymn \#2:
WOV, \#646

## We Three Kings of Orient Are



Text: John Henry Fopkins Jr, $1820-1891$, alt
Music: THREEKMNGS OF ORIENT, John Hemry Hopkins 3r, $1820-1891$

P: May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood strengthen, keep and unite us, now and forever. C: Amen.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION:

P: Let us pray. We thank you, O God, that you have strengthened our hearts through this feast of life and salvation. Shine the light of Christ on our path, that we may do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you, now and forever. C: Amen.

## BLESSING:

P: The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, keep your hearts and your minds in $\Psi$ Christ Jesus. C: Amen

Sending Song:
ELW, \#314

## Arise, Your Light Has Come!



Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947
Music: FESTAL'SONG, William H. Walter, 1825-1893
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## DISMISSAL:

P: Go in peace. Christ is with you. C: Thanks be to God.

## POSTLUDE:

Marita Ericksen

Worship Assistants This Morning:
Care Pastor - Rev. John Michael Barich
Assisting Minister - June Langland
Lector - Marlee Koch
Communion Assistant - Sindy Rice
Usher - Jim Dam
Musician - Marita Ericksen
Cantor - Dr. Gary Koch
Communion Set Up - Sindy Rice

Worship Assistants, next week (1/14/24):
Care Pastor - Rev. John Michael Barich
Assistant Minister - TBA
Lector: TBA
Communion Assistant - TBA
Usher - Jim Dam
Musician - Dinah Helgeson
Cantor - TBA
Communion Set Up - TBA

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you, Rev. John Michael Barich for your participation in worship today at VLC!
Contact Gail Larson (206/567-4779) with your prayer requests.
Former VLC member \& friend, Karen Nelson, has sent a Christmas letter, which has been put on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall for people to read.

Prayer \& Healing Service - Rev. Jeff Larson PhD is offering a prayer \& healing service on the first Weds. of the month at 6:30 PM, in the sanctuary. All are welcome!

IFCH Dinner Program: VLC provides hand out meals at Vashon Presbyterian Church at 5:00 PM the fourth Thurs. of the month. Contact Patte Wagner: pattewags@aol.com to help.

The Care Closet, Medical Equipment/Supplies - 206-473-8715. Vashon Care Network - 206-473-8715. Email: contact@vashoncarenetwork.org; website: www.vashoncarenetwork.org

VCN FAMILY CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP - Vashon Care Network invites you to join other family caregivers in a safe, supportive space to share the experience of caregiving. Thursdays, 6:30-7:30 PM at VLC. ?? Call Kathy Shafel, kshafel@comcast.net, cell: 206.718-1458 or Tory Hayes, victoriansmith@comcast.net, 206.304-4544.

## OUR FAITH IN ACTION

## SUNDAY

$1^{\text {st }}$
10:30 AM
6:30-8:30 PM
Jan. 28, following worship service
MONDAY
10:00 AM
$4^{\text {th }}, 6: 00-8: 00$ PM
TUESDAY
$2^{\text {nd }}, ~ 9: 00$ AM - 1:00 PM
$3^{\text {rd }}, \mathbf{1 0 : 0 0}$ AM - noon

## WEDNESDAY

$1^{\text {st }}$, 9:00 AM - noon
$1^{\text {st }}, \mathbf{6 : 3 0}$ PM
$3^{\text {rd }}, 7: 00 \mathrm{PM}$
THURSDAY
6:30-7:30 PM
Food Bank Sunday
Worship
AA Group
VLC Annual Congregational Meeting

Intercessory Prayer Group
VCN Board Meeting

Quilt Sewers Group
Vashon Quilting Group

Lutheran Quilters Group
Prayer \& Healing Service
VLC Council Meeting

VCN Family Caregivers Support Group at VLC
IFCH Dinner prepared by VLC, served at VPC

AA Group for Men


Vashon Lutheran Church
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Hymns for Jan. 7, 2024

ELW, 275

ACS, 915

ELW, 302, v. 1-3

ACS, p. 40

WOV, 646

ELW, 314

Angels from the Realms of Glory

When a Star is Shining

As With Gladness Men of Old

Be Known to Us, Lord

We Three Kings of Orient Are

Arise, Your Light Has Come!

