Blessed Savior Lutheran Church

1205 North Lincoln Ave O'Fallon, IL 62269 (618) 632-0126 www.mybslc.org Worship – 8 & 10:45 am. Rev. Vernon Lintvedt, Pastor Seminarians: PJ Aarsvold, Nathan Nelson Matt Martin & Pastor Daniel Akoh Cheryl Vohlken, Organist Sunday School resumes Jan 09

The Epiphany of Our Lord (Observed)

January 02, 2022

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today: No Sunday School, No Confirmation (resumes Jan 9)

Jan 4 – Quilters (Tues - 10 AM)

Jan 5 – Ladies Wed Morning Bible Study on Colossians resumes (Wed - 10 AM)

Jan 8 – Rolls & Goals Mtg – Council and Committee Members (Sat - 9 AM)

For information on all church events, sermon recordings, church calendar, newsletters:

GO TO: www.mybslc.org

INVOCATION

L: In the name of the Father and of the ♣ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES *Isaiah 60:1, 5–6; Matthew 2:2, 10–11*

L: Arise, shine, for your light has come.

C: We saw His star when it rose and have come to worship Him.

L: You shall see and be radiant.

C: They rejoiced exceedingly with great joy.

L: They shall bring good news, the praises of the LORD.

C: And they fell down and worshiped Him.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION Psalm 124:8; 130:3, adapt.; Ephesians 3:11–12

L: Our help is in the name of the LORD,

C: who made heaven and earth.

- L: If You, O LORD, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
- C: But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.
- L: Although God has graciously showered the light of His love on us, we have not responded in lives of total devotion. But because He has graciously promised to forgive, let us go to Him in the name of "Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in Him."
- C: Gracious heavenly Father, we confess that we have let the distractions of this world turn our eyes from seeing the true Light. We have not loved You with our whole hearts. Forgive us and renew in us, hearts to see, follow, and worship You alone.

DECLARATION OF GRACE

SHARING THE PEACE

HYMN No. 379 "O Come, All Ye Faithful" (vss. 1-3)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- Let us pray.
 O God, You led the Magi to see.
 - O God, You led the Magi to see in the star the news of Christ's birth. We give thanks that You have enabled us to see Him as our Savior.
- C: Grant us strength of faith to follow where He leads and to worship Him with all that we are and have;
- L: 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

(The Lord promises to visit His people as light, attracting other nations to His glory.)

EPISTLE Ephesians 3:1–12

(Paul rejoices in his calling to preach to the Gentiles.)

VERSE *Matthew 2:2b*

P: Alleluia. Where is He who has been born king of the Jews?

C: For we saw His star when it rose and have come to worship Him. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL *Matthew 2:1–12*

(The Magi are examples for our lives of faith.)

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

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

(The Gospel is read)

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN No. 397 "As with Gladness Men of Old" (vss.1,3,4)

SERMON "Illogical and Unexpected Directions" Matthew 2:1-12

Pastor Vern

CONFESSION OF FAITH THE NICENE CREED Please stand

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds,

God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten not made, being of one substance with the Father,

by whom all things were made;

Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man;

And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered and was buried.

And the third day rose again according to the Scriptures

and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And he will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Each petition will conclude with this response:

.: ...let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

SACRAMENT A

SELF-REFLECTION

P: The Apostle Paul encourages us to examine ourselves in the light of God's law so that we may see our sin and recognize our need of a Savior. We take a moment of silence to reflect on this need and then to ask ourselves the following questions:

(Silence)

- 1. Are you baptized in the name of the Triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit?
- 2. Do you know you are a sinner in need of God's grace?
- 3. Do you believe Jesus died to atone for your sins?
- 4. Do you believe that God offers His forgiveness through the "real" presence of Jesus, in, with, and under the elements of bread and wine?
- 5. Do you seek to amend your sinful life?

PREFACE

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 Him thanks and praise.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

LET THE VINEYARDS BE FRUITFUL

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord
And fill to the brim our cup of blessing.
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,
That we may be fed with the Bread of Life.
Gather the hopes and the dreams of all;
Unite them with the prayers we offer now.
Grace our table with Your presence,
And give us, a foretaste of the feast to come.

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST 1 Corinthians 11:26; Revelation 22:20

P: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father...
...So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER (Matthew 6:9-13)

All: 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 PEACE OF THE LORD

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

WORDS OF OUR LORD

POST-COMMUNION HYMN No. 822 "Alleluia! Let Praises Ring" (vs. 4)

Alleluia! Let praises ring!
Unto our triune God we sing;
Blest be His name forever!
With angel hosts let us adore
And sing His praises evermore
For all His grace and favor!
Singing, ringing: Holy, holy, God is holy;
Spread the story Of our God, the Lord of glory!

BLESSING OF THE LORD Numbers 6:24–26

HYMN No. 400 "Brightest and Best of the Stars of the Morning" (vss. 1,3,5)

SENDING

L: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!