

## January 4, 2026 | 9:30 am

## EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

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As children of God and disciples of Christ seeking peace and justice in the world, we welcome, affirm, and include all people into the fullness of God's love. We celebrate and lift up people of all races, cultures, ages, sexual orientations, gender identities, physical or mental abilities, economic statuses, political affiliation, appearances, family status, and citizenship as equally loved and valued in the eyes of God and in this place. All are invited to join this community as we worship God, grow in faith, and strive to love and serve one another.

All, without exception, are welcome in this place.



ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH BOYERTOWN

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AUTHENTIC WORSHIP INTENTIONAL RELATIONSHIPS SACRIFICIAL SERVICE RADICAL GENEROSITY

# CORE VALUES

ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH, BOYERTOWN

AUTHENTIC  
WORSHIP



INTENTIONAL  
RELATIONSHIPS



SACRIFICIAL  
SERVICE



RADICAL  
GENEROSITY



## BAPTISMAL PROMISE

GIFTS OF  
DISCIPLESHIP



**LIVE**  
among God's faithful people



**HEAR**  
the word of God



**SHARE**  
in the Lord's Supper



**PROCLAIM**  
the good news of God in Christ  
through word and deed



**SERVE**  
all people, following the example of Jesus



**STRIVE**  
for justice and peace in all the earth

# WELCOME

You are a blessing to us, and we're glad you're here today!

## NEW HERE?

Please do not feel obligated to contribute an offering - you are our guest! Rather, please ask an usher for a Let's Get Acquainted card and drop it in the offering plate.

Restrooms are located on the same level as the sanctuary. Exit the back of the sanctuary, turn left into Parish House, turn left again at ramp and continue midway down hallway. Restrooms are on the right.

Gluten-free communion wafers and grape juice are available at the center aisle.

## WHERE DO MY KIDS GO?

Children are always welcome to worship. Sunday School is offered for children ages 3 through 6th grade. Families are encouraged to begin worship together at 9:30 in the Sanctuary. Children are dismissed from worship and escorted to their classroom, located on the second floor of the Parish House. Children are released to parents at worship conclusion, approximately 10:30 am.

## PRAYER REQUESTS

The importance of prayer is affirmed throughout the Bible. As a church we are committed to pray - your needs are important to us. Prayer request cards can be obtained from an usher and may be filled out and dropped in the offering plate.

## GATHERING TIMES

Sunday | 9:30 am | Sanctuary

**Worship Celebration with Holy Communion**

**Livestream on YouTube (St John's ELC Boyertown)**

Thursday | 8:00 pm

**Service Broadcast on Comcast Channel 98**

## GET CONNECTED

Connect with God, each other and our community! Follow us on Facebook, YouTube and Instagram!



## SERVING IN WORSHIP

|                    |                                       |           |                              |
|--------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------|------------------------------|
| Acolyte            | Delaney Hersperger                    | Media     | Sarah Eidle                  |
| Altar Assistants   | Jen & Jason Friz                      | Musicians | Olivia Helmer, Chris Mervine |
| Altar Guild        | Jodie Dykie, Mary Kay Heimbach        | Prayer    | Mel Roth                     |
| Assisting Minister | Jason Friz                            | Sound     | Brianna Rohrbach             |
| Lector             | Amy Moyer                             | Video     | Jason Eidle                  |
| Ushers             | Ros & Brian Moatz, Sandy & Terry Wade |           |                              |



## Epiphany of Our Lord

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.

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### PRELUDE

### VIDEO

### WELCOME

*The congregation may stand.*

### CONFESSiON AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, Wonderful Counselor, Mighty Savior, Prince of Peace. **Amen.**

Trusting in God’s steadfast love and faithfulness, let us confess our sin.

Reconciling God, **we yearn for your presence to transform our grief, pain, and despair. We confess that we have not always prepared room in our hearts for your love; we have not always recognized your presence among us; we have not always embraced your message of peace.**

**We cry out, weary with the burden of violence, oppression, and fear. We confess our failure to make room for those seeking refuge; our participation in violent systems that harm your innocent ones; our reluctance to embody your good news.**

**Be born in us today and teach us to sing the joyful song of your salvation. Amen.**

God’s grace upon grace flows over you. Christ’s presence redeems the whole creation. Your sins are forgiven. Let the earth rejoice and be glad! **Amen.**

## GATHERING HYMN

## Rise, Shine, You People!

ELW 665



1 Rise, shine, you peo - ple! Christ the Lord has en - tered  
 2 See how he sends the pow'rs of e - vil reel - ing;  
 3 Come, cel - e - brate; your ban - ners high un - furl - ing,  
 4 Tell how the Fa - ther sent the Son to save us.



our hu - man sto - ry; God in him is cen - tered. He comes to  
 he brings us free - dom, light and life and heal - ing. All men and  
 your songs and prayers a - gainst the dark-ness hurl - ing. To all the  
 Tell of the Son, who life and free-dom gave us. Tell how the



us, by death and sin sur-round - ed, with grace un - bound-ed.  
 wom - en, who by guilt are driv - en, now are for - giv - en.  
 world go out and tell the sto - ry of Je - sus' glo - ry.  
 Spir - it calls from ev - 'ry na - tion God's new cre - a - tion.

Text: Ronald A. Klug, b. 1939, alt.  
 Music: WOJTKIEWIECZ, Dale Wood, 1934–2003  
 Text and music © 1974 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.**

## Change My Heart, O God

*Refrain*

Change my heart, O God; make it ev - er true.

*End*

Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.

You are the pot - ter; I am the clay.

*Refrain*

Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.

Text: Eddie Espinosa, b. 1953  
Music: CHANGE MY HEART, Eddie Espinosa  
Text and music © 1982 Mercy/Vineyard Publishing, admin. Music Services

*Children are dismissed to Sunday School.*

*The congregation may be seated.*

### FIRST READING

**Isaiah 60:1-6**

*Jerusalem is assured that nations will make a pilgrimage to her because the light of God's presence is in her midst. The bountiful food of the sea and the profits of international trade will come streaming to Jerusalem and thereby declare God's praise.*

<sup>1</sup>Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. <sup>2</sup>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. <sup>3</sup>Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. <sup>4</sup>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. <sup>5</sup>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. <sup>6</sup>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.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## SECOND READING

**Ephesians 3:1-12**

*What had been hidden from previous generations is now made known through the gospel ministry of Paul and others. In Christ both Jews and Gentiles participate in the richness of God's promised salvation.*

<sup>1</sup>This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles—<sup>2</sup>for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, <sup>3</sup>and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, <sup>4</sup>a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. <sup>5</sup>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: <sup>6</sup>that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. <sup>7</sup>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. <sup>8</sup>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, <sup>9</sup>and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; <sup>10</sup>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. <sup>11</sup>This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, <sup>12</sup>in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

*The congregation may stand.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia,  
Lord, to whom shall we go?  
You have the words of eternal life.  
Alleluia!

## GOSPEL READING

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. **Glory to you O Lord.**

**Matthew 2:1-12**

*God's promise shines bright in the night as magi follow a star to honor a new king. Strangers from a faraway land, they welcome the long-awaited messiah of Israel.*

<sup>1</sup>In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup>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." <sup>3</sup>When King Herod heard this,

he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; <sup>4</sup>and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. <sup>5</sup>They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: <sup>6</sup>‘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.’” <sup>7</sup>Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup>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.” <sup>9</sup>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. <sup>10</sup>When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. <sup>11</sup>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. <sup>12</sup>And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

The gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*The congregation may be seated.*

**SERMON**

**Pastor Bob Machamer**

*The congregation may stand.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

**We Three Kings of Orient Are**

**WOV 646**



1 We three kings of O - ri - ent are; bear - ing  
2 Born a king on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I  
3 Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I; in - cense  
4 Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a  
5 Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise, King and



gifts we tra - verse a - far, field and foun - tain,  
bring to crown him a - gain; king for - ev - er,  
owns a de - i - ty nigh; prayer and prais - ing,  
life of gath - er - ing gloom; sor - rowing, sigh - ing,  
God and Sac - ri - fice; heav'n sings al - le -



moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.  
ceas - ing nev - er, o - ver us all to reign.  
glad - ly rais - ing, wor - ship - ing God Most High.  
bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the stone - cold tomb.  
lu - ia: al - le - lu - ia the earth re - plies.



*Refrain*  
Oh, star of won - der, star of night, star with roy - al beau - ty bright;



west - ward lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - fect light!

Text: John Henry Hopkins Jr., 1820-1891, alt.  
Music: THREE KINGS OF ORIENT, John Henry Hopkins Jr., 1820-1891

## THE 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.

## PRAYER PETITION

**Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying**  
*Sung through twice.*

**ELW 752**



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing. Lord, send your Spir-it in this place;



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

Text: Ken Medema, b. 1943

Music: CHILDREN PRAYING, Ken Medema

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*The congregation may kneel.*

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*During this time of prayer, you are encouraged to meditate fully on the prayers offered by the reader.*

*Prayer response:*

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

*The congregation may stand.*

## OFFERING

King Jesus, we bring you our gold.

**Talents your Father gave us, skills we have acquired, a little money, a little power, a little success perhaps, and plenty of ambition. These we offer to you, so that you may make them really worth something in your kingdom.**

Jesus, great High Priest, we bring you our frankincense.

**Deep needs and longings, which are sometimes easier to admit in church: the need for forgiveness and peace, the need for friendship and love, the wish to do good and the knowledge that we must have help if we are to do it. Lord, help us and pray for us.**

Jesus, crucified Savior, we bring you our myrrh.

**Shadows on our path, weakness, illness, limitations, grief for ourselves and others, our knowledge of parting and pain. These we offer to you so that what we bear may be touched with the holiness of what you bore for us; and so that, by your grace, we may have a part in the world's redemption.**

## COMMUNION MUSIC

### The Table

**Chris Tomlin**

I will feast at the table of the Lord.

I will feast at the table of the Lord.

I won't hunger anymore at His table.

Come all you weary, come and find

His yoke is easy, His burden light.

He is able; He will restore at the table of the Lord.

## **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

On the night of his betrayal  
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.

**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 sins, as we forgive those who sin 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.**

## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

God is now in flesh appearing. Come to the feast of joy!

*The congregation may be seated.*

## **DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT**

*All without exception, are welcome at the table of God's grace and love. Please fill out a communion card and hand to an usher or place in the box at back of sanctuary. Today we receive the sacrament at the altar rail. Please come forward at the direction of the ushers. Gluten-free wafers and grape juice are available at the center aisle. Return to your seats by the side aisle. If you are unable to come forward for communion, please let an usher know and communion will be brought to you.*

*The congregation may stand.*

## **BLESSING**

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace, in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

## **POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

Incarnate God, you are among us at this table. May we treasure this gift and ponder in our hearts the mystery of your presence. Move us to discover the wonders of your love in the everyday moments of our lives, through Christ born in us. **Amen.**

## BENEDICTION

The triune God, glorious Mystery, holy Incarnate One, abiding Comforter, bless you with endless grace, peace, and joy. **Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN

### Shine, Jesus Shine

ELW 671

*Refrain*

Shine, Je - sus, shine, fill this land with the Fa-ther's glo - ry;  
blaze, Spir - it, blaze, set our hearts on fire.

Flow, riv - er, flow, flood the na - tions with grace and mer - cy;  
send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light!

1 Lord, the light of your love is shin - ing, in the midst of the  
2 As we gaze on your king - ly brightness, so our fac - es dis -

dark - ness, shin - ing; Je - sus, light of the world, shine up - on us,  
play your like - ness, ev - er chang - ing from glo - ry to glo - ry,

set us free, by the truth you now bring us.  
mir - rored here, may our lives tell your sto - ry.

*Refrain*

Shine on me, shine on me:  
Shine on me, shine on me:

## DISMISSAL

Glory to God in the highest! **And peace to God's people on earth!**

Go in joy. Embody God's redeeming grace. **Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

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# THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

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## SUNDAY, JANUARY 4 – Epiphany of Our Lord

|          |                        |                                     |
|----------|------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 9:30 AM  | Worship Celebration    | Sanctuary                           |
| 9:30 AM  | Sunday School          | Parish House, 2 <sup>nd</sup> floor |
| 10:45 AM | Christmas Meal Debrief | Fellowship Hall                     |

## MONDAY, JANUARY 5

|          |             |                 |
|----------|-------------|-----------------|
| 10:00 AM | Yoga Class  | Room 205        |
| 6:30 PM  | Girl Scouts | Fellowship Hall |

## TUESDAY, JANUARY 6

## WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7

|          |                     |                 |
|----------|---------------------|-----------------|
| 10:00 AM | Move & Groove Class | Room 205        |
| 6:30 PM  | Worship Team        | Conference Room |

## THURSDAY, JANUARY 8

|          |                        |                |
|----------|------------------------|----------------|
| 10:00 AM | Chestnut Knoll Service | Chestnut Knoll |
| 7:00 PM  | Handbells              | Handbell Room  |
| 8:00 PM  | Worship Broadcast      | Comcast Ch 98  |

## FRIDAY, JANUARY 9

|         |                               |                      |
|---------|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| 7:00 AM | Men's Small Group Bible Study | Telephone Conference |
| 6:00 PM | Council Retreat               | Conference Room      |

## SATURDAY, JANUARY 10

|         |                   |                             |
|---------|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| 8:00 AM | Council Retreat   | Conference Room             |
| 4:30 PM | Come to the Table | Fellowship Hall/Parking Lot |

## SUNDAY, JANUARY 11 – Baptism of Our Lord

|          |                                 |                                     |
|----------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 9:30 AM  | Worship Celebration             | Sanctuary                           |
| 9:30 AM  | Sunday School                   | Parish House, 2 <sup>nd</sup> floor |
| 10:45 AM | Coffee & Conversation           | Lower Level                         |
| 6:30 PM  | Girl Scout Service Unit Leaders | Lower Level                         |

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Scan the QR Code with your phone's camera  
to connect to our website and view more of  
what's happening at St. John's!



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## PURPOSE STATEMENT

We believe God's purpose for the people of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church is to develop joy-filled children of God who love the Lord and share God's Word.

*We do this by:*

- Maintaining a trusting and welcoming environment.
- Praying daily.
- Reading scripture regularly.
- Sharing our faith through action-based service.
- Encouraging holy conversations.
- Feeding our faith with music.

*With a focus on:*

- Activities that build relationships.
- Worship that is relevant.
- Meeting the needs of the vulnerable in our community.

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Pastor Bob Machamer

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Office Hours | Monday-Thursday 8:30am - 3:30pm | Friday 8:30am - 12:00pm