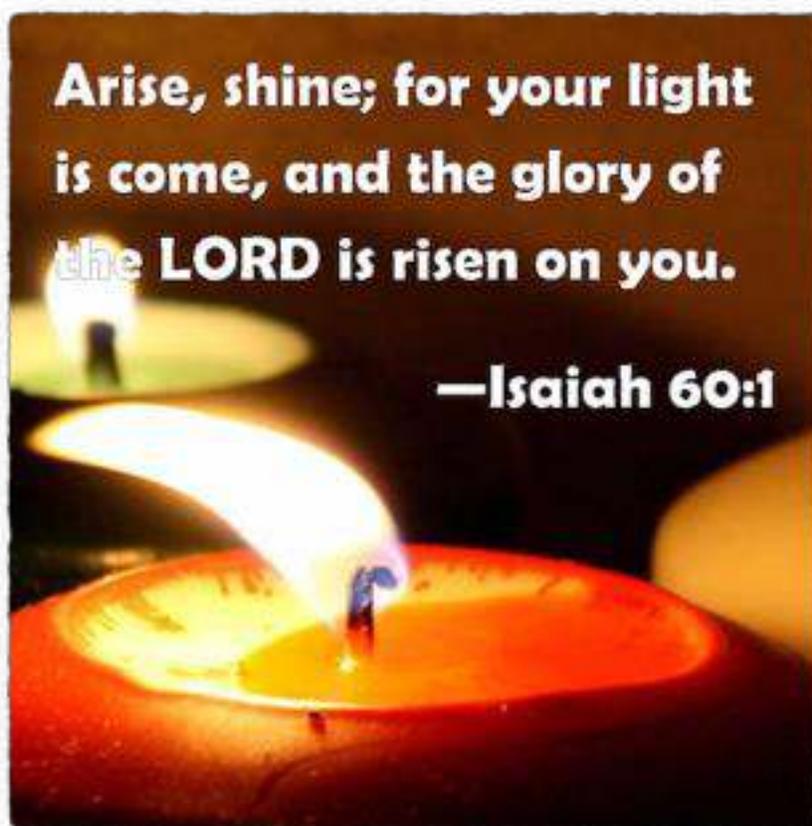


ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

– CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION –
LAKEWOOD, COLORADO



**1ST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY
JANUARY 7, 2018**

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Liturgical Note

Our church custom uses white as the liturgical color for the Epiphany season to symbolize the glory of God as revealed in His Son, Jesus Christ. The word "Epiphany" means "making known." During this season we remember how God made Jesus known to be the Savior of mankind. God sent Him to shine as a light in a world trapped in the darkness of unbelief to give us spiritual light and life. This year the season of Epiphany lasts 39 days, from the Festival of Epiphany (January 6) until Ash Wednesday (February 14).

ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

2470 Wadsworth Blvd, Lakewood, CO 80214
(303) 233-5000 – www.denverlutheran.com

Church of the Lutheran Confession (CLC)
www.clclutheran.org

Thomas Schuetze, pastor (303-428-5524)
Larry Reed, president – Mike Sprengeler, SS Superintendent
Ruth Greening, Suzannah Miller, Lisa Sprengeler, organists

Pre-Service Devotion	Psalm 2 (pew bible, p.481)
Order of Morning Worship	Tan hymnal, p.12
The Hymns	396 (1-3), 397, 412, 396 (4-5)
Scripture Lessons	Ephesians 3:2-12, Matthew 2:1-12
Psalm of the Day	From Psalm 72

Text – Isaiah 60:1-6

THE LIGHT SHINES IN THE DARKNESS

1. That light shines upon you.
2. Through you it shines to the world.

(A CLC Ministry-by-Mail sermon)

Offering of Our Hearts and Gifts
Prayers & the Lord's Prayer
Benediction & Closing Hymn (396, stanzas 4-5)

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A Warm Welcome in Christ to our Worship Guests. We're glad for the opportunity to share with you the Gospel of forgiveness through Jesus! Please introduce yourself to the pastor and sign our guest book. We invite you to come worship with us again. If you would like to know more about St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church and our national organization, the Church of the Lutheran Confession, please speak with the pastor. He would be happy to call on you to share our confession and mission with you.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURES

First Lesson – Ephesians 3:2-12

Surely you have heard about the administration of God's grace that was given to me for you, that is, the mystery made known to me by revelation, as I have already written briefly. In reading this, then, you will be able to understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, which was not made known to men in other generations as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to God's holy apostles and prophets. This mystery is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members together of one body, and sharers together in the promise in Christ Jesus. I became a servant of this gospel by the gift of God's grace given me through the working of his power. Although I am less than the least of all God's people, this grace was given me: to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, and to make plain to everyone the administration of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things. His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms, according to his eternal purpose which he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord. In him and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence.

Psalm of the Day – From Psalm 72

P Endow the king with your justice, O God:

C The royal son with your righteousness.

P He will defend the afflicted among the people:

C And save the children of the needy.

P He will endure as long as the sun:

C As long as the moon, through all generations.

P He will be like rain falling on a mown field:

C Like showers watering the earth.

P The kings of Tarshish and of distant shores will bring tribute to him:

C The kings of Sheba and Seba will present him gifts.

P All kings will bow down to him:

C And all nations will serve him.

P Praise be to the Lord God who alone does marvelous deeds.

C May the whole earth be filled with his glory.

Second Lesson – Matthew 2:1-12

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him." When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where

the Christ was to be born. "In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied, "for this is what the prophet has written: 'But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will be the shepherd of my people Israel.'" Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and make a careful search for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him." After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen in the east went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

Sermon Text – Isaiah 60:1-6

Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD rises upon you. See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples, but the LORD rises upon you and his glory appears over you. Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. Lift up your eyes and look about you: All assemble and come to you; your sons come from afar, and your daughters are carried on the arm. Then you will look and be radiant, your heart will throb and swell with joy; the wealth on the seas will be brought to you, to you the riches of the nations will come. Herds of camels will cover your land, young camels of Midian and Ephah. And all from Sheba will come, bearing gold and incense and proclaiming the praise of the LORD.
[NKJV]

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today (1/7) 9:30 am Worship Service
 10:45 am Sunday School (The Boy Jesus in the Temple, NT 5)

Sunday (1/14) 8:30 am Church Council Meeting
 9:30 am Worship Service with Communion
 10:45 am Sunday School (John the Baptist, NT 6)
 10:45 am Mary & Martha Ladies' Meeting

EXTENDED CALENDAR

- Annual Voters' Meeting: Sunday, January 21, 10:45 am
- Installation of Church Officers: Sunday, January 28
- Colorado Springs Worship Service: Sunday, January 28, 2:30 pm

SERVING US AT GOD'S HOUSE IN DECEMBER

- Ushers: Bob Rankin, Mark Hartmeister
- Elder: Ed Chiappetti
- Communion assistant: Mike Sprengeler

PASTOR SCHUETZE WILL RETURN TO COLORADO, Lord-willing, tomorrow. He is on vacation visiting family in Minnesota. In an emergency you may reach him at 720-465-4809 or through an elder (numbers listed on page one of the St. Paul Directory). Our thanks to elder Mike Sprengeler for conducting the service in the pastor's absence.

MARY & MARTHA LADIES' MEETING: After the service next Sunday at 10:45 am. Ladies, please share any Mary and Martha nominations (for president and vice-president) with chairman, Ruth Greening. Prayerfully consider volunteering your talents for the work of the Lord that is being carried on by our ladies.

ANNUAL VOTERS' MEETING: Sunday, January 21, following the service. The installation of our newly-elected officers will take place in the worship service on Sunday, January 28.

Psalm 27:1-6

- ❖ *The Lord is my light and my salvation— whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life— of whom shall I be afraid?*
- ❖ *When evil men advance against me to devour my flesh, when my enemies and my foes attack me, they will stumble and fall.*
- ❖ *Though an army besiege me, my heart will not fear; though war break out against me, even then will I be confident.*

- ❖ *One thing I ask of the Lord, this is what I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to seek him in his temple.*
- ❖ *For in the day of trouble he will keep me safe in his dwelling; he will hide me in the shelter of his tabernacle and set me high upon a rock.*
- ❖ *Then my head will be exalted above the enemies who surround me; at his tabernacle will I sacrifice with shouts of joy; I will sing and make music to the Lord.*

