



# St. Jude's Episcopal Church

*Seeking and Worshipping God, Reaching out to Others*

January 7, 2024

Celebrating the Feast of the Epiphany

10:30 am Holy Eucharist

----- A Special WELCOME to all! -----

Today we celebrate a feast day and begin a new season. **“Epiphany”** means the showing forth of a great mystery – in this case, the cosmic and invisible God being revealed in the human being, Jesus. Scripture readings for today and on the following Sundays will contain examples of how Jesus demonstrated (or dropped hints about) his identity as the Son of God/Word made flesh. Who recognizes him? **Today:** several “Magi,” astrologers from Persia, see signs in the heavens and come to kneel before the infant Jesus.

**New to our church?** We'd love to get better acquainted. Please leave your name and email or phone number in one of our guestbooks, located at both entrances of the worship space; or by filling out one of the Welcome cards in the pew.

COVID is still a concern in our area. Face masks are recommended; they are provided at all entrances to the worship space. Hand-sanitizing stations are also provided, and recommended for use prior to receiving Communion.

**All persons who desire to receive Holy Communion are served here,** no questions asked. Today, we offer gluten-free Bread, which may be dipped into the small bowl of wine; or, consume your bread and sip wine from the chalice that follows. Or neither: just cross your arms over your chest. You may also ask a blessing from the priest.

**Hymn #** These hymns are located in the blue Hymnal 1982 in your pew.

**WLP #** These hymns are located in the green hymnal books located near the library entrance to the church.

## *The Gathering of the Community*

Prelude \_\_\_\_\_

Opening Hymn #93 \_\_\_\_\_ *Angels from the realms of glory*

Open Acclamation & Collect \_\_\_\_\_

*Presider* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

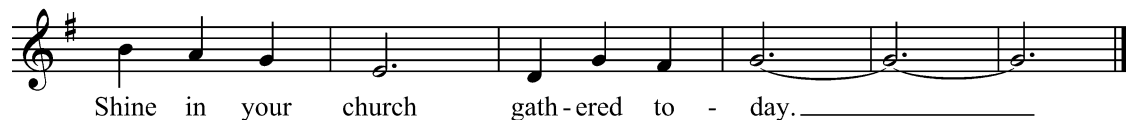
*People* **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

*Presider* Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Song of Praise: MHSO #59 vss 1,2 \_\_\_\_\_ *Longing for light*

1 Longing of light, we wait in darkness.  
Longing for truth, we turn to you.  
Make us your own, your holy people,  
light for the world to see. *Refrain*

2 Longing for peace, our world is troubled.  
Longing for hope, many despair.  
Your word alone has power to save us.  
Make us your living voice. *Refrain*



## Collect of the Day

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*Presider* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Presider* Let us pray together.

*All* O God, by the leading of a star you manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: Lead us, who know you now by faith, to your presence, where we may see your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

## *The Proclamation of the Word*

**The First Reading** *Please be seated* \_\_\_\_\_ *Isaiah 60:1-6*

*Reader* A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

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.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**The Psalm** \_\_\_\_\_ *Psalm 72:1-7,10-14*

- 1 Give the King your justice, O God, \*  
and your righteousness to the King's Son;
- 2 That he may rule your people righteously \*  
and the poor with justice;
- 3 That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, \*  
and the little hills bring righteousness.
- 4 He shall defend the needy among the people; \*  
he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.
- 5 He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, \*  
from one generation to another.
- 6 He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, \*  
like showers that water the earth.
- 7 In his time shall the righteous flourish; \*  
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.
- 10 The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay tribute, \*  
and the kings of Arabia and Saba offer gifts.
- 11 All kings shall bow down before him, \*  
and all the nations do him service.
- 12 For he shall deliver the poor who cries out in distress, \*  
and the oppressed who has no helper.
- 13 He shall have pity on the lowly and poor; \*  
he shall preserve the lives of the needy.
- 14 He shall redeem their lives from oppression and violence, \*  
and dear shall their blood be in his sight.

**The Second Reading** \_\_\_\_\_ *Ephesians 3:1-12*

*Reader*            A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Ephesians.

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.

*Reader*            The Word of the Lord.

*People*            **Thanks be to God.**

**Sequence Hymn #119, vss 1-3** \_\_\_\_\_ *As with gladness, men of old*

**The Gospel Reading** *Please stand* \_\_\_\_\_ *Matthew 2:1-12*

*Deacon*            The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.

*People*            **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

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.

The Gospel of the Lord.

*People*

**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**Sequence Hymn #119, vss 4,5** \_\_\_\_\_

- 4 Holy Jesus! every day keep us in the narrow way;  
and, when earthly things are past, bring our ransomed souls at last  
where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glory hide.
- 5 In the heavenly country bright, need they no created light;  
thou its light, its joy, its crown, thou its sun which goes not down:  
there for ever may we sing alleluias to our King.

**The Sermon** *Please be seated* \_\_\_\_\_ *The Rev. Susan Anslow Williams*  
*Please remain in silence for a moment of reflection following the sermon.*

**The Nicene Creed** *Please stand* \_\_\_\_\_

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God, begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:

by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again, in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

### Prayers of the People *Please stand or kneel* \_\_\_\_\_

*Intercessor* We pray for all your faithful people, and those who are called to lead, that  
we may walk in your way of love and manifest your love to the world.

*People* **Shine your light on your Church, Lord.**

*Intercessor* We pray for all the nations of the world, that those in authority will work  
toward peace and equity for all their people.

*People* **Shine your light on the nations, Lord.**

*Intercessor* We pray for people everywhere, that their lives may be full, that their  
families may be secure, that their hearts be filled with your peace.

*People* **Shine your light on all your children, Lord.**

*Intercessor* We pray for the community in which we live, that neighbors care for  
neighbors creating a truly loving community for all. We remember  
especially all children and parents who are refugees or live in poverty.

*People* **Shine your light on this community, Lord.**

*Intercessor* We pray for those who are suffering in ways that are known or perhaps hidden. We pray for those who struggle mightily in this life, and for those whose light is dimming. For those who are ill and those who care for them. For those who are born today and those who mourn a death. We pray especially for those we now name:  
*Please add your petitions either silently or aloud. Silence.*  
In Christ's name, we pray.

*People* **Shine your light into the seasons and passages of our lives, Lord.**

*Intercessor* We pray for those who have been called into eternal life with you, especially those we now name:  
*Please add your petitions either silently or aloud. Silence.*  
In thanksgiving for their lives, we pray.

*People* **Shine your perpetual light upon them, Lord.**

*Priest* Gracious and loving God, we come before you with no gold, incense or myrrh; only our selves. Accept and receive our lives, so that we may be manifestations of your presence. Let the light of your Spirit shine within and among us, so we may share in the mystery of your purpose of blessings for all creation, through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

### **Confession of Sin** *Please stand or kneel* \_\_\_\_\_

*Presider* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*People* **Most merciful God,**  
**we confess that 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 are truly sorry and we humbly repent.**  
**For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us;**  
**that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways,**



to the glory of your Name. Amen.

## Absolution

*Presider* Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

## The Peace *Please stand*

*Presider* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Let us greet one another with the Peace of Christ!*

## Milestones and Announcements

### The Offertory, following an invitation to generosity from the priest

*If you wish to give online, point your phone's camera at the QR code to the right and tap the webpage that pops up. It will take you to the St. Jude's online giving form!*



**Offertory Hymn #128** \_\_\_\_\_ *We three kings of Orient are*  
*Verses 2, 3 and 4 will be sung by soloists as the "kings"*

*After the Ushers collect the offering, you are invited to bring up items for our Baby Shower for Jesus.*

### The Doxology *Please stand & join in singing*

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

**A prayer over the baby gifts:** O God, Creator of us all: Increase with your blessing the good that these items will bring to little children and their families. Open our hearts to their struggles, and our hands to meet the needs of the smallest members of our community. We ask in the name of Jesus, who began his life with us as a helpless and homeless baby, and now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, ever One God. **Amen.**

## *The Celebration of the Eucharist*

**The Eucharistic Prayer** A \_\_\_\_\_ Fr. Wayne Knotts, *celebrant*

*Priest* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Priest* Lift up your hearts.

*People* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Priest* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People* **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*Priest* It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**Sanctus** \_\_\_\_\_ *Santo, santo, santo*

1. San - to, san - to, san - to, mi cor - a - zon te a - do - ra! Mi  
2. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, my heart, my heart a - dores you! My  
3. San - to, san - to, san - to, mi cor - a - zon te a - do - ra! Mi

cor - a zon te sa - be de - cir: san - to e - re Se - ñor.  
heart is glad to say the words: you are ho - ly, Lord.  
cor - a zon to sa - be de - cir: san - to e - re Se - ñor.

*The people may remain standing or may kneel*

*Priest* Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*All* **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

*Priest* We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

*All* **Amen!**

**The Lord's Prayer** \_\_\_\_\_

*Presider* And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,  
*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,  
 for ever and ever. Amen.

**The Breaking of Bread**, *silence follows*

**Fraction Anthem: WLP #874**, *refrain* \_\_\_\_\_ *Whoever eats this bread*

*Cantor, then all repeat:*

*Principal Canon*

Who - ev - er eats this bread will live for - ev - er.

Who - ev - er eats this bread will live for - ev - er.

**An Invitation to Communion** *is said by the clergy* \_\_\_\_\_ *source: Iona Community*

Our feast of bread and wine is now made ready.  
 It is the feast of company with Jesus, and all who love him.  
 So come and share in this banquet:  
 You have much faith and you who would like to have more;  
 you who have been here often, and you who have not been for a long time;  
 you who have tried to follow Jesus, and you who have failed.  
 Come. It is Christ who invites us to meet him here.  
 These are gifts of God for you, the people of God.

**The Communion**

*Please be seated until invited by the Ushers to come forward, or let them know if you would like Communion brought to you in the pew. **All are welcome** but no one is obliged to receive. If you would prefer not to receive Communion, please cross your arms across your chest indicating you would like to receive a blessing instead. Today we are blessing gluten-free bread. The wine may be sipped from the chalice, or wait to intinct (dip your bread) into the small bowl of blessed wine. Please do not intinct into the chalice.*

**Communion Hymn #124** \_\_\_\_\_ *What star is this, with beams so bright?*

**Prayer after Communion** *Please stand as able*

*Priest*      Let us pray.  
*People*      **Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.  
Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Epiphany Blessing** \_\_\_\_\_

*Priest*      May Almighty God, who led the Wise Men by the shining of a star to find the Christ, the Light from Light, lead you also in your pilgrimage, to find the Lord. And the blessing of God Almighty: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you, always. **Amen.**

***The Sending Out***

**Sending Out Hymn #109, vss 1-5** \_\_\_\_\_ *The First Nowell*

**Sending Out** \_\_\_\_\_

*The Deacon dismisses the congregation, after which the people respond:*  
**Thanks be to God!**

## Postlude

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### SERVING TODAY

*Presiding at the Table:* The Rev. H. Wayne Knotts, celebrating his 48 anniversary of ordination

*Organist:* Ron Spaulding. *Thank you, Ron!*

*LEM:* Dee Grossmann

*2nd Chalice:* Paul Dolza

*Reader:* Jim Ramelis

*Prayers:* Paul Dolza

*Ushers:* Dave & Denise Rayner

*Live-streamer:* Dave James

*Altar Guild:* Dee Grossmann & Lisa Cronk

*Vestry P. of Day:* Bill Anderson

*Coffee Hour:* ???

*1/8 Mon. Office Volunteer:* Nancy Day

*1/9 Tuesday Counter:* Nancy Day

*1/11 Thus. Office Volunteer:* Francine Johnston

### Serving Next Week, January 14

*LEM:* Lynn Hopper

*2nd Chalice:* Amy Freeman

*Reader:* Amy Freeman

*Prayers:* Rev. H. Wayne Knotts

*Ushers:* Charlie Johnston & Jeff Wood

*Live-streamer:* Paul Dolza

*Altar Guild:* Terri Hutchins & Francine Johnston

*Vestry P. of Day:* Francine Johnston

*Coffee Hour:* Bill & Theresa Anderson

*Office Closed Monday, January 15 for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day*

*1/16 Tuesday Counter:* Nancy Day

*1/18 Thus. Office Volunteer:* Francine Johnston

### Meetings this Week:

On Wednesday, Jan. 10, the **Outreach Committee** meets at 1 pm, and the **Vestry** meets at 7 pm.

On Thursday, Jan. 11, at 6:30 pm, the **Choirs** are invited to have pizza dinner with Rev. Susan, to talk about hopes and plans for our music program. RSVP.

### **Prayer List**

For Michael, our Presiding Bishop; for Skip, our Assisting Bishop; for the Standing Committees of the Dioceses of Eastern & Western Michigan; for Susan, our Priest-in-Charge; for Judy, our Deacon; for the Vestry.

For Al; Margaret; Bill; Todd; Diane; Sue; Barbara & Joe; Cindy; Cathy; Molly; Cory; Dale; Sue; Linda; Marcia; Gabe; Rose; Joan; Rex & Judi; Jim; Bob; Jim; Sharon; Mia; June; Ed; Carl; Sydne; Laura; Liz; Mike; Mary Lou; Pedro; James; Randy; Jack; Sherry; Pam; John; Francine; Sara; Marsha; Chet; Leonard; Ron; Ellen; Glenn; Jim; Patti; Brad; Vince; Zack; Carolyn.

### **New Picture Directory**

We are going to create a new updated picture directory for St. Jude's in the new year! Picture dates are **Feb. 8-10**. You can sign up in the library for a time slot. You can also sign up yourself online for a picture time slot: Go to [www.ucdir.com](http://www.ucdir.com) and click on the right side of the homepage entitled "photography appointment scheduling login". Church code mi1872 and password photos. If you have more than 5 family members to be photographed, please make sure to sign up for 2 consecutive appointments to allow enough time.

Extended families (and pets) are welcome. You can indicate who in your family should be in the church directory if you wish to use this as a chance to get family pictures professionally taken as well. A complimentary 8 x 10 and a copy of the completed St. Jude's photo directory will be given to each person/family who gets their picture taken.

### **Annual Meeting**

Our Annual Meeting will take place **Sunday, January 28** during and following the 10:30 am service. Please plan on attending so that you can hear all about what St. Jude's has done in 2023 and what we hope to do in 2024.



**Saturday  
January**

**20**

**9:00 AM – 1:30 PM**

**Helpful tip:  
Make sure to eat a healthy  
meal and drink plenty of  
water before donating.**

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Walk-ins welcomed and appointments honored



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[www.stjudesfenton.com](http://www.stjudesfenton.com)

Facebook: St. Jude's Episcopal Church

Sunday Service In-Person and on Facebook Live @ 10:30 am