

Ephraim Moravian Church

PO Box 73, Ephraim, Wisconsin 54211

Phone: (920) 854-2804

www.ephraimmoravian.org

Epiphany Sunday - January 9, 2022

Morning Worship, 10:30 a.m.

PASTOR:.....The Rev. Dawn E. Volpe
MINISTERS:.....Members of the Congregation
MUSIC DIRECTOR:.....Colin Welford
SECRETARY:.....Diane Kirkland

Serving the Community Since 1853

Prelude: **Sonata in Bb: “Allegretto grazioso” – by W.A. Mozart**

Call to Worship: Ringing of the Bell

Welcome & Announcements

Joyful Noise Offering for Secret Santa

“Christ is Born Today” – duet by Gilbert Martin

Scripture Lessons: Isaiah 60: 1 – 6; Matthew 2: 1 – 12

Hymn #317: **“Brightest and Best of the Stars” (v. 1 & 2)**

Sermon

Prayers of the Church, The Lord’s Prayer

Response: (Hymn, p. 68)

Light of the world, come near and bless your children here below

Who in your house your name confess, on us your grace bestow. Amen.

Responsive Reading for the Epiphany

Wise ones saw he would be a king and brought him gold.

Grant us wisdom to recognize Jesus’ reign in our world.

Wise ones saw he would be a priest and brought him frankincense.

Grant us humility as we speak God’s message to the world.

Wise ones saw he would be a suffering servant and brought him myrrh.

Grant us courage to suffer as he did. Reign among us. Speak through us. Lead us into servanthood. Amen.

Benediction

Postlude: **Sonata in E Minor – by Edvard Grieg**

WATCHWORD FOR THE EPIPHANY: *Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.*

- Isaiah 60:1

MONDAY:

Pastor’s Sabbath

WEDNESDAY:

10:00 a.m. Elders Meeting

SUNDAY:

9:00 a.m. Sunday School/Nursery

10:30 a.m. Worship

WELCOME to Ephraim Moravian Church. Our Nursery is open for children under the age of 4.

EPHRAIM MORAVIAN CHURCH is the “Church of the Open Door.” We hope you find our church open to you in every way!

MOTTO OF THE MORAVIAN CHURCH: In Essentials, Unity, In Non-Essentials, Liberty, In All Things, Love

EPHRAIM MORAVIAN WATCHWORD 2022: *The wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy.*

- James 3:17

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Responsive Reading is taken from:

<https://washingtonmemo.wordpress.com/newsletter/winter08/worship-resources-epiphany/>

THANKS to Hal Halvorsen for sharing his musical talents this morning.

THE ANNUAL CHURCH COUNCIL will take place on Sunday, January 30th at 1 p.m. in the church sanctuary. All members and children in Confirmation Class are welcome to attend. Nursery will be provided. For those of you who chair Boards or Committees, reports are due to the secretary no later than Wednesday, January 19.

USHER SIGN-UP - If you are vaccinated and can help with ushering this winter, there is a sign-up sheet on the table in the Fellowship Hall.

over...

GIVING ENVELOPES – There are giving envelopes on the pew near the narthex – whether you give weekly, monthly, quarterly, etc., take the envelopes you need!

Follow That Star - Pastor Dan G. Olson Reflection for January 9, 2022

It's all here, the makings of a great mystery novel. There's intrigue, gossip, jealousy, paranoia, murder, and a very mysterious star. Early on we're introduced to three key players. Some called them "kings," which they were not. That moniker was attached sometime in the very early years of the church. Most called them "wisemen," which they surely were.

Tradition has even given them names: Melchior, Caspar and Balthazar. To be given the title "Wise Man" was the equivalent of calling them professors, and in this case, they were likely astrologers, or astronomers, as we would call them. They were experts at stargazing and likely used an astrolabe to do so. ("Astrolabe" - my new word I use to impress you - it's an instrument from antiquity resembling a silver dollar, used in the study of the universe.) It's no wonder they were following this amazing star. While they were traveling, they made a courtesy call to see King Herod who, to their dismay, they found in a complete rage, throwing pots and pans in his temper tantrum. "How dare some kid be designated as king? I, Herod, am King." Well, we'll just see about that! You know the rest of the story.

But we must contend with one last thing, the only faux pas in this story. It was the giving of one very inappropriate, extremely rude gift. Who would have the gall to give Myrrh to a 12-day old infant? Myrrh of all things! Myrrh - used at a burial to cover the stench of death!

Just think about this. A 12-day-old baby Jesus has already been sentenced to death! Already the mission this baby is to fulfill is revealed to us! It's an epiphany! That's the rest of the story.