

Faith and Rock Creek Lutheran Churches
Epiphany
Sunday, January 2nd 10:30AM
Facebook Live @faithandrockcreek
WRDN 1430AM / 107.3FM
Pastor Bethany Walker



STAR WORD 2022

**Today's radio broadcast is sponsored by Reta Stewart
in memory of Sadie Hagness**

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, who sends the word with angels, who is made flesh among all peoples, and who breathes peace on all the earth. **Amen.** In Christ, we are bold to name our sin and cry out for peace.

Holy God, we confess our sin before you. We replace compassion with competition. We seek what is mighty while ignoring the meek. We are quick to anger but slow to forgive. We have not put on love in harmony with you. Wrap us in the grace of your powerful Word. Swaddle our hearts with your peace, that all we do, in word or deed, may reflect your love born among us. **Amen.**

I bring you good news of great joy for all people: God has come among us in the child born of Mary, Christ the Lord. ✝ In Christ your sins are forgiven and you are clothed in peace. **Amen.**

Entrance Hymn

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to follow Jesus
God set the stars to give light to the world. The star of my life is Jesus

(Refrain)

In Him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

I want to see the brightness of God. I want to look at Jesus
Clear sun of righteousness, shine on my path
And show me the way to the Father (refrain)

I'm looking for the coming of Christ. I want to be with Jesus.
When we have run with patience the race, we shall know the joy of Jesus.
(refrain)

Greeting

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

Prayer of the Day

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.

Children's Message

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 60:1-6

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.

Psalm

Psalm 72: 1-7, 10-14

¹Give 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;** ³that the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, and the hills, in righteousness.
⁴**Let him defend the needy among the people, rescue the poor, and crush the oppressor.** ⁵May he live as long as the sun and moon endure, from one generation to another. ⁶**Let him come down like rain upon the mown field, like showers that water the earth.** ⁷In his time may the righteous flourish; and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more. **May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles pay tribute, and the kings of Sheba and Seba offer gifts.** ¹¹May all kings bow down before him, and all the nations do him service.
¹²**For the king delivers the poor who cry out in distress, the oppressed, and those who have no helper.** ¹³He has compassion on the lowly and poor, and preserves the lives of the needy. ¹⁴**From oppression and violence he redeems their lives, and precious is their blood in his sight.**

New Testament Reading

Ephesians 3:1-12

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

Gospel Acclamation

This, this is Christ, the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing:

Haste, haste to bring Him laud, the Babe, the Son of Mary!

Gospel

Matthew 2:1-12

¹In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ²asking, “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.” ³When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: ⁶‘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.’” ⁷Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then 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.” ⁹When 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. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On 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. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

We Three Kings of Orient Are

We three kings of Orient are; bearing gifts we traverse afar, field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star (refrain)

Oh star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright; westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!

Born a king on Bethlehem's plain, gold I bring to crown him again; king forever, ceasing never, over us all to reign. (refrain)

Frankincense to offer have I; incense owns a diety nigh; prayer and praising, gladly raising, worshiping God Most High. (refrain)

Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume breathes a life of gathering gloom; sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying, sealed in the stonecold tomb. (refrain)

Glorious now behold him arise, King and God and Sacrifice; heaven sings alleluia; alleluia: alleluia the earth replies. (refrain)

Affirmation of Baptism

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.

Prayers of Intercession

Hear us O God, Your mercy is great.

Peace

Offering

Doxology

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

Offering Prayer

Holy God, your beauty shines forth from the manger and your love flows from the cross. As you gather us around these signs of your love come among us, warm us to extend your care among the hungry and all in need. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Words of Institution

On the night...remembering, therefore, Christ's life, death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory. Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.

Lord's Prayer

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.

Communion Distribution

Post Communion Blessing

Prayer after Communion

Most High God, you have come among us at this table. By the Spirit's power, form us to be bearers of your word, sharing gifts of mercy and grace with all, through Christ Jesus, our host and our guest. Amen.

Benediction

Almighty God, who sent the Holy Spirit to Mary, proclaimed joy through the angels, sent the shepherds with good news, and led the magi by a star, bless you this day through the Word made flesh. Amen.

Sending Hymn

Shine, Jesus, Shine

Lord, the light of your love is shining. In the midst of the darkness, shining.
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us, Set us free by the truth you now bring us. Shine on me, shine on me (refrain)

(refrain)

Shine, Jesus, shine. Fill this land with the Father's glory.
Blaze, Spirit, blaze. Set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow. Flood the nations with grace and mercy.
Send forth your word Lord, and let there be light.

As we gaze on your kingly brightness, so our faces display your likeness
Ever changing from glory to glory, mirrored here may our lives tell your story
Shine on me, shine on me (refrain)

Dismissal Go in peace. Share the gift of Jesus. **Thanks be to God!**