

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Durham

P.O. Box 100, Durham PA, 18039 610-346-8500

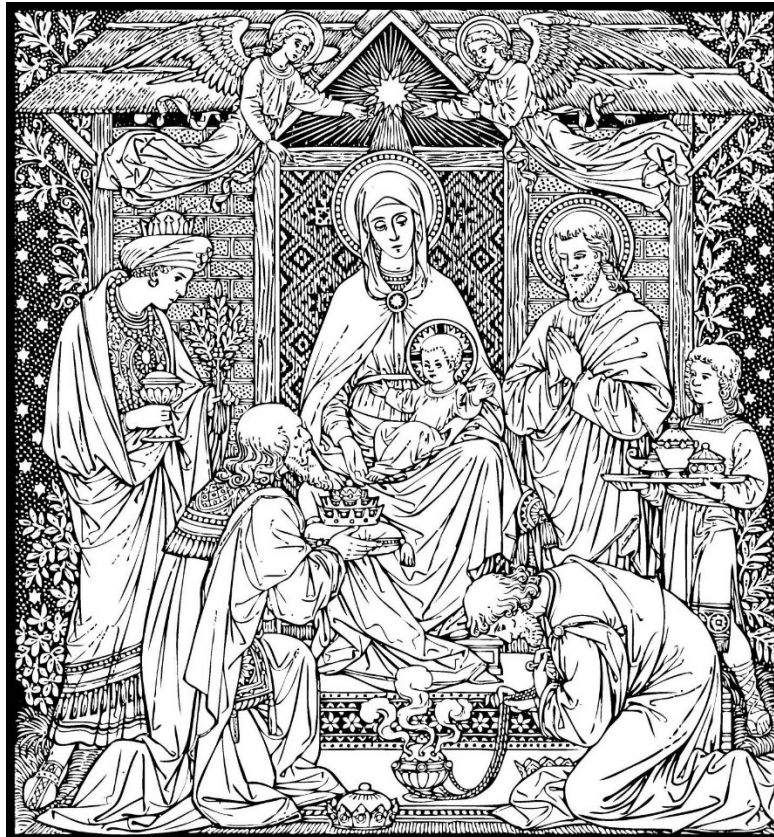
durhamlutheran.org

Rev. James Heckman, Pastor

Cell: 267-664-3160

January 7, 2024

Epiphany of Our Lord



Introduction to Worship

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.

You can find the live stream at the following locations:

www.youtube.com/@DurhamLutheran

Worship from Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2015 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SB170076.

Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE, License # 715933-A. All rights reserved.

Prelude: *We Three Kings - Gordon Young*

Confession and Forgiveness (Stand if you are able)

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, who opens the heavens and draws near to us with salvation.

C: Amen.

P: Trusting the goodness and lovingkindness of God our Savior, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: God of Life,

C: **you promise good news of great joy for all people, and call us to be messengers of your peace. We confess that too often we hoard our joy, our resources, and our security. We nurture conflict and build barriers. We neglect the needs of our neighbors and ignore the groaning of creation. Have mercy on us. Where we are self-centered, open our hearts. Where we are reluctant, give us courage. Where we are cynical, restore our trust. Renew us with your grace and give us again the hope of eternal life in you.**

P: Hear the good news: We are children of God and heirs of God's promises through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. In ✠ Jesus we are forgiven and redeemed. Sing with joy, for all the ends of the earth shall know the salvation of God.

C: Amen.

Entrance Hymn: WOV 645

There's a Star in the East



1 There's a star in the east on Christ-mas morn, rise up, shep-herd, and fol-low.
2 If you take good heed to the an-gel's words, rise up, shep-herd, and fol-low.



It will lead to the place where the Christ was born, rise up, shep-herd, and fol-low.
You'll for-get your flocks, you'll for-get your herds, rise up, shep-herd, and fol-low.



Refrain

Fol - low, fol - low, rise up, shep-herd, and fol - low.



Fol-low the star of Beth-le - hem, rise up, shep-herd, and fol-low.

Text: African American spiritual

Music: RISE UP, SHEPHERD, African American spiritual

GREETING

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

C: And also with you.

Kyrie:



Ⓐ Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: ☩ Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:



Ⓐ Chri - ste e - le - i - son: ☩ Christ, have mer - cy.
Christ, have mer - cy:



Ⓐ Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: ☩ Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:



Hymn of Praise



☐ Glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo- ple on earth.



☐ Lord God, heav-en - ly king, al-might- y God and Fa- ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



☐ Glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



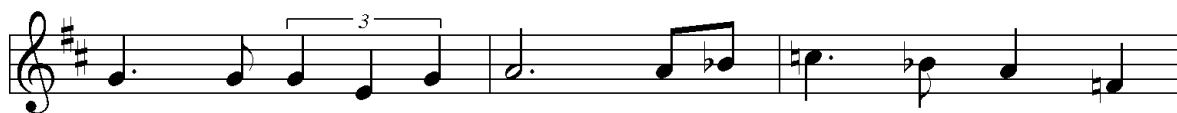
glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo- ple on earth.



☐ Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,



Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the



right hand of the Fa - ther: re- ceive our prayer.

Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;

glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

I For you a-lone are the Ho - ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,
II

you a-lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly

Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther, A - men.

Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;

glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth,

and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

Prayer of the Day

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: Let us pray: Everlasting God, the radiance of all faithful people, you brought the nations to the brightness of your rising. Fill the world with your glory, and show yourself to all the world through him who is the true light and the bright morning star, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

(Please 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.

L: A reading from second Isaiah the sixtieth chapter.

¹Arise, shine; for your light has come,
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

²For darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples;

but the LORD will arise upon you,
and his glory will appear over you.

³Nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

⁴Lift 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.

⁵Then 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.

⁶A 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.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: THANKS BE TO GOD.

Psalm: Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14

P: ¹Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to a king's son.

C: ²**May he judge your people with righteousness, and your poor with justice.**

P: ³May the mountains yield prosperity for the people, and the hills, in righteousness.

C: ⁴**May he defend the cause of the poor of the people, give deliverance to the needy, and crush the oppressor.**

P: ⁵May he live while the sun endures, and as long as the moon, throughout all generations.

C: ⁶**May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth.**

P: ⁷In his days may righteousness flourish and peace abound, until the moon is no more.

C: ¹⁰**May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles render him tribute, may the kings of Sheba and Seba bring gifts.**

P: ¹¹May all kings fall down before him, all nations give him service.

C: ¹²**For he delivers the needy when they call, the poor and those who have no helper.**

P: ¹³He has pity on the weak and the needy, and saves the lives of the needy.

C: ¹⁴**From oppression and violence he redeems their life; and precious is their blood in his sight.**

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.

A reading from Ephesians, the third chapter:

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.

L: The Word of the Lord. C: **THANKS BE TO GOD.**

Gospel Acclamation *(Please stand if you are able)*



The Gospel – 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.

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the second chapter. **C: Glory to you, O Lord**

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.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you. O Christ.

Children's Sermon / Sermon (please be seated)



As with Gladness Men of Old



1 As with glad - ness men of old did the guid - ing star be - hold;
2 As with joy - ful steps they sped, Sav - ior, to thy low - ly bed,
3 As they of - fered gifts most rare at thy cra - dle, rude and bare,
4 Ho - ly Je - sus, ev - 'ry day keep us in the nar - row way;
5 In the heav'n - ly coun - try bright need they no cre - a - ted light;



as with joy they hailed its light, lead - ing on - ward, beam - ing bright;
there to bend the knee be - fore thee, whom heav'n and earth a - dore;
so may we with ho - ly joy, pure and free from sin's al - loy,
and when earth - ly things are past, bring our ran - somed souls at last
thou its light, its joy, its crown, thou its sun which goes not down;



so, most gra - cious Lord, may we ev - er - more be led by thee.
so may we with will - ing feet ev - er seek thy mer - cy seat.
all our cost - liest trea - sures bring, Christ, to thee, our heav'n - ly king.
where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glo - ry hide.
there for - ev - er may we sing al - le - lu - ias to our king.

Text: William C. Dix, 1837–1898, alt.
Music: DIX, Conrad Kocher, 1786–1872

Apostle's Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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

P: Trusting in God's good news of great joy for all people, we offer our prayers for ourselves, our neighbors, and the world God loves.

A brief silence.

P: Humble the hearts of your faithful people, that we seek to be servants of your gospel and witnesses to your mysteries. Give us boldness in faith, that we make the good news of Christ's birth known to all people. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Establish justice on earth for all its inhabitants. Lead us to protect fragile ecosystems and endangered species. Empower the work of all who research, engineer, and make accessible alternative and renewable sources of energy. Make us careful stewards of your creation. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Nations shall come to your light and kings to your dawning. Remove corruption and fear from the hearts of leaders and authorities. Lead governments to expand policies and resources that care for refugees and all migrants. Strengthen the work of resettlement agencies. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Defend the cause of all who are in need, all facing poverty, and all who are oppressed. Come quickly to those who feel that their lives and livelihoods are fragile. Give them strength and lead them forth with hope. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: As the magi offered gifts to the Christ child, empower us to give generously. Prosper the work of ministry partnerships in our community. Together, help us share what we have to ensure that our neighbors have enough food, resources, and opportunities. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P: You have redeemed the lives of your faithful departed. Through the love of Christ, gather us into one body with them, and reveal to us the mystery hidden for ages in the One who created all things. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Abide with us, O God of mercy, and receive our prayers according to your abundant grace.

C: Amen.

Sharing of the Peace

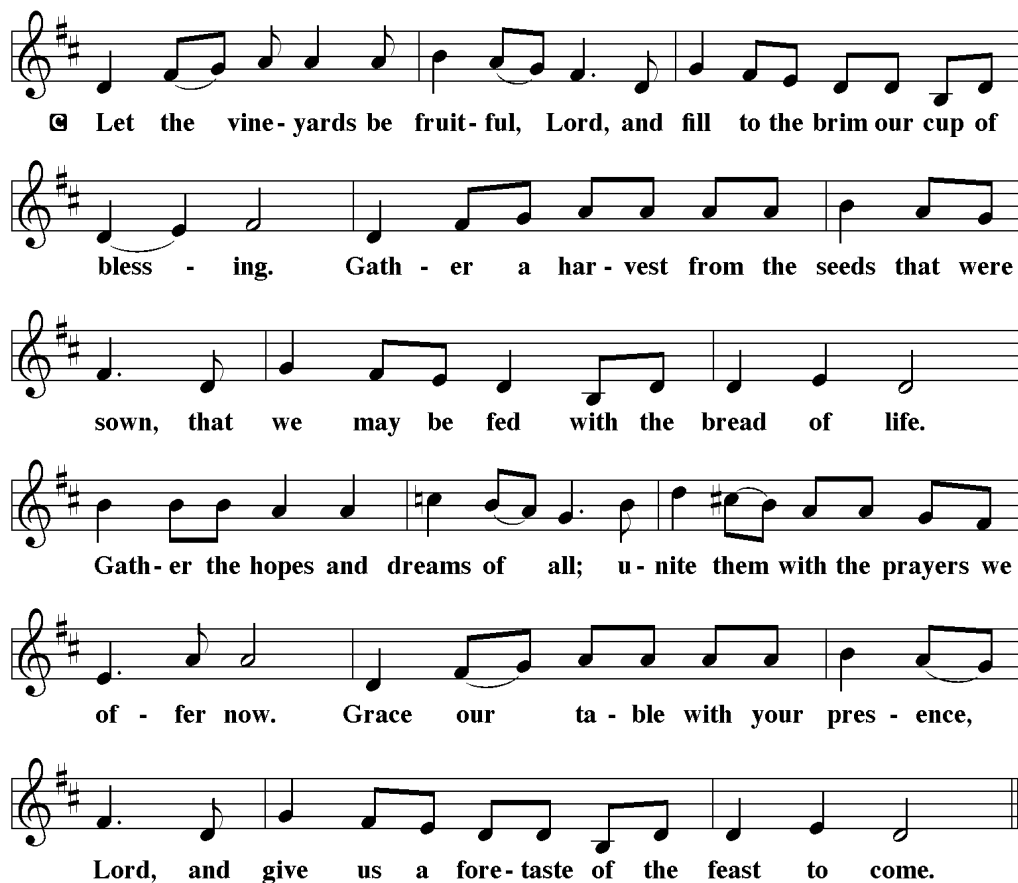
P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

OFFERING

Choir Anthem: *See the Grand Procession*

Presentation of the Gifts



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were
sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath - er the hopes and dreams of all; u - nite them with the prayers we
of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,
Lord, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

Offering Prayer

P: God of abundance, receive and bless these gifts we have offered. Join our hearts with the song of the angels, and gather us at your table of celebration. Strengthen us to share with all the world the abundance of your grace upon grace, poured out in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh.

C: Amen.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. Sharing our life, he lived among us to reveal your glory and love, that our darkness should give way to his own brilliant light. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the
high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Eucharistic Prayer (said by Pastor)

P: Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior gave us:

C: 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.

Invitation to Communion

P: Glory to God in the highest! Come to the table of peace.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
 us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
 mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
 sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Distribution of Bread & Fruits of the Vine (please follow ushers)

Hymn during Communion: WOV 646

We Three Kings of Orient Are

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

Prayer after Communion

P: God our redeemer, you have fed us at this table with gifts of grace, truth, and life. As you have gathered us in joy, send us forth as messengers of your peace. Make us shine with the good news of your glory, born to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

Post- Communion Canticle - Thankful Hearts



Announcements

BLESSING

P: God bless you and keep you, ☩ Jesus grant you grace and truth, and the Spirit send peace upon your hearts, now and forever.

C: Amen.



There's a Song in the Air



1. There's a song in the air! There's a star in the sky! There's a
2. There's a tu-mult of joy o'er the won-der-ful birth, for the
3. In the light of that star lie the a - ges impearled; and that
4. We re-joice in the light, and we e - cho the song that comes



mo - ther's deep prayer and a ba - by's low cry! And the
vir - gin's sweet boy is the Lord of the earth. Ay! the
song from a - far has swept o - ver the world. Ev - ery
down through the night from the hea - ven - ly throng. Ay! we



star rains its fire while the beau - ti - ful sing, for the
star rains its fire while the beau - ti - ful sing, for the
hearth is a - flame, and the beau - ti - ful sing in the
shout to the love - ly e - van - gel they bring, and we



man - ger of Beth - le - hem cra - dles a King!
man - ger of Beth - le - hem cra - dles a King!
homes of the na - tions that Je - sus is King!
greet in his cra - dle our Sa - vior and King!

Hymnary.org

Dismissal

P: Christ the Savior is born! Go in peace. Proclaim this good news.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude: *Trumpet Tune on the March of the Kings* - Gordon Young

ANNOUNCEMENTS			
	BIRTHDAYS	ANNIVERSARIES	BAPTISMS
9			Faye Gadwell, Conner Aquino
10			Austin Apgar, Joanne Apgar, Erika Trauger
12	Landon Helfrich		
THIS WEEK’S ACTIVITIES			
Sunday, January 7 Epiphany	10:00 AM	Communion Worship	
Monday, January 8	7:00 PM	Council Meeting	
Tuesday, January 9	7:00 PM	Care-a-Lot Planning meeting	
Wednesday, January 10	10:00 AM - 2:00 PM 11:00 AM - 11:15 PM 12:00 PM 7:00 PM 7:00 PM	Office Hours Care -A-Lot Visit Chat & Chew with Pr. Jim Palm Meeting @ St. Luke's Care-a-Lot board meeting	
Thursday, January 11	10:00 AM - 1:00 PM 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM	Office hours Adult Bible Study @ Hlavaty's	
Friday, January 12	10:00 AM	WELCA meeting and lunch	
UPCOMING ACTIVITIES			
Sunday, January 14 Baptism of our Lord	10:00 AM 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM 5:00 PM	Communion Worship Rise Against Hunger Meal Packing event @ Little Zion Confirmation Class @Durham	
Wednesday, January 17	10:00 AM - 2:00 PM 11:00 AM - 11:15 PM 12:00 PM	Office Hours Care -A-Lot Visit Chat & Chew with Pr. Jim	
Thursday, January 18	10:00 AM - 1:00 PM 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM 7:00 PM	Office hours Adult Bible Study @ Hlavaty's Palm Leaders @ St. Luke's	
Friday, January 19	9:00 AM 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM	WELCA Soup Supper Make Soup Sell Soup - Take out only - \$8 per quart	

Sunday, January 21 Third Sunday after Epiphany	10:00 AM	Communion Worship
Monday, January 23	7:30 PM	Finance Committee meeting
Wednesday, January 24	10:00 AM - 2:00 PM 11:00 AM - 11:15 PM 12:00 PM	Office Hours Care -A-Lot Visit Chat & Chew with Pr. Jim
Thursday, January 25	10:00 AM - 1:00 PM 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM	Office hours Adult Bible Study @ Hlavaty's

Dear Congregation,

Thank you for your generous Christmas gift and your loving prayers always! Wishing all of you a healthy and prosperous New Year!

Love, Carolyn

Ann Wong (former Durham secretary) would like to offer prayers of thanksgiving for the birth of her grandson, Rostam Grey Wong Chaffin, via surrogate, to her daughter Katy Wong and husband Chris Chaffin. Parents, grandparents, and baby Rostam are all doing well!


Rise Against Hunger -



American
Red Cross

JANUARY OUTREACH - The January outreach envelope will go to the Red Cross.



Keep in your 
PRAYERS

For Healing of those in our Congregation:

Joanne & David Antoni; Brian Ashmore; Esther Crouse; Frank Erceg; Kenneth Hager; George Kreitz; Paul McGinn; Cheryl Mesko; Bethany Michl; Wes Simmons; Ed Xander; Joanne and Bobby Ziegenfuss.

For Healing of Friends and Family:

Frank Allebach; Lynn Bailey; Ron & Kathy Ballek; Bob Benoure; Jason Bigley; Deb Carmichael; Peggy Coleman; Stephanie Courtney; Nancy Edelen; Diane Ellington; Leon Errico; Fred Foerster; Gerry Foran; Gabriella

Froehlich; Debbie Gardner; Cindy Gilligan; Candie Gimbar; Baree Lee Goodman; Penni Griffith; Bill Hunt; Lois James & family; Martine King; Sue Kiry; Jim McAnally; Letitia McCrea; Sue Odor; Cindy Oswald; Lucia Otero; Jennifer Phelps; Jean Pratt; Connie Rugen; Paul Sauter; Debbie Schultz; David Sebring; Laura Sheetz; Shawn Stadt; Kay Stokes; Donna Storm; Russ Trauger; Kelly Walsh; Regina Ward; Henry Wong and Scotty Yurconis.

For those who are Homebound:

Cleo & Ken Eck; Norma Fox; Phyllis Lanshe; Frank Mammana; Jayne Miller; and Silas Rodenbach.

For families and friends grieving the loss of:

Rev. Dennis Durasoff

If you want to add or remove someone from the prayer list, please contact Joan Mammana either by phone (610-258-5717 or 610-417-6553) or by email at: PrayerChain@durhamlutheran.org

Worship

Preacher	Rev. James Heckman
Choir Director / Organist	Carolyn Williams
Altar Guild	Barb Naska, LeAnn Kressman
Greeter(s)	Nancy Moskella
Acolyte	Colton Wagner
Lector	Tom Gaun
Head / Communion Usher	Mark Harwick
Council Counting Team	Pat Zion, Becky Praster
Administration & Technology	Ken Anderson
Custodian	Dianna Streletz