

Epiphany of Our Lord

Welcome! Thank you for joining us for worship this morning. In our service we gather before our almighty God to receive strength through hearing God's holy Word and through receiving the Lord's Supper. We also gather to offer him our worship and praise.

Welcome to our guests & visitors. We are glad that you are here. Please join us again soon.

We want you to feel welcome and comfortable. Here are a few notes to help with that:

Large print worship folders are available. You'll find them at the entryway table. Please ask if we can be of help with this.

Connection cards are also located on the entryway table. We'd love the opportunity to get connected with you in additional ways – either in person or digitally. **You can hand the card to Pastor Glende, or simply place it into the offering box.**

Restrooms are located down the hallway on the right.

And please ask if there are any other questions we can answer for you.

You can reach us at: *Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church* |
Office: 910-868-1907 | www.welsfayetteville.org
| Facebook.com/BeautifulSaviorFayetteville

Pastor Glende – Cell: 910-868-9663 |
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OPENING HYMN 311

“Long in Darkness”

Please stand

INVOCATION

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION OF SINS

The Confession of Sins has two parts: admitting our sinfulness and receiving the assurance of God's forgiveness.

M: Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

C: Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.

M: Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

C: Almighty and merciful Father, we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts. We have offended you and sinned against your holy law. We have done those things that we should not have done, and we have not done those things that we should have done. Have mercy on us, Lord! Spare us, forgive us, and restore us, according to your promises in Christ Jesus.

Silence for meditation and reflection

M: God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever.

C: Amen.

The forgiveness extended by the pastor to the congregation is that special power and right which Christ gave to his Church on earth: to forgive the sins of penitent sinners (See John 20:21-23).

Please be seated

HYMN OF PRAISE 315

“Let the Earth Now Praise the LORD”

Lord, Have Mercy

Kyrie

The word Kyrie is a Greek word from the phrase Kyrie eleison which means, “Lord, have mercy!” Here, it is not a cry for forgiveness, but a cry for mercy that our Lord and King hear us and help us in our necessities and trouble. Christians have been praying the Kyrie at Sunday worship for more than 1700 years. May it also be our heartfelt cry to our Lord and King

M: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Christ, have mercy.

M: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen.

THE WORD

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

M: Lord God, by the leading of a star you once made known to the nations your one and only Son. Guide us, also, who know Him now by faith, to come at last to the perfect joy of your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

FIRST READING

I Kings 10:1-9

When the queen of Sheba heard about the fame of Solomon and his relationship to the LORD, she came to test Solomon with hard questions. **2** Arriving at Jerusalem with a very great caravan—with camels carrying spices, large quantities of gold, and precious stones—she came to Solomon and talked with him about all that she had on her mind. **3** Solomon answered all her questions; nothing was too hard for the king to explain to her. **4** When the queen of Sheba saw all the wisdom of Solomon and the palace he had built, **5** the food on his table, the seating of his officials, the attending servants in their robes, his cupbearers, and the burnt offerings he made at the temple of the LORD, she was overwhelmed. **6** She said to the king, “The report I heard in my own country about your achievements and your wisdom is true. **7** But I did not believe these things until I came and saw with my own eyes. Indeed, not even half was told me; in wisdom and wealth you have far exceeded the report I heard. **8** How happy your people must be! How happy your officials, who continually stand before you and hear your wisdom! **9** Praise be to the

LORD your God, who has delighted in you and placed you on the throne of Israel. Because of the LORD's eternal love for Israel, he has made you king to maintain justice and righteousness."

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

Psalm 72

M: Endow the King with your justice, O God,

C: the royal Son with your righteousness.

M: He will defend the afflicted among the people

C: and save the children of the needy.

M: He will endure as long as the sun,

C: as long as the moon, through all generations.

M: He will be like rain falling on a mown field,

C: Like showers watering the earth.

M: All kings will bow down to him,

C: and all nations will serve him.

M: Long may he live! May gold from Sheba be given him.

C: May the kings of Sheba and Seba present him gifts.

M: All nations will be blessed through him,

C: And they will call him blessed.

M: Praise be to the LORD God, who alone does marvelous deeds,

C: May the whole earth be filled with his glory.

All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

SECOND READING

Acts 13:46-49

Then Paul and Barnabas answered them boldly: "We had to speak the word of God to you first. Since you reject it and do not consider yourselves worthy of eternal life, we now turn to the Gentiles. **47** For this is what the Lord has commanded us: "I have made you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth.'" **48** When the Gentiles heard this, they were glad and honored the word of the Lord; and all who were appointed for eternal life believed. **49** The word of the Lord spread through the whole region.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

“The Magi Went to Bethlehem Long Ago”

*The Magi went to Bethlehem long ago
and announced the promised birth of the Messiah.
And with joy we join in the telling of the news again today:
From a distant home the Savior we come seeking,
using as our guide the star so brightly beaming
Gloria en las alturas al Hijo de Dios,
Gloria en las alturas y en la tierra amor.*

(Spanish)

*“Glory in the highest to the Son of Heaven,
and upon the earth be peace and love to all.*

(English Translation)

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 2:1-12

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, when Herod was king, Wise Men from the east came to Jerusalem. They asked, **2** “Where is he who has been born King of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.” **3** When King Herod heard this, he was alarmed, and all Jerusalem with him. **4** He gathered together all the people’s chief priests and experts in the law. He asked them where the Christ was to be born. **5** They said to him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, because this was written through the prophet: **6** You, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are certainly not least among the rulers of Judah: because out of you will come a ruler, who will shepherd my people, Israel.” **7** Then Herod secretly summoned the Wise Men and found out from them exactly when the star had appeared. **8** He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the child. When you find him, report to me, so that I may also go and worship him.” **9** After listening to the king, they went on their way. Then the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them, until it stood still over the place where the child was. **10** When they saw the star, they rejoiced with overwhelming joy. **11** After they went into the house and saw the child with Mary, his mother, they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts: gold, frankincense, and myrrh. **12** Since they had been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they went back to their own country by another route.

M: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

HYMN

1. We are wise men, come from afar, Bearing gifts we follow the star
Field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star

Refrain: O! Star of wonder, star of night, Star with royal beauty bright
Westward leading, still proceeding, Guide us to thy perfect light

2. Born a King on Bethlehem's plain, gold I bring to crown Him again
King for ever, ceasing never, Over us all to reign!

3. Frankincense to offer have I, incense owns a Deity nigh
Prayer and praising, All men raising, Worship Him, God most high!

Refrain: O! Star of wonder, star of night, Star with royal beauty bright
Westward leading, still proceeding, Guide us to thy perfect light

4. Myrrh is mine, its bitter perfume breathes a life of gathering gloom
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying, Sealed in the stone cold tomb.

5. Glorious now behold Him arise, King and God and Sacrifice,
Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia! Heaven to earth replies.

Refrain: O! Star of wonder, star of night, Star with royal beauty bright
Westward leading, still proceeding, Guide us to thy perfect light.

Author: John H. Hopkins (1857)

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Vs.1 line one has different wording than original composition.

SERMON

Please Stand

THE NICENE CREED

After hearing God's Word, we give expression with our lips to the faith which lives in our heart. The confession of faith also serves as a regular review of the teachings of how we are saved.

M: In a world that can only guess it was created somehow and by something, what do you believe?

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

M: In a world that often teaches Jesus was just a great human teacher, a wise prophet or just another way to God, what do you believe?

C: 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.

M: In a world that still believes salvation is through the good and helpful things we do, what do you believe?

C: For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. 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.

M: In a world that loosely holds on to every word that sounds spiritual or religious, what do you believe?

C: We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian 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.

Please be seated

OFFERING *Moved by God's love in Christ, we offer him our gifts, purely out of thanks to him. Our offering goes to support the gospel ministry of our congregation and our church body, the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod.*



PRAYERS

THE SACRAMENT

Our Lord Jesus has given us a holy supper in which we receive his true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins and the strengthening of our faith. In this supper we celebrate the gift of his redemption, we bear witness to the fellowship we share as confessors of the truth, and we proclaim his death until he returns.

The Preface

The Preface begins with a greeting that has deep roots in Christian worship.

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

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

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

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks. O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lived among us as a human being and revealed his glory as your only Son, full of grace and truth. Therefore with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy/Sanctus

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Isaiah 6:3, Matthew 21:9

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

M: Lord God, you are worthy to receive thanks and praise from all people. You created the world and all who live in it, and in your mercy you saved us. We give thanks to you for the grace of your Son, Jesus Christ.

Though in very nature God, he took the nature of a servant and became obedient to death, even death on a cross. He offered himself as a sacrifice for sin and redeemed us from its curse and penalty. He rescued us from the terrors of death and restored eternal life with you. He conquered our enemies and gained for us the kingdom of grace and glory.

Bless us as we receive your Son's body and blood, and lead us to remember his suffering, death, and resurrection. Forgive our sins and fill us with the hope of new life in heaven. Hear our praise and receive our thanks as we worship you - the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

(Matthew 6:9-13, Luke 11:2-4)

C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat. This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.



O Christ, Lamb of God

Agnus Dei

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us your peace. Amen.

THE DISTRIBUTION - *The Bible teaches that the celebration of the Lord's Supper connects us intimately with Christ and with one another as Christians who are united in a common confession of faith.*

Dear visitors and guests: *You may be relieved to find out that God's Word teaches that Communion is intended only for those who have been made familiar in advance with the essence of the Sacrament, and for those who have previously expressed their doctrinal agreement with the congregation. This is the scriptural practice of "close communion." If you are not yet a communicant member of our Wisconsin Synod (WELS) or the Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS), please observe our Communion service today, and speak with our pastor after the service. We'd be delighted to have come to know what we teach from the Bible.*

Please stand

Thanksgiving

M: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

C: His mercy endures forever.

M: Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,

C: We proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

M: We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet you have given us in this Sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit, help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

The Blessing

M: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look on you with favor and [✚] give you peace.

C: Amen.

Please be seated

Closing Hymn 372

“As With Gladness Men of Old”

Onelicense.net # A-720770.

Schedule

This week	Church Council Meeting - TBD	
TUES	Women’s gathering	1pm
WED	No Youth Catechism Class	resume Jan 15th
THURS	NEW Bible Information Class (Bible Foundations Course)	4:30pm
Next Sunday	MORNING BIBLE HOUR	9am
	Worship	10am
	Women’s Tea	11:30am

Women’s Tea next Sunday: It’ll be right after worship. Plan to stay for the extra time together. If you’d like to bring something, finger foods or a dessert are a perfect fit. Want to know more? Ask _____ for details.

Looking ahead:

- **Next Men’s group:** Sat Jan 18th at 10am. Then we’ll be every-other-week (Feb 1st, Feb 15th & Mar 1).

- **Sunday School Teachers meeting:** tentative date... Sun _____, following worship.
- **Congregational info & planning gathering:** tentatively set for Sunday Jan 26 following worship. **Voters' Meeting:** tentatively set for Sunday Feb 2 following worship.

New January *Forward in Christ* magazine is here. Copies are available on the entryway table. Please take one for your family.

Year end offering statements: Because the number of people who utilize these is relatively small, please catch Kathy (or call / email into the church office) to make sure we know to get a statement printed for you ASAP if you do make use of this for your tax purposes.

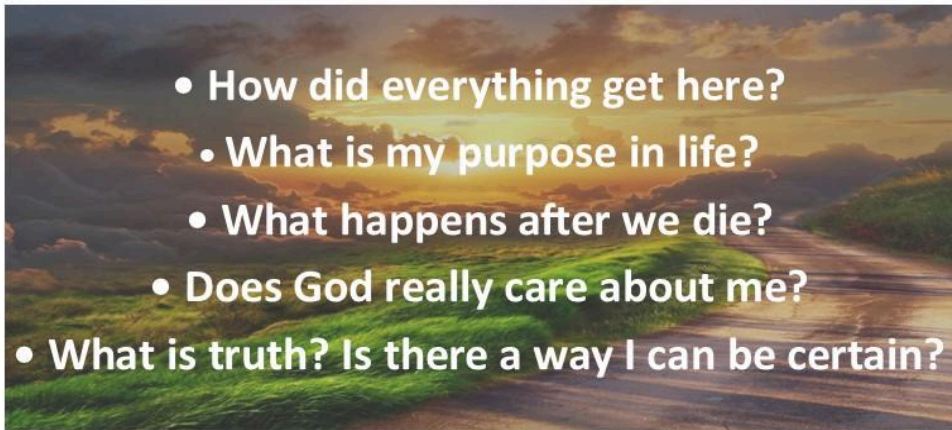
Offering envelopes for the new year: Since there are fewer individuals/families who make use of envelopes for their regular giving, please notify Kathy (or call / email into the church office) if you'd like to have offering envelopes for the new year.

Ongoing Volunteer opportunities:

- Weekly Cleaning - signup sheet is out. A whiteboard checklist of basic cleaning tasks is on the inside of the far hall closet.
- Property care - please talk with Dewey Stevenson if you'd like to know more about helping with tasks on our to-get-done list.
- Weekly snacks – you're welcome to bring something for refreshments and/or snacks on Sundays. Thanks to everyone who does!

What's the Bible got to say?

Starting Thursdays at 4:30pm



A Bible class purposefully structured to ask the important questions of life, giving you and people you care about time to see the answers for yourself.

Maybe for you approaching questions about God feels like someone standing at the edge of a pool, and wondering: “Will I get thrown in the deep end? Will someone help me learn? I don’t want to drown!”

Whether you know your way around the Bible, or you haven’t yet cracked the cover, the goal of this class is to find the answers God provides in His Book, the Bible.

And be assured, you can ask questions too. As many as you’d like. They’ll all be taken seriously.

So whether you’re looking to simply learn more about God, you’re wondering if Beautiful Savior might be the place to make your church home, or you’re looking to solidify the Bible knowledge you already have, consider trying this class. Please call or message to ask questions.

Starting topic... What proof is there of Jesus' resurrection?
And how much difference does it make?

Each Thursday at 4:30pm — startup planned for Jan 9th

**Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church – 1538 71st School Rd, Fayetteville NC –
Pastor Tom Glende 910-868-9663**