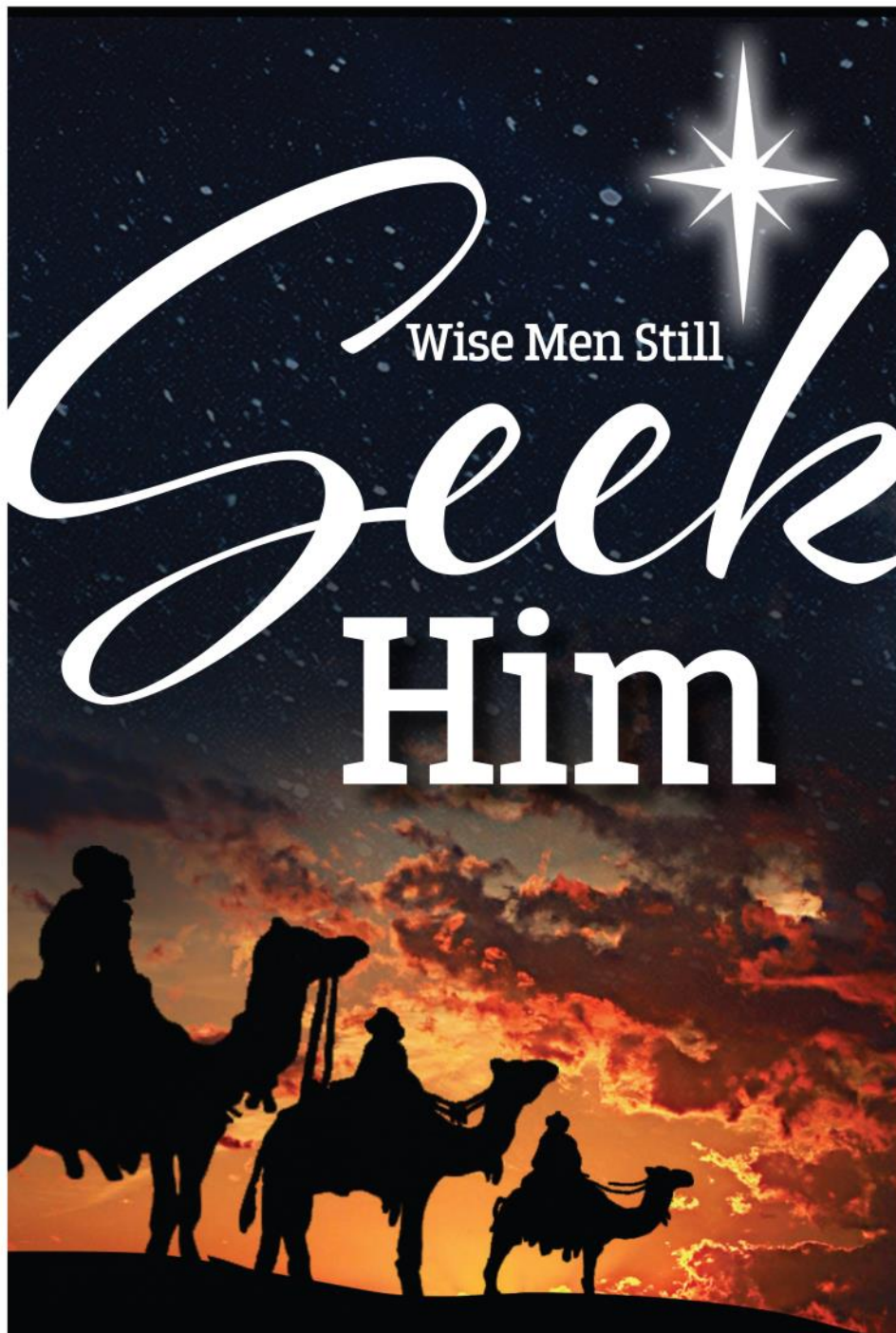


FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH



EPIPHANY
JANUARY 8, 2023

PRELUDE

Lani Smith

Christmas in the Air
VI. THE FIRST NOWELL
The First Noel

Char Pope, piano; Curtis L. King, organ

Please stand.

LITANY FOR EPIPHANY

P: People of God, arise, shine, for your light has come! The light of Christ has come into the world. Immanuel, God is with us! Arise, shine, for your light has come!

C: **We will follow the light!**

L: When it shines brightly in the night sky, when it glows dimly on the horizon.

C: **We will follow the light!**

L: When it leads down familiar paths to expected destinations.

C: **We will follow the light!**

L: When the road is unfamiliar and the star rests above a dubious-looking home.

C: **We will follow the light!**

P: Together, let us lift up our eyes and look around. Let us see the Christ child.

C: **May our hearts be overwhelmed with joy. May our knees bend in worship. May our hands open in generous staring. May our mouths open in generous praise.**

THE FIRST NOEL

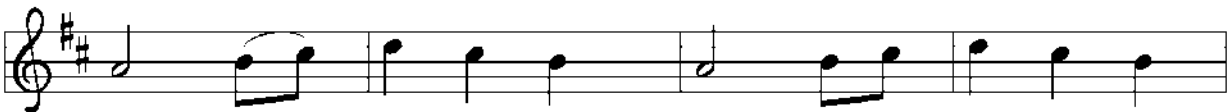
ELW 300



ALL: 1 The first No - el the an - gel did say was to
 WOMEN: 2 They look - ed up and saw . . a star shin - ing
 CANTOR: 3 And by the light of that . . same star three . .
 MEN: 4 This star drew near to the . . north - west, o'er . .
 ALL: 5 Then en - tered in those wise . . men three, full . .



cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay; in fields where
 in . . . the east . . be - yond . . them far; and to the
 wise . . men came . . from coun - try far; to seek for a
 Beth - le - hem . . it took . . its rest; and there it
 rev - `rent - ly . . . up - on . . . their knee, and of - fered



they lay, keep - ing their sheep, on a cold win - ter's
 earth it gave . . . great light, and . . so it con -
 king was their . . . in - tent, and to fol - low the
 did both stop . . . and stay right . . o - ver the
 there in his . . . pres - ence their . . gold, . . . and

Refrain



night that was so deep.
 tin - ued both day and night.
 star wher - ev - er it went. No - el, No - el, No -
 place where Je - sus lay.
 myrrh, and frank - in - cense.



el, No - el! Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

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!**

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. 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.

C: **Amen.**

Please be seated.

A READING FROM ISAIAH 60:1-6

R: A reading from Isaiah the 60th 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.

R: Word of God! Word of Life!

C: **Thanks be to God!**

A READING FROM EPHESIANS 3:1-12

R: A reading from Ephesians the 3rd 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.

R: Word of God! Word of Life!

C: **Thanks be to God!**

Please stand for the reading of the Gospel.

GOSPEL PROCESSION

JESUS WHAT A WONDERFUL CHILD

ELW 297



Je - sus, Je - sus, oh, what a won - der - ful child.



Je - sus, Je - sus, so ho - ly, meek, and



mild; new life, new hope the child will bring.



Lis - ten to the an - gels sing: "Glo - ry, glo - ry,



glo - ry," let the heav - ens ring!

Text: African American traditional, alt.

Music: WONDERFUL CHILD, African American traditional

P: This is the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 2nd chapter.

C: 
Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

P: 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,

Please be seated.

TODAY'S REFLECTION

Rev. C.J. Bailey

AS WITH GLADNESS MEN OF OLD ELW 302



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

THE PRAYERS

L: God of grace.

C: **Hear our prayer.**

THE SHARING OF PEACE

OFFERING & MEDITATION

Lani Smith

Quiet Songs of a Holy Night

V. GREENSLEEVES

What Child is This?

Char Pope, piano; Curtis L. King, organ

Please stand.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The people who walked in darkness

C: **Have seen a great light!**

P: Those who lived in the land of deep darkness.

C: **On them light has shined.**

THE PROPER PREFACE

P: Indeed, God's light has shined upon us and it is our right, our duty, and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you for the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this to remember me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this to remember me.

LORD'S PRAYER

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught 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.**

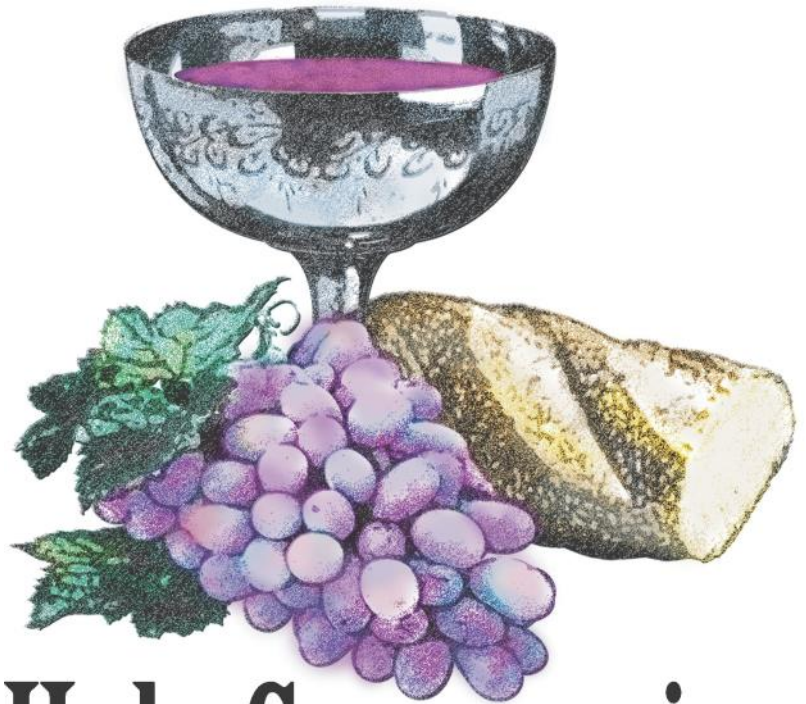
**Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our
trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us;
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

Please be seated.

*Communion will be offered in two manners this morning:
You may come forward or you may commune in your pew.*

If you are coming forward, we will commune one side of the congregation at a time. There will be stations to receive the bread and wine and a basket to deposit your communion cups.

If you are communing in your pew, please pick up a pre-packed communion kit as you enter the Nave. After the Lord's Prayer, Pastor will give a blessing so that we may commune together.



Holy Communion

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Glory to God in the highest!

All are welcome to come to the table of peace.

COMMUNION HYMN

WE THREE KINGS



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

Please stand.

TABLE BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: **Amen.**

THE BLESSING

P: In this New Year, may you remember that you are the shepherds telling the story..

C: **We tell it in the streets and across the land.**

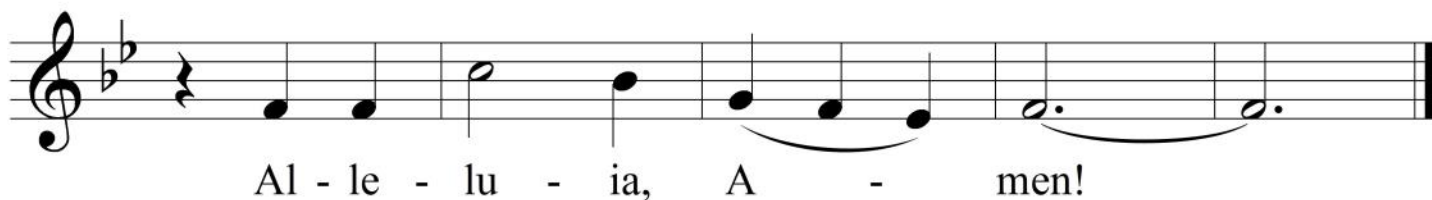
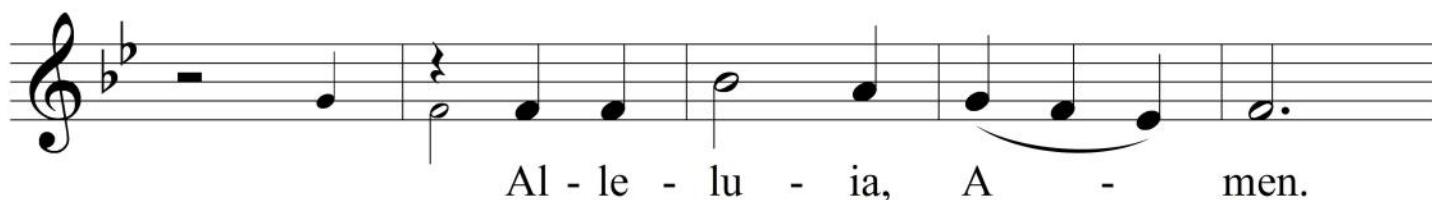
P: you are the wise ones worshipping with thanksgiving.

C: **We worship with gifts of song and service, talents and treasures.**

P: You are the angels announcing peace.

C: **We live with joy and go now in peace.**

P: God most high, God with us, God poured out upon us, Father, Son and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever.



BRIGHT AND GLORIOUS IS THE SKY

ELW 301



ALL: 1 Bright and glo - rious is the sky, ra - diant are the
 Women 2 On that ho - ly Christ - mas night through the dark - ness
 Men: 3 Sa - ges from the east a - far, when they saw this
 Women: 4 Him they found in Beth - le - hem, yet he wore no



heav - ens high where the gold - en stars are shin - ing.
 beamed a light; all the stars a - bove were pal - ing,
 won - drous star, went to find the king of na - tions
 di - a - dem; there they saw a maid - en low - ly



All their rays to earth in - clin - ing beck - on us to
 all their lus - ter slow - ly fail - ing as the won - drous
 and to of - fer their ob - la - tions to the child, the
 with an in - fant pure and ho - ly rest - ing in her



heav'n a - bove, beck - on us to heav'n a - bove.
 star drew nigh, as the won - drous star drew nigh.
 new - born king, to the child, the new - born king.
 lov - ing arms, rest - ing in her lov - ing arms.

Men: 5 Guided by the star, they found
 him whose praise the ages sound.
 We too have a star to guide us,
 which forever will provide us
 with the light to find our Lord,
 with the light to find our Lord.

ALL: 6 And this star, as bright as day,
 that will never lead astray
 with its message so appealing,
 is the word of God, revealing
 Christ, the way, the truth, the life,
 Christ, the way, the truth, the life.

THE SENDING

P: Christ the Savior is Born! Go in peace! Proclaim the Good News!

C: Thanks be to Go

POSTLUDE

Joel Raney

Festive Hymn Settings

XI. ANTIOCH

Joy to the World

Char Pope, piano; Curtis L. King, organ

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Cantor:	Victor Welsch	Facebook Camera:	Wendy Bailey
Lector:	John Kobelt	Slide Show Creator:	Pastor Bailey
Host:	Nominee Family	Slide Show Operator:	Andrew Bailey
Director of Music:	Curtis L. King	Worship Leader:	Pastor C.J. Bailey
Pianist	Char Pope	Lay Leader:	John Kobelt

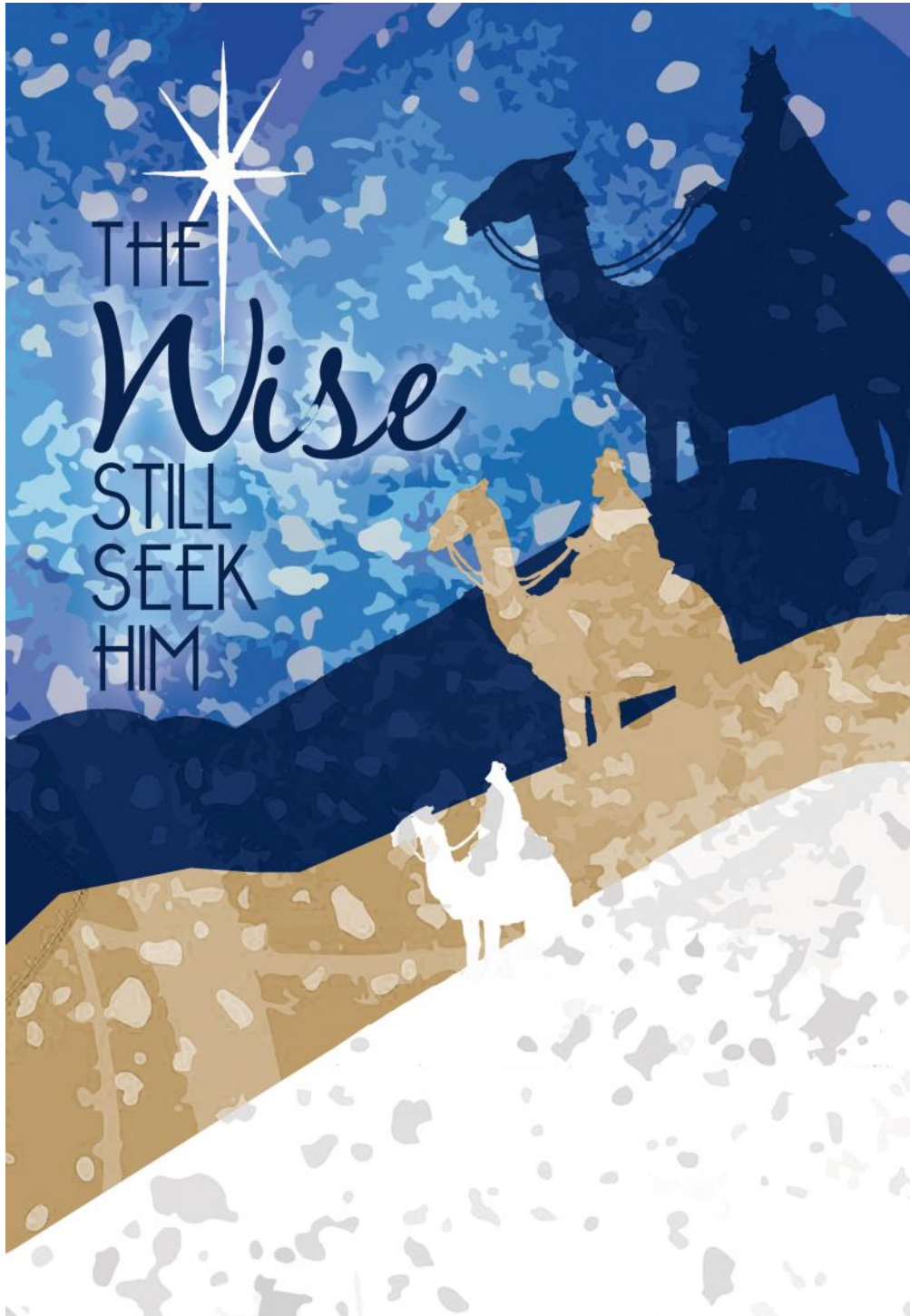
Many thanks to our faithful volunteers who help bring Worship Services to you on WTTF, Facebook Live and in person.

We are not able to offer all of these opportunities without the help of many people.

May your generosity in volunteering time and talents come back to you in an abundance of blessings.

Special Thanks To:

Char Pope, piano
Curtis L. King, organ



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH



Pastor:
CLAYTON J. BAILEY

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Director of Music:
CURTIS L. KING

“God is among us!”
“We are called to go out, care for all, share the gospel, forgive,
reconcile and trust God for all that we need.”

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