

# St. Paul's Plymouth

January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019 – Epiphany

Morning Praise

Welcome!



Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod  
[www.stpaulsplymouth.org](http://www.stpaulsplymouth.org)  
106 East Hwy 4  
Plymouth, NE  
402-656-3003

# Welcome

**THANK YOU for joining us for worship today!**

**We pray that your spiritual life will be nourished through Word and Sacrament.**

- † If you desire, there is a nursery in the back on the west side of the church, but please know that **your children are ALWAYS welcome** in our service no matter how much noise they make. We're happy to have them hear the Word and join us praising God with their voices!
- † Before you leave, please sign the **guest register**. It is located on the top of the stairs in the church entryway.
- † Please talk to one of the **Elders** (seated in the back of the church) if you have questions about the service or the congregation.
- † **Large print service folders** are available. Please speak to one of the Elders if this would be of assistance to you.
- † Our Sunday morning service can be heard on KWBE 1450AM (94.7FM) and viewed live and archived at [www.stpaulsplymouth.org](http://www.stpaulsplymouth.org). Please share this information with those who are not able to attend worship.
- † **Prayers before Worship** can be found in *Christian Worship – A Lutheran Hymnal*, pages 10-11.

## Broadcast Sponsor

Our broadcast this morning is sponsored with several smaller gifts from various faithful listeners, out of thankfulness to the Lord for the blessings of our broadcast ministry.

## Focus for Our Worship

The Festival of the Epiphany of our Lord is one of the oldest festivals celebrated by the Christian Church, dating to the second century. In a way, it might well be called the "Gentile Christmas." So bright is the dawning of the Son, so great is the fullness of His glory, that His light not only fills the dark streets of Bethlehem, but the ends of the earth. On Epiphany we celebrate Jesus coming as Savior of the Nations.

# Morning Praise

(Christian Worship – page 45)

## OPENING HYMN “Angels from the Realms of Glory” (CW 80)

**M** In the name of the Father and of the Son ☩ and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

## CALL TO WORSHIP

**M** O Lord, open my lips.



C: And my mouth shall de - clare your praise.

**M** Hasten to save me, O God.



C: O Lord, come quick - ly to help me.

## CONFESSION OF SINS AND HOLY ABSOLUTION

**M** Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

**All** Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed You in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve Your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

**M** God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given His only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son ☩ and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**M** The Spirit of the Lord fills the world: Let us worship Him.

### COME, LET US SING TO THE LORD

C: Oh, come, let us sing to the Lord, let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our sal-va-tion. Let us come into his presence with thanks-giv-ing, let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise. For the Lord is a great God and a great king a-bove all gods. The deep places of the earth are in his hand; the heights of the hills are al-so his. The sea is his, for he made it, and his hand formed the dry land. Oh, come let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord our mak-er. For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.

### 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 Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever,

**C** Amen.

## THE WORD

### FIRST LESSON – Isaiah 60:1-6

*Isaiah here foretells the coming of the Messiah. He would bring light to a world of darkness, and people from all the over world would come to know and worship Him as their Savior.*

“Arise, shine, for your light has come,  
and the glory of the LORD rises upon you.

<sup>2</sup>See, darkness covers the earth  
and thick darkness is over the peoples,  
but the LORD rises upon you  
and his glory appears over you.

<sup>3</sup>Nations will come to your light,  
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

<sup>4</sup>“Lift up your eyes and look about you:  
All assemble and come to you;  
your sons come from afar,  
and your daughters are carried on the arm.

<sup>5</sup>Then you will look and be radiant,  
your heart will throb and swell with joy;  
the wealth on the seas will be brought to you,  
to you the riches of the nations will come.

<sup>6</sup>Herds of camels will cover your land,  
young camels of Midian and Ephah.  
And all from Sheba will come,  
bearing gold and incense  
and proclaiming the praise of the LORD.

**PSALM OF THE DAY** – Psalm 72, found on page 93 in the front portion of the hymnal.

### SECOND LESSON – Ephesians 3:2-12

*Paul rejoices in the Gospel of Christ for both Jews and Gentiles.*

<sup>2</sup> Surely you have heard about the administration of God’s grace that was given to me for you, <sup>3</sup> that is, the mystery made known to me by revelation, as I have already written briefly. <sup>4</sup> In reading this, then, you will be able to understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, <sup>5</sup> which was not made known to men in other generations as it has now been

revealed by the Spirit to God's holy apostles and prophets. <sup>6</sup>This mystery is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members together of one body, and sharers together in the promise in Christ Jesus.

<sup>7</sup>I became a servant of this gospel by the gift of God's grace given me through the working of his power. <sup>8</sup>Although I am less than the least of all God's people, this grace was given me: to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, <sup>9</sup>and to make plain to everyone the administration of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things. <sup>10</sup>His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms, <sup>11</sup>according to his eternal purpose which he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord. <sup>12</sup>In him and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence.

### **VERSE OF THE DAY – 2 Timothy 1:9-10**

**M** Alleluia. God has saved us and called us to a holy life—not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time, but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior, Christ Jesus, who has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. Alleluia.

### **HOLY GOSPEL – Matthew 2:1-12**

#### *Sermon Text*

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem <sup>2</sup>and asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him.”

<sup>3</sup>When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. <sup>4</sup>When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Christ was to be born. <sup>5</sup>“In Bethlehem in Judea,” they replied, “for this is what the prophet has written:

<sup>6</sup> “ ‘But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;  
for out of you will come a ruler  
who will be the shepherd of my people Israel.’ ”

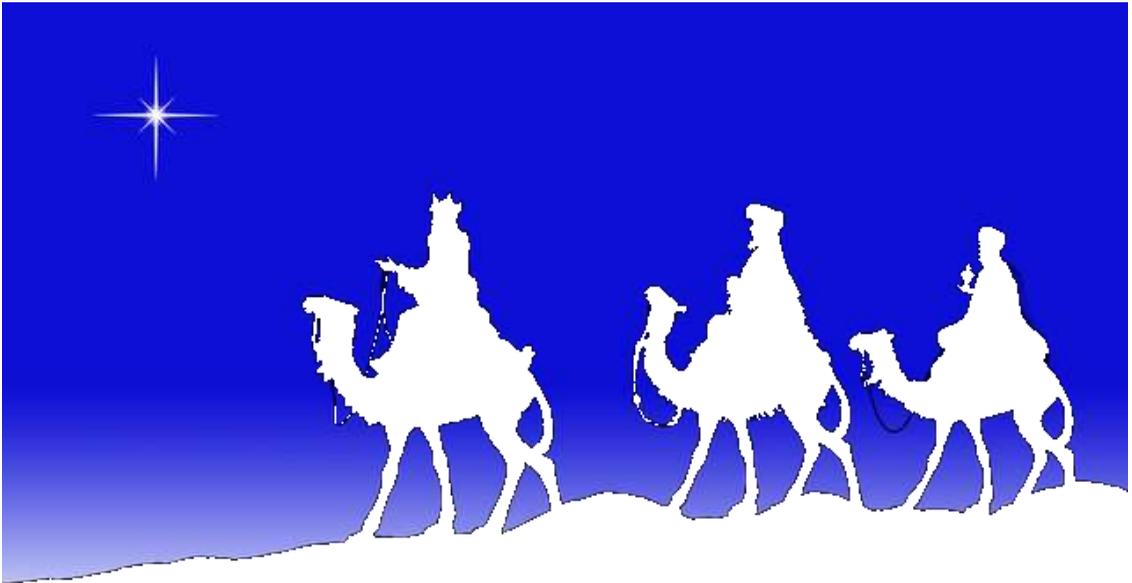
<sup>7</sup> Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup> He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and make a careful search for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him.”

<sup>9</sup> After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen in the east went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup> When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. <sup>11</sup> On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh. <sup>12</sup> And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

**M** This is the Gospel of the Lord!

**HYMN OF THE DAY** “How Lovely Shines the Morning Star” (CW 79)

**SERMON** – Matthew 2:1-12

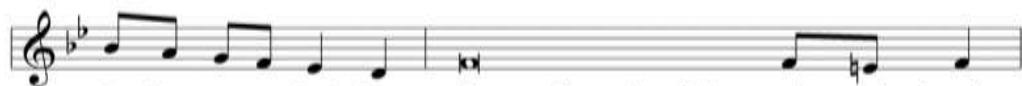


**Who? What? When? Where? Why? How?**

## WE PRAISE YOU, O GOD



C: We praise you, O God, we acclaim you as Lord; all creation worships you,



Fa - ther ev - er - last - ing. To you all angels, all the pow'rs of heav'n,



cherubim and seraphim, sing in end-less praise: Holy, holy, holy Lord God of



heav'n - ly hosts, heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry.



The glorious company of apostles praise you. The noble fellowship of



pro-phets praise you. The white-robed army of martyrs praise you.



Throughout the world the ho - ly Church ac - claims you:



Father of majesty unbounded, your glorious, true, and on - ly Son,



and the Holy Spirit, ad - vo-cate and guide. You, Christ, are the King of

glo - ry, the eternal Son of the Fa-ther. When you became man to  
 set us free, you humbled yourself to be born of a vir-gin. You overcame the  
 sting of death and opened the kingdom of heaven to all be - liev - ers.  
 You sit at the right hand of God in the glory of the Fa - ther.  
 We believe that you will come to be our judge.  
 Come then, Lord, and help your peo - ple, bought with the price of  
 your own blood, and bring us with your saints to glory ev - er-last-ing.

**OFFERING**

**LORD HAVE MERCY**

**M** In the morning, O Lord, I call to You; be merciful to me and hear my prayer.

C: Lord, have mer-cy. Christ, have mer-cy. Lord, have mer-cy.

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

### LORD'S PRAYER

**A** 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.

**HYMN** "The People that in Darkness Sat" (CW 90)

### PRAYER FOR GRACE

**M** O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, You have brought us safely to this new day. Defend us with Your mighty power, and grant that this day we neither fall into sin nor run into any kind of danger; and in all we do, direct us to what is right in Your sight, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.

**C** Amen.

### PRAYER RESPONSE

**M** Let us praise the Lord.



C: Thanks be to God.

### BLESSING

**M** The grace of our Lord ✝ Jesus Christ and the love of God and fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.



C: A - men.

**CLOSING HYMN** "As with Gladness Men of Old" (CW 83)



## NOTES AND NEWS

Pastor Fred Berger  
C-402-239-4509 O-402-656-3003  
[pastorberger@gmail.com](mailto:pastorberger@gmail.com)

Principal Andrew Danner  
C-402-433-5349 O-402-656-4465  
[danner@stpaulsplymouth.org](mailto:danner@stpaulsplymouth.org)

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**Organist:** Cari Schroeder

**Teen Usher:** Colton Jantzen

**Greeters:** Ryan & Dawn Meyer

**Childcare:** Jaime Danner, Pat Bekemeyer

**Broadcast Announcers:** Nathan Schwab, Craig Scheele

## **Our Church Family**

### BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

**Monday** – Jonah Schwab

**Tuesday** – Mary Hueske, David Scheele

**Wednesday** – Rose Mammen

**Thursday** – David Hummel

**Friday** – Kennedy Scheele

**Saturday** – Marcie Vossler

**Sunday** – Patty Collins, Ethan Paxton

## This Week, By God's Grace (January 6<sup>th</sup> – January 13<sup>th</sup>)

Today	Sunday School, Bible Class, BIC	9:00am
	Worship	10:00am
	Broadcast/Endowment/Cemetery Comm. Mtgs.	11:00am
	DMB Call Meeting	2:30pm
Monday	Faculty Meeting	7:15am
	School Resumes	8:30am
	DMB Pulse Meeting	12:00pm
	Basketball Practice	3:45-5:30pm
	Auditors (Wes and Neil) Meet	6:30pm
	Elders' Meeting	7:00pm
	Faculty Devotion	7:15am
Tuesday	School Chapel	8:30am
	Taking Down Christmas Decorations	9:00am
	LES Catechism	9:00am
	Faculty Meeting	3:45pm
	Basketball Practice	3:45-5:30pm
Wednesday	PSI Class	6:00-7:30pm
	PTO Quarterly Meeting	6:30pm
	Auction Planning Meeting	7:00pm
	Faculty Devotion	7:15am
Thursday	LES Catechism	8:30am
	Ladies Aid	2:30pm
	Away Basketball Games in Seward	4:00pm
	Junior Choir	3:50-4:15pm
Friday	Basketball Practice (Girls)	10-11:30am
Saturday	Sunday School, Bible Class, BIC	9:00am
	Worship with Communion	10:00am
	(Greeters: Steve & Stacey Freese)	
	(Childcare: Beckie Bekemeyer, Sue Likens)	
	New Member Welcome	11:15am
	Teen Ushers Meeting	11:30am
	Evangelism Committee Meeting	11:30am
Sunday	Auction Tickets Available in Fellowship Room	

## In Our Prayers

- † Joan Hummel – Joan was brought to the ER at Bryan East on Wednesday evening with heart concerns. She was released on Thursday and will meet soon with her cardiologist.
- † Heidi Warnke – Heidi was brought to the ER in Fairbury this week and then admitted to Bryan East with an abscess obstructing her digestive system. A surgery on Thursday was successful to remove the abscess. She will remain hospitalized through the weekend.

**Poinsettias**—Anyone who purchased a poinsettia for the Christmas services here at church is welcome to take one along home. Those plants that are left will be used during the coming weeks here at church.

**Broadcast Dates** – Anyone interested in sponsoring a broadcast in 2019 is asked to contact the church office or Craig Scheele. At this time, the cost to sponsor a Sunday broadcast is \$115.

Open Sundays for 2019 include:    Jan. 20, 27            Feb. 10, 24            Mar. 3, 10, 17, 24  
   Apr. 14, 21, 28            May 5, 12, 19, 26            June 2, 9, 16, 23, 30            July 7, 14, 21, 28  
   Aug. 4, 11, 18, 25            Sept. 1, 22, 29            Oct. 13, 20, 27            Nov. 3, 17  
   Dec. 1, 15, 29

**Chili Cook-off/Corn Hole Tournament**—Please mark your calendars for this community event



sponsored by St. Paul's Evangelism Committee on Sunday, January 20<sup>th</sup> at 4 PM at the Plymouth Community Center. If you would like to enter a chili into the contest, please place your name on the sign-up sheet on the table in the front entryway.

<u>Past Chili Cook-Off Winners</u>	2015 – Tracie Hueske
2012 – Wes Schroeder	2016 – Neil Bekemeyer
2013 – Stan Hilgendorf	2017 – Neil Bekemeyer
2014 – NO CONTEST	2018 – Neil Bekemeyer

**Men's Retreat**—Please mark your calendars for our first annual men's retreat taking place on the evening of Friday, February 8<sup>th</sup> through the afternoon of Saturday, February 9<sup>th</sup>. This will be a great time of fellowship, bonding, and discussing God's Word.

**Forward In Christ Magazine**—We will once again be ordering a bundle subscription to *Forward in Christ*, our synod magazine. The cost is \$11.50 for each subscription and **the deadline to order is February 3<sup>rd</sup>**. Please contact the church office to renew your subscription or to place a new subscription.

**Save the Date**—St. Paul's School will be hosting their annual auction fundraiser on Saturday, February 16, 2019 at Classics in Beatrice. This year's theme will be "The Gallery Walk." It's not too early to begin thinking about how you can help with a donated item.

**Thank You**—We recently received the following thank you note:

Dear Members of St. Paul's,

Thank you for the Christmas card and gift of money. Thank you for allowing me to serve the Lord and you on the organ. One of the best parts is hearing all the magnificent voices singing my direction...I get to hear everyone!

Blessings in Christ,  
Angey Carrel

Dear Members of St. Paul's,

I would like to thank you for thinking of me during the holiday season with the monetary gift you gave me. I truly enjoy sharing my God given talents with you during worship and am happy that I have so many opportunities to praise Him. God's blessings to all of you as we begin this new year.

Thanks again,  
Ann Freese

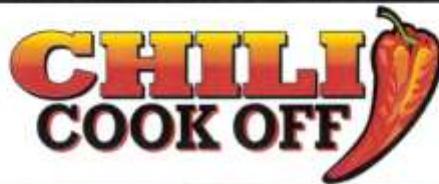
### **Nominations for the Annual Voter's Meeting on January 20th**

- Elder: Wendell Gronemeyer, Nick Schroeder
- Board of Ed (1 year to complete Tom Worster's position): Brian Scheele
- Board of Ed: Ethan Schroeder
- Chairman: Neil Bekemeyer, Steve Freese
- Trustee: Mark Wells, Daryl Workman
- Financial Secretary: Eric Bekemeyer, Rick Gerlach, Dustin Gronemeyer
- Stewardship: Preston Gronemeyer, Tim Likens
- Endowment Committee: David Schmidt, Wes Schroeder
- Cemetery Committee: Daryl Bergmeier, John Vossler, Lonnie Weichel
- Auditor: Dean Milius, Brian Weishahn
- Delegates: Brian Burger, Brian Scheele, Wes Schroeder, Calvin Weichel
- NELHS Delegates: Craig Scheele, Wes Schroeder, Mark Wells

# Community Event

Sunday, January 20th

*Sponsored by St. Paul's Plymouth*



4PM at the Community Center

Bring your Best Pot of Chili

OR

Just Come to Sample!



Afterwards, we will divide into teams for a

**CORNHOLE-BAG TOSS TOURNAMENT!**

Prizes will be awarded.

*No Need to Pre-Register*

*Oh Yes!* IT'S  
**FREE**

If you would like more information about St. Paul's Lutheran Church, feel free to speak with Pastor Fred Berger after the service or anytime during the week! (call/text 402-239-4509; email [pastorberger@gmail.com](mailto:pastorberger@gmail.com)) If you think you might be interested in joining the St. Paul's church family, Pastor would be more than happy to take you through some Bible studies at whatever time or location is most convenient for you to learn more about what we teach.

If you would like more information about St. Paul's Lutheran School, feel free to speak with Mr. Andrew Danner! (call/text 402-433-5349; email [danner@stpaulsplymouth.org](mailto:danner@stpaulsplymouth.org)) He would love to give you a tour of the school and answer any questions you might have about the excellent Christ-centered education we offer students of our church and community.

**Please contact us! We would love to serve you!**

**Church Office 402-656-3003**

**School Office 402-656-4465**

Pastor Fred Berger 402-239-4509

Church Secretary Mrs. Deb Wells 402-853-2035

Mrs. Tracie Hueske (Preschool/Principal Release Teacher) 402-230-0607

Mrs. Becky Briney (K-1) 269-358-2998

Mrs. Rachel Schroeder (2-3) 402-239-1206

Mrs. Beckie Bekemeyer (4-5) 402-239-7667

Principal Andrew Danner (6-8) 402-433-5349

## St. Paul's Lutheran Church and School

*In an ever-changing world, St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church exists to build Christ's kingdom in people's hearts with the un-changing Gospel of Jesus Christ.*

106 East Highway 4  
Plymouth, NE 68424  
402-656-3003  
[www.stpaulsplymouth.org](http://www.stpaulsplymouth.org)

