

**Prayer:** Merciful God, we thank you for Jesus, who is our heavenly food. Strengthen by this goodness, send us forth to announce your peace, comfort the afflicted and share the good news of great joy. **Amen.**

### **Bell**

**Blessing:** The God of love, Father, son and Holy Spirit, lavish you with grace, illumine your path and increase your joy, today and always. **Amen.**

### **Sending Hymn: As with Gladness Men of Old (LBW#82 vss. 1,2,3,4)**

As with gladness men of old did the guiding star behold; as with joy they hailed its light, leading onward, beaming bright; so, most gracious Lord, may we evermore be led by thee.

As with joyful steps they sped, Savior, to thy lowly bed, there to bend the knee before thee, whom heav'n and earth adore; so may we with willing feet ever seek thy mercy seat.

As they offered gifts most rare at thy cradle, rude and bare, so may we with holy joy, pure and free from sin's alloy, all our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to thee, our heav'nly king.

Holy Jesus, ev'ry day keep us in the narrow way; and when earthly things are past, bring our ransomed souls at last where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glory hide.

**Dismissal:** . Go in peace. The Word of God dwells in you richly. **Thanks be to God.**

### **Mark your calendars:**

- January 12: 9:30 at Kirkebo
- January 19: 9:30 at Nora
- January 26: 9:30 at Kirkebo

**Perley Parish  
Second Sunday of Christmas  
January 5, 2025**

### **Prelude and Bell**

### **Gathering Hymn: We Three Kings of Orient Are (WOV-Blue #646 vss. 1,2,5)**

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

**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.

Glorious now behold him arise, King and God and Sacrifice; heav'n sings alleluia: alleluia the earth replies. REFRAIN.

### **Welcome and Announcements:**

### **Confession and Forgiveness**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing. Gracious God, **have mercy on us. We confess that we have honored you with our lips but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues. The cravings at war within us cause conflicts and disputes. In our desire to be first, we make distinctions among ourselves. We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last. In your great mercy, forgive us our sins. Draw near to us with grace in time of need and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.** God promises to forgive our iniquity and to remember our sin no more. By grace you have been saved. In the name of Jesus Christ, the source of eternal healing, your sins are forgiven. **Amen.**

**Prayer of the Day. Amen.**

**Psalm 72:1-7,10-14 (read responsively)**

Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to a king's son. **May he judge your people with righteousness, and your poor with justice.** May the mountains yield prosperity for the people, and the hills, in righteousness. **May he defend the cause of the poor of the people, give deliverance to the needy, and crush the oppressor.** May he live while the sun endures, and as long as the moon, throughout all generations. **May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth.** In his days may righteousness flourish and peace abound, until the moon is no more. **May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles render him tribute,** may the kings of Sheba and Seba bring gifts. May all kings fall down before him, all nations give him service. **For he delivers the needy when they call, the poor and those who have no Helper.** He has pity on the weak and the needy, and saves the lives of the needy. **From oppression and violence he redeems their life; and precious is their blood in his sight.**

**First Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6**

**Second Reading: Ephesians 3:1-12**

Word of Life. Thanks be to God.

**The Holy Gospel according to Matthew 2:1-12**

Glory to you O Lord

The Gospel of our Lord, Praise to you, O Christ

**Message**

**Hymn of the Day/Offering: Bright and Glorious Is the Sky (LBW#75**

**vss.1,2,3,5,6) \*\*\* means new verse**

\*\*\*Bright and glorious is the sky, radiant are the heavens high where the golden stars are shining. All their rays to earth inclining beckon us to heav'n above, beckon us to heav'n above.

\*\*\****On that holy Christmas night through the darkness beamed a light; all the stars above were paling, all their luster slowly failing as the Christmas star drew nigh, as the Christmas star drew nigh.***

\*\*\*Sages from the East afar, when they saw this wondrous star, went to find the king of nations and to offer their oblations unto him as Lord and King, unto him as Lord and King.

\*\*\****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.***

\*\*\*As a star, God's holy Word leads us to our King and Lord; brightly from its sacred pages shall this light throughout the ages shine upon our path of life.

**Offering Response:** We give thee but thine own, whatever that gift may be. All that we have is thine alone, a trust, O, Lord, from thee.

**Apostle's 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 the saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen

**Prayers of the People** God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We commend these prayers to you, O God, trusting your grace made known to all, through the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

As brothers and sisters in Christ, let us pray together the prayer that Jesus taught us: ***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. 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***

**Meal**

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

**In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all. Amen**

**Words of Institution**

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory. **Pour out your Holy Spirit, that by this Holy Communion we may know the unity we share with all your people in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.** Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, **all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. Amen.**

A child has been born for us, a Son given to us. Come, receive the gift of Jesus