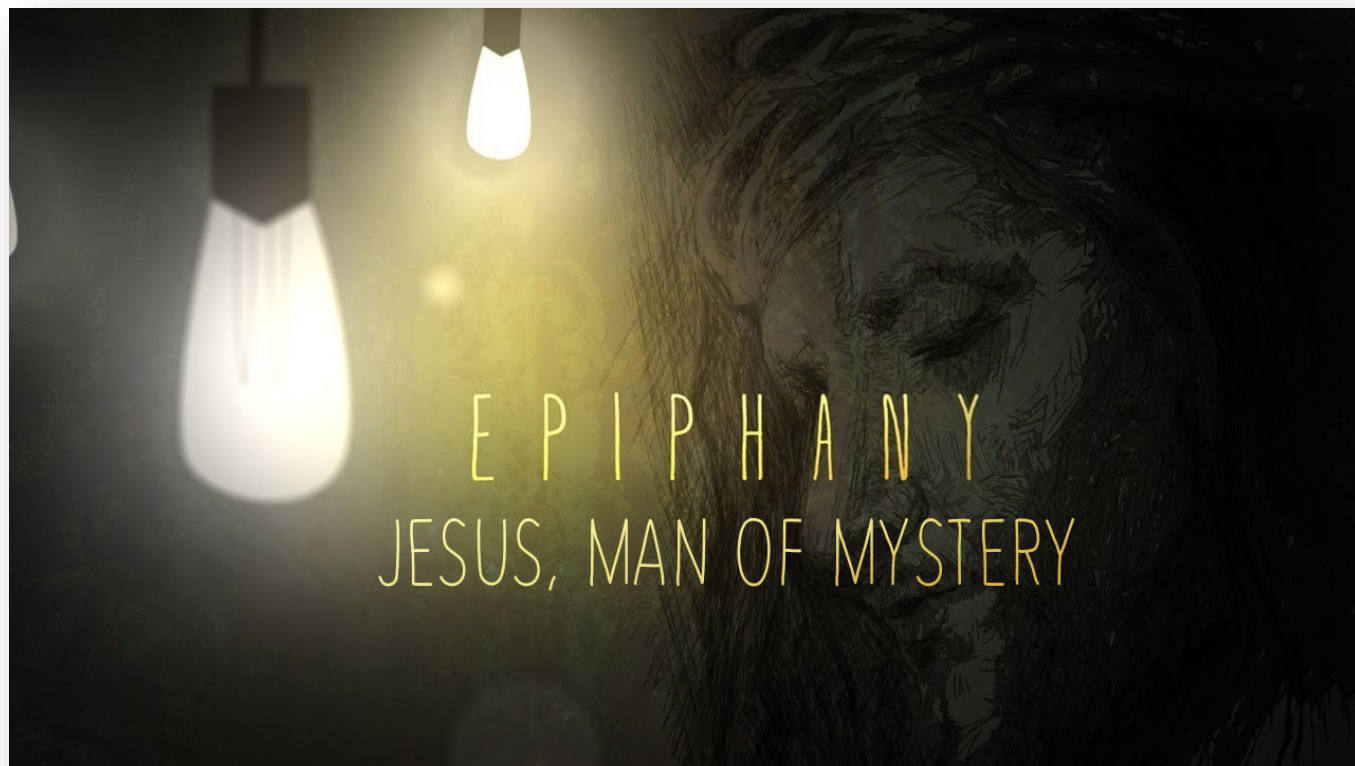


# The Season of Epiphany



## **Advent Lutheran Church**

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**“Love God, Serve Neighbor”**

February 14, 2021

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## GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

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### Prelude

“Aris, Your Light Has Come!”

Carol Riddell



1 A - rise, your light has come! The Spir - it's call o - bey;  
2 A - rise, your light has come! Fling wide the pris - on door;  
3 A - rise, your light has come! All you in sor - row born,  
4 A - rise, your light has come! The moun - tains burst in song!



show forth the glo - ry of your God which shines on you to - day.  
pro - claim the cap - tive's lib - er - ty, good tid - ings to the poor.  
bind up the bro - ken - heart - ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.  
Rise up like ea - gles on the wing, God's pow'r will make us strong.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1825–1893

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### Pastoral Welcome

### Confession and Forgiveness

**L:** We gather in the name of the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit.

**C:** **God, your light shines in the darkness, and we confess that sometimes we prefer to hide under cover of darkness, where we are free to participate in injustice, to hurt others and ourselves, to do whatever it takes to get ahead and to operate only in our comfort zone without challenge. We forget that your light of true freedom will shine, calling us to a more excellent way.**

*(Silence for reflection and self-examination)*

L: God, you have forgiven us in Christ and freed us by your Spirit. Filled with your life, may our light so shine before others that they may see our good works and glorify you forever.

C: Amen.

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## PROCLAIMING THE WORD

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### Greeting

L: 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.

### Prayer of the Day

L: Let us pray. Lord Jesus Christ, we come before you, many of us feeling like we have climbed just a part of the mountain, and there is so much more of a climb left to even get to point to dream that we might be dazzled by what is Divine.

Our loads are heavy, with worry, with regret, with fatigue, with illness, with despair for all in the world that is hurting, in danger, in bondage and more.

We trudge ahead, following you, stumbling, hoping, praying . . . breathing hard, hearts pounding, and yes, even some of us are nimble and skipping.

Lead us Lord, to the top of that mountain, where we might be dazzled by your Light, lifted by what is Divine, filled by the sheer delight of what is numinous and ethereal and grounded and real.

We pray this, for ourselves, for one another, and for the places in which we live.\*

C: Amen.

**The First Reading**

2 Kings 2:1-12

Anne Brown

**“Speak, O Lord”**

Laura Torrence

Speak, O Lord as we come to You  
To receive the food of Your holy word  
Take Your truth plant it deep in us  
Shape and fashion us in Your likeness

Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds;  
Help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us.  
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time,  
That will echo down through eternity.

CCLI Song # 4615235. Keith Getty | Stuart Townend

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*\* (written by rev karla, and posted on RevGalBlogPals)*

**The Gospel**

Mark 9:2-10

**The Message**

Pastor Ward Misenheimer



***Chorus***

Shine, Jesus, shine  
Fill this land with the Father's glory  
Blaze, Spirit, blaze,  
Set our hearts on fire  
Flow, river, flow  
Flood the nations with grace and mercy  
Send forth Your Word, Lord  
And let there be light.

Lord the light of Your love is shining  
In the midst of the darkness, shining  
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us  
Set us free by the truth You now bring us  
Shine on me  
Shine on me.

***Chorus***

As we gaze on Your kingly brightness.  
So our faces display Your likeness.  
Ever changing from glory to glory,  
Mirrored here may our lives tell Your story.  
Shine on me  
Shine on me.

***Chorus***

CCLI Song # 30426 Graham Kendrick  
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## **The Maasai Creed**

*A beautiful example of a creed is the Maasai Creed. It was written around 1960 by the Congregation of the Holy Ghost ("Spiritans") in East Nigeria. It is designed on a threefold pattern of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.*

We believe in the one High God, who out of love created the beautiful world and everything good in it.

God created man and woman and wanted them to be happy in the world.

God loves the world and every nation and tribe on the Earth.

We have known this High God in darkness, and now we know God in the light.

God promised in the book of His word, the Bible, that God would save the world and all the nations and tribes.

We believe that God made good God's promise by sending the Son, Jesus Christ, a man in the flesh, a Jew by tribe, born poor in a little village, who left his home and was always on safari doing good, curing people by the power of God, teaching about God and humans, showing the meaning of religion is love.

He was rejected by his people, tortured and nailed hands and feet to a cross and died.

He lay buried in the grave, but the hyenas did not touch him, and on the third day, he rose from the grave. He ascended to the skies. He is the Lord.

We believe that all our sins are forgiven through him.

All who have faith in him must be sorry for their sins, be baptized in the Holy Spirit of God, live the rules of love and share the bread together in love, to announce the Good News to others until Jesus comes again. We are waiting for him. He is alive. He lives. This we believe. Amen.

## **Prayers of the People of God**

L: Sisters and brothers, from the waters of baptism, we have received the fullness of the Holy Spirit. Teach us to yield to the Spirit, who shapes us to more closely embody the life of Jesus Christ and empowers us to reveal his love for the world. May our hands and feet be the hands and feet of Christ as we serve all people and strive for justice and peace in all the earth.

*A brief silence.*

L: God of revelation, on mountaintops and valley floors you reveal to us the light of your love. Our hearts desire is to bask in the amazing glory of the divine presence.

With each encounter we are changed and transformed. Draw us nearer that we might experience a deeper sense of your Holy Spirit. Help us to live our lives as a reflection of divine glory. May we walk among our brothers and sister as a blessing, bearing light into dark places, hope to displace despair, and love that casts out hate. Gracious God, **hear our prayer.**

L: God of all compassion, you call us to hold the needs of our sisters and brothers as dear to us as our own needs. We pray for all of our sisters and brothers who seek comfort, healing, refuge, rest, peace, wholeness, community, acceptance, and unconditional love.

We especially pray for

- Lizzie Akins
- Trevor Basilice
- Lemont Bell
- Regina Bressler
- Paul Coleman
- Dallas Collins
- Eileen Folkerth
- Stephanie Gonzalez
- Mary Jo Gouge
- Nylah Howard
- Dick Kuklantz
- Waylon Kuklantz
- Pat Logan
- Ray Matthews
- Hilda Mertz
- Justin Mertz
- Robert and Kathryn Mertz
- Rick Messina
- Joe Moeller
- Anita Ortiz
- Leo Peeler
- Richard Schulz
- David Townsend
- Stephanie Vincent
- Herbert Watson
- Jenny Weems
- Beverly Williams
- Lewis Williams
- Renate Wilson

L: We now pray aloud or in the silence of our hearts for those we wish to name (*give time for community to pray*).

- L: We remember and celebrate the lives of those who have died, especially, those we name now:
- Robert Bird, father of Carol Riddell and grandfather of Laura Torrence
  - David Nance, grandfather of Samuel & Ella Misenheimer
  - Charles Barrett, father of Charlene Bakke
  - Chrisy Mertz, niece of Diane Jowers

By your Holy Spirit, comfort their families, and all who grieve, give peace to those who mourn, strengthen all through the promise of eternal life in Christ Jesus. Gracious God, **hear our prayer.**

- L: God of all healing and care, we pray for all healthcare professionals and relief workers, especially those who find themselves on the frontlines to bring healing, comfort and care to all impacted by the coronavirus. We are grateful for the development of a vaccine and for those who are assisting in making it available. Strengthen, encourage, and empower us to be people of peace in the midst of anxiety, impatience, worry, and dread, as we hunger for life to be normal again. Gracious God, **hear our prayer.**

- L: Gracious God, you have called us through the goodness of your grace to be your hands and do your work, to be your voice and share your words, to bring healing to a fallen world and wholeness to broken lives. Let your light shine through us and light the path for others, so that all may experience your love and share in the joy of your Holy Spirit. Amen

**The Lord's Prayer** (*sung*)

Traven Harrington

- 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. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil, for the kingdom, the pow'r and the glory are yours, now and forever.**



## Epiphany Blessing

P: May the road that Christ walks to bring justice upon the earth, light to those who sit in darkness, and enduring hope to all creation run through our lives. May we be the road Christ takes.

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### SENDING GOD'S PEOPLE

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**“Lord, Let Your Servants Go in Peace”** (Song of Simeon)

Traven Harrington

Lord, let your servants go in peace;  
we who have long waited.  
Fearful with doubt,  
we still kept watch in the night.  
Now we see your light.

Lord, let your servants go in peace;  
we who were rent asunder.  
Biased and blind,  
we labeled foes who were friends.  
Now we make amends.

Lord, let your servants go in peace;  
for you have kept your promise.  
With our own eyes  
we see salvation is won,  
born in Christ, your Son.

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