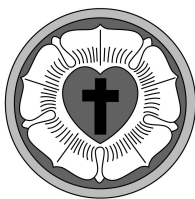


Brighton Lutheran Mission



The Epiphany of Our Lord
Confirmation of Karina Strelnikova
6 January 2013

brightonlutherans.wordpress.com

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Welcome to Brighton Lutheran Mission!

**May God bless you richly as we
gather together to receive His gifts.**

Please stay behind for a cup of tea or
coffee afterwards.

Holy Communion — A note to visitors

It is our desire that all people receive the body and blood of our Lord at this altar! However, our Lord has told us in His Word that His body and blood, given into our mouths, are powerful and not to be given or received lightly or in a careless way. Therefore, in respecting the Word of the Lord that anyone who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner is doing harm to themselves, and that He desires that all who commune together be truly united in the confession of the truth, we ask that only those who have been instructed in the Lutheran Confessions and are under our pastor's care come forward to receive the Lord's Supper.

All who are visiting us and who desire to commune with us are asked to first speak with our pastor before the service, so that all can make an informed decision about participating with us in our fellowship in this place. *We are not condemning anyone with this practice*; we seek only to follow the Word of the Lord and carry out responsible pastoral care.

If you are not communing with us today, please do come forward for a blessing.

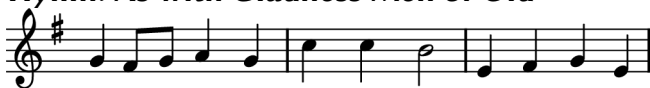
Thank you for honouring our beliefs.

Explanation of Symbols:

- C** Congregation
- P** Pastor (ordained)
- A** Assistant minister (ordained or lay)
- L** Liturgist (ordained or lay)
- ✠ You may make the sign of the cross in remembrance of your baptism.
- ❖ You may bow at this point as a sign of reverence.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Hymn: *As with Gladness Men of Old*



1. As with gladness men of old Did the guiding
2. As with joy - ful steps they sped, Saviour, to Thy
3. As they of - fered gifts most rare At Thy cra - dle,
4. Ho - ly Je - sus, ev' --ry day Keep us in the



star be - hold; As with joy they hailed its light,
low - ly bed, There to bend the knee be - fore
rude and bare, So may we with ho - ly joy,
nar - row way; And when earth - ly things are past,



Lead - ing on - ward, beam - ing bright;
Thee, whom heav'n and earth ad - ore;
Pure and free from sin's al - loy,
Bring our ran - somed souls at last



So, most gra - cious Lord, may we
So may we with will - ing feet
All our cost - liest treas - ures bring,
Where they need no star to guide,



Ev - er - more be led by Thee.
Ev - er seek Thy mer - cy seat.
Christ, to Thee, our heav'n - ly King.
Where no clouds Thy glo - ry hide.

5. In the heav'nly country bright
Need they no created light;
Thou its light, its joy, its crown,
Thou its sun which goes not down;
There forever may we sing
Alleluias to our King.

Text: William C. Dix (1837-98)
Music: Conrad Kocher (1786-1872)

Confession and Absolution

Catechism

- P** The Fourth Petition
- C** Give us this day our daily bread.
- P** What does this mean?

C God certainly gives daily bread to everyone without our prayers, even to all evil people, but we pray in this petition that God would lead us to realise this and to receive our daily bread with thanksgiving.

P What is meant by daily bread?

C Daily bread includes everything that has to do with the support and needs of the body, such as food, drink, clothing, shoes, house, home, land, animals, money, goods, a devout husband or wife, devout children, devout workers, devout and faithful rulers, good government, good weather, peace, health, self-control, good reputation, good friends, faithful neighbours, and the like.

Introit (Ps. 72:1–2, 10–11; antiphon: Liturgical text)

A Behold the Lord, the ruler, has come,*
and the kingdom and the power and the glory are in his hand.

I have found David, my servant;*
with my holy oil I have anointed him.

C I will sing of the steadfast love of the LORD, forever;*
with my mouth I will make known your faithfulness to all generations.

A He shall cry to me, “You are my Father,*
my God, and the Rock of my salvation.”

C And I will make him the firstborn,*
the highest of the kings of the earth.

A My steadfast love I will keep for him forever,*
and my covenant will stand firm for him.

C ♦ *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*

A Behold the Lord, the ruler, has come,*
and the kingdom and the power and the glory are in his hand.

C I have found David, my servant;*
with my holy oil I have anointed him.

Kyrie

Gloria in Excelsis

Salutation and Collect of the Day

O God, by the leading of a star You made known Your only-begotten Son to the Gentiles. Lead us, who know You by faith, to enjoy in heaven the fullness of Your divine presence; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever

The Readings

The Lord God Is Manifested in the Incarnate Son

The Feast of the Epiphany centres in the visit of the Magi from the East. In that respect, it is a “Thirteenth

Day” of Christmas; and yet, it also marks the beginning of a new liturgical season. While Christmas has focused on the Incarnation of our Lord—that is, on God becoming flesh—the season of Epiphany emphasizes the manifestation or self-revelation of God in that same flesh of Christ. For the Lord Himself has entered our darkness and rises upon us with the brightness of His true light (Is. 60:1–2). He does so chiefly by His Word of the Gospel, which He causes to be preached within His Church on earth—not only to the Jews but also to Gentiles (Eph. 3:8–10). As the Magi were guided by the promises of Holy Scripture to find and worship the Christ Child with His mother in the house (Matt. 2:5–11), so does He call disciples from all nations by the preaching of His Word, to find and worship Him within His Church (Is. 60:3–6). With gold they confess His royalty; with incense, His deity; and with myrrh, His priestly sacrifice (Matt. 2:11).

Old Testament Reading—Isaiah 60:1–6

- Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.
- ² For behold, darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples;
but the LORD will arise upon you,
and his glory will be seen upon you.
- ³ And nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your rising.
- ⁴ Lift up your eyes all around, and see;
they all gather together, they come to you;
your sons shall come from afar,
and your daughters shall be carried on the
hip.
- ⁵ Then you shall see and be radiant;
your heart shall thrill and exult,
because the abundance of the sea shall be
turned to you,
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.
- ⁶ A 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 bring good news, the praises of the
LORD.

Gradual (*Isa. 60:6b, 1*)

☐ Those from Sheba shall come.*

**They shall bring gold and frankincense,
and shall bring good news, the praises of
the LORD.**

**Arise, shine, for your light has come,*
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon
you**

Epistle Reading—Ephesians 3:1–12

For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles—² assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God’s grace that was given to me for you, ³ how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly.
⁴ When you read this, you can perceive my insight

into the mystery of Christ, ⁵ which was not made known to the sons of men in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit. ⁶ This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

⁷ Of this gospel I was made a minister according to the gift of God's grace, which was given me by the working of his power. ⁸ To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, ⁹ and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things, ¹⁰ so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹ This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹² in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him.

Alleluia & Verse (Matt. 2:2b)

**G Alleluia! We saw his star when it rose,
and have come to worship him. Alleluia!**

Gospel Reading—Matthew 2:1–12

L The ✠ holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the second chapter.

G Glory be to You, O Lord.

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, ² saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." ³ When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴ and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. ⁵ They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:

⁶ " 'And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler
who will shepherd my people Israel.' "

⁷ Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. ⁸ And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him." ⁹ After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. ¹¹ And going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshipped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and

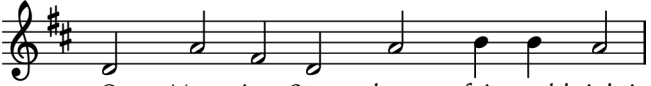
myrrh. ¹² And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise be to You, O Christ

The Nicene Creed

Hymn: O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright



1. O Morn-ing Star, how fair and bright!
2. Come, heav'n-ly Bride-groom, Light di - vine,
3. Lord, when You look on us in love,
4. Al - might - y Fa - ther, in Your Son



You shine with God's own truth and light,
And deep with in our hearts now shine'
At once there falls from God a - bove
You loved us when not yet be - gun



A - glow with grace and mer - cy!
There light a flame un - dy - ing!
A ray of pur - est plea - sure.
Was this old earth's found - a - tion!



Of Ja - cob's race, King Da - vid's son,
In Your one bo - dy let us be
Your Word and Spir - it, flesh and blood
Your Son has ran - somed us in love



Our Lord and mas - ter, You have won
As liv - ing branch - es of a tree,
Re - fresh our souls with heav'n - ly food.
To live in Him here and a - bove:



Our hearts to serve You on - ly!
Your life our lives sup - ply - ing.
You are our dear - est trea - sure!
This is Your great sal - va - tion.



Low - ly, ho - ly! Great and glo - rious,
Now, though dai - ly Earth's deep sad - ness
Let Your mer - cy Warm and cheer us!
Al - le - lu - ia! Christ the liv - ing,



All vic - to - rious, Rich in bless - ing!
May per - plex us And dis - tress us,
O draw near us! For You teach us
To us giv - ing Life for - ev - er,



Rule and might o'er all pos - sess - ing!
Yet with heav'n - ly joy You bless us.
God's own love through You has reached us.
Keeps us Yours and fails us nev - er!

5. O let the harps break forth in sound!
Our joy be all with music crowned,
Our voices gladly blending!
With Jesus, lovely Bridegroom, mine,
I walk in constant love divine
Till trav'ling days are ended
Sing out! Ring out!
Jubilation! Exultation!
Tell the story!
Great is He, the King of Glory!
6. What joy to know, when life is past,
The Lord we love is first and last,
The end and the beginning!
He will one day, oh, glorious grace,
Transport us to that happy place
Beyond all tears and sinning!
Amen! Amen!
Come, Lord Jesus! Crown of gladness!
We are yearning
For the day of Your returning!

Text and music: Philipp Nicolai (1556–1608)

Sermon

The Offertory

Confirmation

Offering

Prayer of the Church

The Service of the Sacrament

Hymn: Jesus Shall Reign



1. Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun



Does its suc - cess - ive jour - neys run;



His king - dom stretch from shore to shore



Till moons shall wax and wane no more.

2. To Him shall endless prayer be made,
And endless praises crown His head;
His name like sweet perfume shall rise
With ev'ry morning sacrifice.

3. People and realms of ev'ry tongue
Dwell on His love with sweetest song;
And infant voices shall proclaim
Their early blessings on His name.
4. Blessings abound where'er He reigns;
The pris'ners leap, unloose their chains,
The weary find eternal rest,
And all who suffer want are blest.
5. Let ev'ry creature rise and bring
Honours peculiar to our King;
Angels descend with songs again,
And earth repeat the loud Amen.

Text: Isaac Watts (1674–1748)
Music: John C. Hatton (d. 1793)

IN OUR PRAYERS

Karina; Lutherans in Africa, Pr. James May;
Holland Road Baptist Church, Pr. David Treneer

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF CONCORD
FORMULA OF CONCORD
ARTICLE II: FREE WILL

Mankind's reason or natural intellect does still have a dim spark of the knowledge that there is a God. It also knows about the doctrine of the Law. Yet it is so ignorant, blind, and perverted that even when the most ingenious and learned people on earth read or hear the Gospel of God's Son and the promise of eternal salvation, they cannot by their own powers perceive, apprehend, understand, or believe and regard it as true. They want to understand these spiritual things with their reason. But the more diligently and seriously they try, the less they understand or believe. Before they become enlightened and are taught by the Holy Spirit, they regard all this only as foolishness or fictions.

The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him. (1 Corinthians 2:14)

You must no longer walk as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their minds. They are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their hardness of heart. (Ephesians 4:17–18)

The Scriptures flatly call natural man in spiritual and divine things *darkness* (Ephesians 5:8; Acts 26:18). John 1:5 says, "The light shines in the darkness" (that is, in the dark, blind world, which does not know or regard God), "and the darkness has not overcome it." Paragraph 9–11

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**God willing, the next service
will be held on
10 February 2013 at 4.30pm**