

Epiphany (Observed)

January 4, 2026

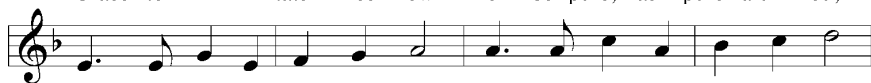
394 Songs of Thankfulness and Praise



1 Songs of thank - ful - ness and praise, Je - sus, Lord, to Thee we raise,
2 Man - i - fest at Jor-dan's stream, Proph-et, Priest, and King su-preme;
3 Man - i - fest in mak-ing whole Pal - sied limbs and faint - ing soul;
4 Sun and moon shall dark-ened be, Stars shall fall, the heav'ns shall flee;
5 Grant us grace to see Thee, Lord, Pres - ent in Thy ho - ly Word—



Man - i - fest-ed by the star To the sa - ges from a - far,
And at Ca - na wed-ding guest In Thy God-head man - i - fest;
Man - i - fest in val - iant fight, Quell-ing all the dev - il's might;
Christ will then like light - ning shine, All will see His glo - rious sign;
Grace to im - i - tate Thee now And be pure, as pure art Thou;



Branch of roy - al Da - vid's stem In Thy birth at Beth - le - hem:
Man - i - fest in pow'r di - vine, Chang-ing wa - ter in - to wine;
Man - i - fest in gra - cious will, Ev - er bring-ing good from ill;
All will then the trum - pet hear, All will see the Judge ap - pear;
That we might be - come like Thee At Thy great e - piph - a - ny



An - thems be to Thee ad-dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.
An - thems be to Thee ad-dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.
An - thems be to Thee ad-dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.
Thou by all wilt be con-fessed, God in man made man - i - fest.
And may praise Thee, ev - er blest, God in man made man - i - fest.

Text: Christopher Wordsworth, 1807–85, alt.

Tune: George J. Elvey, 1816–93

Text and tune: Public domain

Invocation

- L** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

Kyrie

- L** Lord, have mercy upon us.
 - C** Christ, have mercy upon us.
 - Lord, have mercy upon us.
-

Exhortation

- L** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- C** **who made heaven and earth.**
- L** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
- C** **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**
- L** Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

Confession and Absolution

- L** I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.
- C** **The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins in Jesus' name. Amen.**
- C** **I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.**
- L** The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins in Jesus' name.
- C** **Amen.**

Reflection on God's Forgiveness

- L** God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.
 - C** **Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God.**
 - L** For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life.
 - C** **More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.**
-

Service of the Word

Psalm

Psalm 119:97–104

- L** Oh how I love your law! It is my meditation all the day.
- C** Your commandment makes me wiser than my enemies, for it is ever with me.
- L** I have more understanding than all my teachers, for your testimonies are my meditation.
- C** I understand more than the aged, for I keep your precepts.
- L** I hold back my feet from every evil way, in order to keep your word.
- C** I do not turn aside from your just decrees, for you have taught me.
- L** How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth!
- C** Through your precepts I get understanding; therefore I hate every false way.
- 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

Gloria in Excelsis



- C** 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
2 To You, O sole-be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro-claimed at Je-sus' birth!
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor-shipped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King.
Where You in pow'r are seat-ed At God's right hand on high—
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

- ¹Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.
- ²For 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.
- ³And nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your rising.
- ⁴Lift 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.
- ⁵Then 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.
- 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 bring good news, the praises of the LORD.

L This is the word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God

Epistle

Ephesians 3:1–12

¹For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles— ²assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God’s grace that was given to me for you, ³how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. ⁴When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, ⁵which 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. ⁶This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

⁷Of 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. ⁸To 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, ⁹and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things, ¹⁰so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹²in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him.

L This is the word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, ²saying, “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.” ³When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. ⁵They 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.”

⁷Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. ⁸And 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.” ⁹After 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. ¹⁰When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. ¹¹And going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. ¹²And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

L This is the Gospel of the Lord

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Apostles' Creed

207

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

399 The Star Proclaims the King Is Here



1 The star pro - claims the King is here; But, Her - od,
 2 The east - ern sa - ges saw from far And fol - lowed
 3 With - in the Jor - dan's sa - cred flood The heav'n - ly
 4 And oh, what mir - a - cle di - vine, When wa - ter
 Δ 5 For this Thy glad e - piph - a - ny All glo - ry,



why this sense - less fear? For He who of - fers heav'n - ly
 on His guid - ing star; And, led by light, to light they
 Lamb in meek - ness stood That He, of whom no sin was
 red - dened in - to wine! He spoke the word, and forth it
 Je - sus, be to Thee, Whom with the Fa - ther we a -



birth Seeks not the king - doms of this earth.
 trod And by their gifts con - fessed their God.
 known, Might cleanse His peo - ple from their own.
 flowed In streams that na - ture ne'er be - stowed.
 dore, And Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more.

Text: Coelius Sedulius, 5th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt.
 Tune: Geistliche Lieder auff's new gebessert, 1535, Wittenberg, ed. Joseph Klug
 Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon - Pastor William Engfehr

Offering - Please take a moment to sign in and pass the "Record of Friendship" booklet or use the QR code on the back of this bulletin.

Prayer of the Church

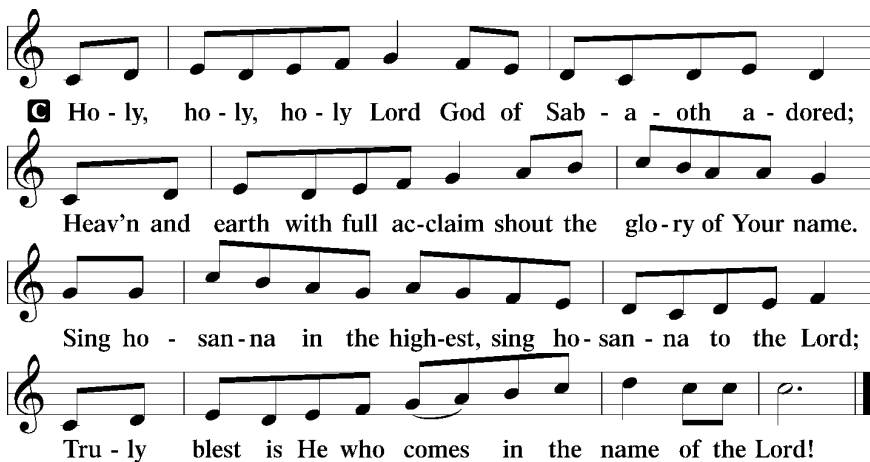
- L** Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** hear our prayer.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

- L** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also with you.**
- L** Lift up your hearts.
- C** **We lift them to the Lord.**
- L** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**
- L** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

Sanctus



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;
Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!


Text: Stephen P. Starke

Lord's Prayer


- L** Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:
- 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.**

The Words of Our Lord

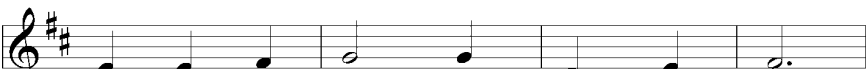
Agnus Dei



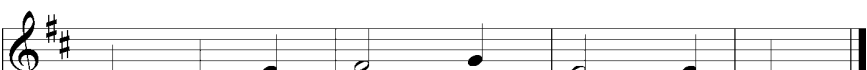
C 1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,



You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;



O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,



Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Distribution

Joy Has Dawned



1. Joy has dawned up - on the world, prom - ised from cre -
2. Sounds of won - der fill the sky with the songs of
3. Shep herds bow be - fore the Lamb, gaz - ing at the
4. Son of Ad - am, Son of heav'n, giv - en as a



a - tion: God's sal - va - tion now un - furled, hope for ev - 'ry
an - gels; As the might - y Prince of Life shel - ters in a
glo - ry; Gifts of men from dis - tant lands proph - e - sy the
ran - som, rec - on - cil - ing God and man, Christ our might - y



na - tion. Not with fan - fares from a - bove, not with scenes of
sta - ble. Hands that set each star in place, shaped the earth in
sto - ry. Gold, a King is born to - day; In - cense, God is
Cham - pi - on! What a Sav - ior, what a Friend, what a glo - rious



glo - ry, but a hum - ble gift of love: Je - sus born of
dark - ness. Cling now to a moth - er's breast, vul - n'ra - ble and
with us; Myrrh, His death will make a way, by His blood He'll
mys - ter - y: Once a babe in Beth - le - hem, now the Lord of



Mar - y.
help - less.
win us.
his - to - ry.

Text: Stuart Townend; Keith Getty

Tune: Keith Getty

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397 As with Gladness Men of Old



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-at-ed 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, 1837–98, alt.
 Tune: Conrad Kocher, 1786–1872
 Text and tune: Public domain

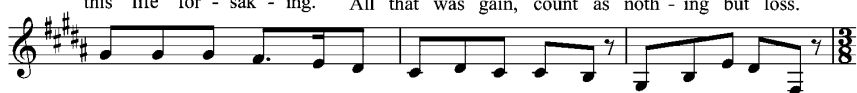
Come Unto Jesus



1. Come un - to Je - sus all
2. Joy of the com - for - less,
3. Come, taste the Bread of Life,
4. Come, now and fol - low Him,



you who are wea - ry. Come to the mer - cy seat, fer - vent - ly kneel.
 Light for the stray - ing, Hope of the pen - i - tent, Peace in our strife.
 bro - ken for sin - ners. Drink from the cup of His prom - ise made sure.
 this life for - sak - ing. All that was gain, count as noth - ing but loss.



Here, bring your wound - ed hearts, bro - ken and need - y. Come un - to Je - sus,
 Here speaks the Com - for - ter, ten - der - ly say - ing My yoke is eas - y, my
 Feast at His ta - ble as sons and as daugh - ters. Grace o - ver - flow - ing is
 Trade all this world for His king - dom un - fad - ing, Come un - to Je - sus,



might - y to heal. (To Verse 2)
 bur - den is light. Come un - to Je - sus. Come un - to Je - sus.
 yours ev - er - more.
 take up your cross.



Lay down your bur - dens, He is e - nough. Come un - to Je - sus, rest in His



love.

Text: Laura Story; Matt Merker; Jordan Kauflin
 Tune: Laura Story; Matt Merker; Jordan Kauflin
 Text and tune: © Laura's Stories and Songs; © 2003 Getty Music Hymns and Songs; © Getty Music Publishing; © Jordan Kauflin
 Music; © Matthew Merker Music. Used by permission: CCLI no. 11373734

The Dismissal

- L** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ☩ in peace.
- C** Amen.

Call to Christian Community

- L** "For this is the message that you have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another" (1 John 3:11). After the last song, please take time to greet one another, and if you see someone you don't know, introduce yourself. The Christian life isn't meant to be lived alone, but in community. Now receive God's Blessing:

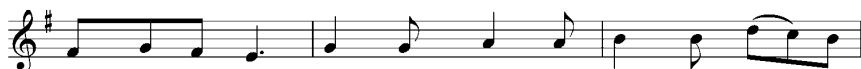
Benediction

- L** Let us bless the Lord
C **Thanks be to God**
L The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
C **Amen.**

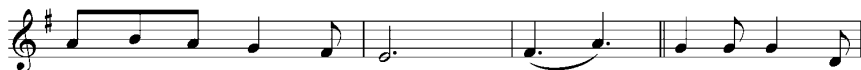
We Three Kings



1. We three kings of O - ri - ent are, bear - ing gifts we
2. Born a King on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I bring to
3. Frank in - cense to of - fer have I, in - cense owns a
4. Myrrh is mine, its bit - ter per - fume breathes a life of
5. Glo - rious now be - hold Him a - rise, King and God and



trav - erse a - far field and foun - tain, moor and moun - tain,
crown Him a - gain, King for - ev - er, ceas - ing nev - er
De - i - ty nigh; Prayer and prais - ing all men rais - ing,
gath - er - ing gloom: Sor - rowing, sigh - ing, bleed - ing, dy - ing,
sac - ri - fice; Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



fol - low - ing yon - der star. O star of won - der,
o - ver us all to reign.
wor - ship Him, God on high.
sealed in the stone - cold tomb.
Peals thru the earth and skies.



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.
Tune: John Henry Hopkins Jr.
Text and tune: Public domain

This Week at-a-Glance

Today

- Worship Service (Pastor William Engfehr) – 9:00 AM
- Congregational Voters Meeting – Immediately following worship

Wednesday

- Men's Bible Study – 6:30 AM (Downstairs)

Thursday

- AA Meeting – 6:30 PM (Downstairs)

Saturday

- AA Meeting – 1:30 PM
- Women's Bible Study – 10:00 AM

Announcements

[Congregational Voter's Meeting](#)

All St. James members: Please join us for a congregational meeting today immediately following worship. The Call Committee will present recommendations, and we will vote on the pastoral call.

[Second Tuesday Women's Bible Study](#)

This study will take a break in January and February and resume in March. Questions? Please contact Shala Baker.

[Discovering Christianity Classes](#) – Starting Next Sunday

You're Invited to Discovering Christianity at St. James! Curious about what we believe? Want to grow in your faith or just connect with others in a welcoming space? Discovering Christianity is the perfect opportunity! These classes are open to everyone—not just new members. Whether you're considering membership, recently transferred, or simply want to learn more about the Christian faith and life at St. James, we'd love to have you join us. No pressure, no prerequisites—just good conversation and the chance to grow together. Classes will be held during the Bible study hour at 10:45 AM. Please contact the office to reserve your spot!



Have you ever wondered what heaven will be like? The Bible talks about paradise, Abraham's bosom, and heaven. As a Christian, it is your life after death destination. But it seems like Bible descriptions of this glorious realm are sparse. Aaron and Chuck discussed this topic on the most recent episode of the [Craving Answers Craving God](#) podcast. It's episode 134.

St. James Life Ministry - Advocating, Educating, and Caring for All Human Life

January is Life Month! To celebrate life, we are excited to be hosting a [baby bottle campaign](#)! The campaign begins next Sunday! Bottles will be available in the narthex and should be returned by February 15th. Funds collected from this campaign help support Mosaic. Mosaic transforms lives by providing free, life-affirming pregnancy & sexual health services, education & Christ-centered support. You can also find out more about Mosaic and donate online at <https://www.supportmosaic.org/donate/>. Mosaic has many volunteer opportunities such as throwing baby showers, stuffing packets or being a prayer warrior. You can find more information at <https://www.supportmosaic.org/volunteer/>

If you have any questions or would like to share a comment, please feel free to reach out to one of our St. James Elders at [**elders@saintjamesglencarbon.org**](mailto:elders@saintjamesglencarbon.org). We are always glad to connect with you

St. James Guiding Statement

Together we have found healing and hope in Jesus Christ and welcome others to experience these same Gospel promises.

St. James Mission Pillars

[Healing](#)
[Community](#)
[Restoration](#)



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