

The Epiphany of Our Lord
The Tomorrow River Lutheran Parish
January 4, 2026

We welcome visitors into our community! May you be blessed as you join us in Worship!

GATHERING

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*** OPENING PRAYER**

*** HYMN**

Joy to the World

#267

*** CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Pastor: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
Wonderful Counselor,
Mighty Savior,
Prince of Peace.

All: Amen.

Pastor: Trusting in God's steadfast love and faithfulness,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Pastor: Reconciling God,

**All: we yearn for your presence to transform
our grief, pain, and despair.**

**We confess that we have not always prepared
room in our hearts for your love;
we have not always recognized
your presence among us;
we have not always embraced your message of peace.
We cry out, weary with the burden of violence,
oppression, and fear.**

**We confess our failure to make room
for those seeking refuge;
our participation in violent systems
that harm your innocent ones;
our reluctance to embody your good news.**

**Be born in us today
and teach us to sing the joyful song of your salvation.
Amen.**

Pastor: God's grace upon grace flows over you.

✚ Christ's presence redeems the whole creation.

Your sins are forgiven. Let the earth rejoice and be glad!

All: Amen.

HYMN

Bright and Glorious Is the Sky

#301

*** PRAYER OF THE DAY**

All: *O God, on this day you revealed your Son to the nations by the leading of a star. Lead us now by faith to know your presence in our lives, and bring us at last to the full vision of your glory, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

WORD

*** GOSPEL**

Matthew 2:1-12

¹ In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, magi from the east came to Jerusalem, ² asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star in the east and have come to pay him homage." ³ When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him, ⁴ and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵ They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it has been written by the prophet:

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

⁷ Then Herod secretly called for the magi and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸ Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." ⁹ When they had heard the king, they set out, and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen in the east, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹ On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹² And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

*** HYMN OF THE DAY**

As with Gladness

#302

*** THE APOSTLES' CREED**

All: 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 into hell. 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 saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

*** PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Pastor: ...Lord, in your mercy ...
Congregation: Hear our prayer.

MEAL

*** WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

*** THE LORD'S PRAYER**

All: 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.

DISTRIBUTION

(The distribution will be processional and the ushers will guide you. All who believe there is forgiveness of sin available in this meal that is offered by Christ Himself are welcome to come forward. Communion will be served by intinction. The pastor and assistant give the bread and wine, with these words: "The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you." Touch the wafer to the wine or juice.)

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

O Come, All Ye Faithful #283
What Child Is This #296

*** BLESSING**

CHURCH SERVICE SCHEDULE

SUNDAYS

Worship Service at Peace 8:30 am

Sunday School at Peace 9:00 am

Sunday School at Nelsonville 9:30 am

Worship Service at Nelsonville 10:15 am

Livestream every Sunday at 10:15 am at trchurch.org, click on *Livestream*

THERE IS NO SUNDAY SCHOOL ON JANUARY 4!

WE WELCOME OUR VISITORS!

Contact us at (715) 824-5615 or email trchurch@gmail.com

For more information, go to trchurch.org

Tomorrow River Lutheran Parish, PO Box 309, Amherst, WI 54406

Peace Lutheran Church, 293 S. Main Street, Amherst

Nelsonville Evangelical Lutheran Church, 3061 Oak Street, Nelsonville

For those who wish to give with a credit or debit card or via EFT from your bank account, please use this QR code.



Thank you for your faith filled support for the ministries of the church.