



Memorial Lutheran Church and School

Westheimer Road
Houston, Texas

Church
School

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Rev. J. Bart Day
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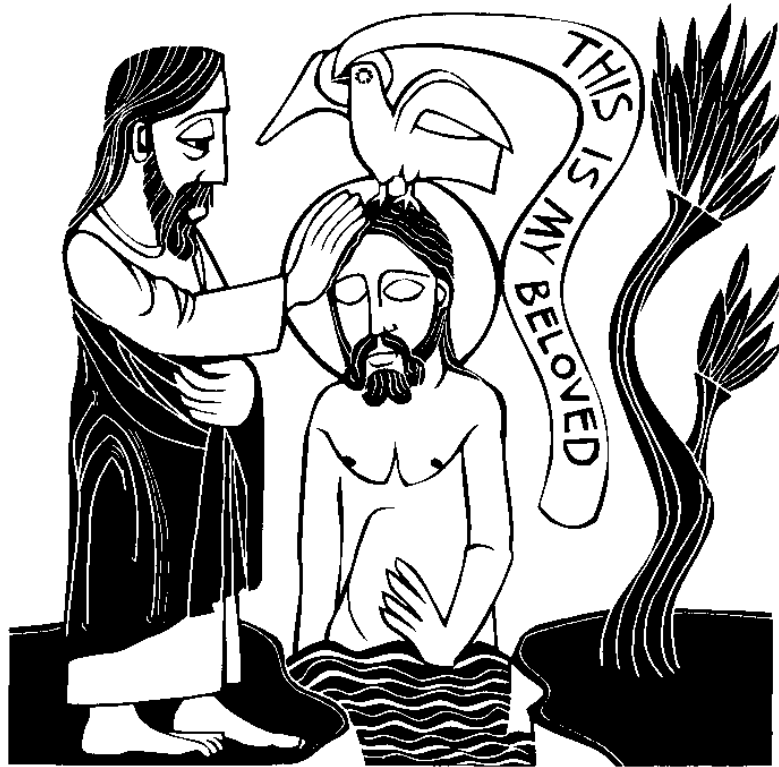
Rev. Thomas F. Obersat Sr.
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Rev. Victor A. Atsinger, Sr.
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Behold, My Servant,
Whom I Uphold

THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

January ,

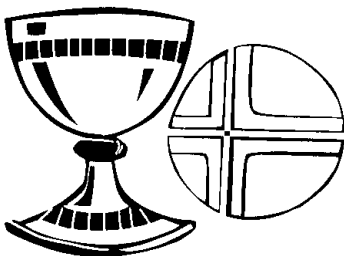
In the western Church, the Epiphany of Jesus is the celebration of the coming of the Wise Men. It's the "Gentile Christmas," a time for celebrating the fact that Christ's redeeming work includes those not descended physically from Jacob. It's a missionary epiphany, if you think about it: the Church has a message to share not just with Jews but with every living human being! But in the eastern Church—present day Russian and Greek Orthodox churches, for example, Jesus' Baptism is



the Great Epiphany. At the Jordan Jesus is washed, the Father speaks, and the Spirit comes down and anoints. God is revealed for the first time, clearly, as who He truly is: three Persons in one Being, three Persons who created us in the image of God, against Whom we have sinned, and Who chose to redeem us from that same sin by the incarnation of the Son as the man Jesus, the Christ. This is the message of the mission: that God in Christ has saved the world.

Communion Information

Memorial Lutheran Church is a member of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, a family of congregations who pledge themselves to teach and confess the same teachings. Members in good standing of Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) congregations and those who belong to congregations that are in altar and pulpit fellowship with the LCMS are welcome to commune. We believe that we are given a great responsibility to distribute the holy body and blood of Christ only to those persons who are members of our



confessional fellowship (Corinthians and) lest the sacrament be taken for harm. We want to express our sincere welcome to our guests and assure them that for their spiritual welfare we practice closed communion. For those who do not receive the sacrament this day we ask that you continue to pray that through the power of the Holy Spirit our Lord would, through the truth of his Word, destroy all the walls that yet divide us. If you desire to learn more about this teaching of the church, please speak with one of the pastors.

THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

January ,
Lutheran Service Book, -

Preservice Music *Christ, unser Herr* J.S. Bach

Prelude *Freut Euch, ihr Lieben* J.S. Bach

i Hymn **Hail To the Lord's Anointed**

Confession and Absolution

Catechism The Introduction of the Lord's Prayer

P. The Introduction

C. **Our Father who art in heaven.**

P. What does this mean?

C. **With these words God tenderly invites us to believe that He is our true Father and that we are His true children, so that with all boldness and confidence we may ask Him as dear children ask their dear father.**

Service of the Word

Introit *Psalm : - , c; antiphon: Isaiah : a*

P. Behold my servant, whom | I uphold,*
my chosen, in whom my | soul delights.

C. **I will tell of | the decree:***
The LORD said to me, "You are my Son;
today I have be- | gotten you.

P. Ask of me, and I will make the nations your | heritage,*
and the ends of the earth your pos- | session.

C. **You shall break them with a | rod of iron***
and dash them in pieces like a potter's | vessel."

P. Now therefore, O | kings, be wise;*
be warned, O rulers | of the earth.

C. **Serve the | LORD with fear,***
and rejoice with | trembling,

P. for his wrath is quickly | kindled.*
Blessed are all who take ref- | uge in him.

C. **Glory be to the Father and | to the Son***
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen

P. Behold my servant, whom | I uphold,*
my chosen, in whom my | soul delights.

Kyrie

Hymn of Praise Gloria in Excelsis

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P. Father in heaven, at the Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River You proclaimed Him Your beloved Son and anointed Him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized in His name faithful in their calling as Your children and inheritors with Him of everlasting life; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C. Amen.

🔗 Old Testament Lesson Isaiah : - ESV

But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. ²When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. ³For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Cush and Seba in exchange for you. ⁴Because you are precious in my eyes, and honored, and I love you, I give men in return for you, peoples in exchange for your life. ⁵Fear not, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you. ⁶I will say to the north, Give up, and to the south, Do not withhold; bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the end of the earth, ⁷everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

Gradual Psalm : setting by W. A. Mozart
: setting by J. Muth

Translation: Praise the Lord, all nations! Extol him, all peoples!
For great is his steadfast love toward us,
and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever.
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

Epistle Reading

Romans : -

ESV

What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our

old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin.

For one who has died has been set free from sin. Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

i Alleluia and Verse

Holy Gospel

Luke : -

ESV

As the people were in expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Christ, ¹⁶John answered them all, saying, "I baptize you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. ¹⁷His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." ¹⁸So with many other exhortations

he preached good news to the people. ¹⁹But Herod the tetrarch, who had been reproved by him for Herodias, his brother's wife, and for all the evil things that Herod had done, ²⁰added this to them all, that he locked up John in prison. ²¹Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heavens were opened, ²²and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form, like a dove; and a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

Hymn	To Jordan Came the Christ, Our Lord	
Sermon	Jesus Baptized for You	Mark : -
i Creed		
Prayer of the Church		
H Offering	The Only Son from Heaven	J. S. Bach
i Offertory	What Shall I Render to the Lord	

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

Sanctus

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Lord's Prayer

The Words of Our Lord

Pax Domini

Agnus Dei

H Hymns	Baptized into Your Name Most Holy	
	All Who Believe and Are Baptized	

Anthem	:	The Glory of the Father	E. Hovland
	:	Romans :	J. Maunteht

i Canticle	Thank the Lord
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Collect

Benediction

Hymn	To Jordan's River Came Our Lord
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Postlude	<i>Christ, Unser Herr</i>	J. Pachelbel
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Servants of the Word

Preacher
 Presiding Minister
 Assisting Minister
 Organist
 Choir (:)
 (:)
 Instrumentalists

Rev. Daniel Preus
 Rev. Dr. Scott R. Murray
 Rev. Charles P. St-Onge
 Cantor Janet Muth
 MLC Adult Choir
 MLS Schola Cantorum
 Mary Swanson, Joshua Saenz, Chris Clark



Sunday (January ,)
 Ezekiel : - , -
 Romans : -
 Psalm

Monday
 Ezekiel : -
 Romans : -
 Psalm

Tuesday
 Ezekiel : -
 Romans : -
 Psalm

Wednesday
 Ezekiel : -
 Romans : -
 Psalm

Thursday
 Ezekiel : - :
 Romans : -
 Psalm

Friday
 Ezekiel : -
 Romans : -
 Psalm

Saturday
 Ezekiel : -
 Romans : -
 Psalm

Sunday (January ,)
 Ezekiel : - , -
 Romans : - :
 Psalm

IN THE NAME OF OUR REDEEMER, Jesus Christ, we welcome you. We encourage our visitors to worship with us often and to let us know if we can be of service. If you do not have a church home, the pastors will be happy to talk with you about membership here at Memorial. Please sign our Rite of Friendship booklet prior to leaving this morning so we may acknowledge your presence and also pick up one of our visitor information packets on the east narthex wall table.

THE BEAUTIFUL FLOWERS that grace our chancel are given to the glory of God by Nikki Leech in celebration of Jeremy's 10th birthday on January 10th. *"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations."* Jeremiah 1:5

SUNDAY SCHOOL meets from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. High School Class meets in the youth room with Pastor St-Onge. Middle School Class meets in the school building, room 101, with Mr. Jeffers. Elementary School Classes (K-5th grades) meet in the Music Suite with Cantor Muth for Sunday School opening which lasts fifteen minutes. Students are then picked up by their teacher and will be dismissed at 10:00 a.m. to the Commons. Arrive no later than 9:00 a.m. so not to miss or interrupt opening. Preschool age children (and Kindergartners) meet in room 102 in the

Sunday School hallway for opening with Mrs. Lamberson. Children follow their teachers to class and are picked up in the Sunday School hallway promptly at 10:00 a.m. NOTE: Arrive on time so teachers attending late service may arrive on time for church. Two year olds, bring a parent and join Ms. Patti in Room 102.

GROWING IN CHRIST: Jesus' Baptism (Luke 3:21-22) is the Bible story taught in Sunday School today. God sent the Holy Spirit at Jesus' Baptism, announcing that Jesus was God's son. At our Baptism, God makes us His children through the work of the Holy Spirit. Let your children tell you the dramatic events of this story, and share with them that because of God's wrath and anger over sin, the people were looking for a Savior. We, too, need a Savior, for God is angry with our sin. But thanks be to God, who in His mercy makes clear at Jesus' Baptism that we need look no more, for the Savior is here!

THE CHURCH NURSERY is located in the blue nursery room in the building north of the sanctuary. Children up to three years of age may be left in the nursery. Do not bring your child to the nursery if he/she has had a fever within the last 24 hours, has a cough or might be contagious.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY: Rev. Daniel Preus of Luther Academy will be teaching Adult Bible Study this morning con-

cerning the Academy's work in Africa. Please meet in the gymnasium today at : a.m. Normal adult Bible studies will resume next Sunday.

ADULT INSTRUCTION meets today at : a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Contact Pastor Murray by email at smurray@mlchouston.org, for questions regarding the class or to register for the next class beginning January .

BAGELS AND BIBLE STUDY meets on Tuesday morning at : a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS meets at : a.m. in the church library. The class is studying st and nd Peter.

HANDBELL AND ADULT CHOIRS: Hand bells will meet this week on Thursday at : p.m., and the Adult Choir will meet Thursday at : p.m. Call Cantor Muth, . . . , if you are interested in joining.

MEMORIAL MOMENTS is a daily devotion written and distributed by Pr. Murray. To join the mailing list, log on to www.memorialmoments.org and put your email address in the sign-up box provided.

DYING TO LIVE: Join Pr. Murray Sundays on KKHT . FM at : p.m. Programs are available on demand at www.mlchouston.org and by podcast at iTunes.

STEWARDSHIP EVERY SUNDAY: We became stewards when we were born. We became Christian stewards when we were baptized. By the marvelous working of the Holy Spirit we are equipped to live in new and different ways. May our deeds as well as our words reflect the truth that we really are the children of God!

PASTOR ST-ONGE'S BLOG can be found at houstonbelief.com. Click on blogs and look for Lutherant and his picture. Or go to www.chron.com/channel/houstonbelief/commons/lutherant.html.

JR. CONFIRMATION meets today from : p.m. to : p.m. in the church library.

GUEST PREACHER: Today's guest preacher is the Reverend Daniel Preus, executive director of Luther Academy of St. Louis, Missouri. Welcome to Memorial, Pastor Preus.

THE LUTHERAN STUDY BIBLES: All of the orders for The Lutheran Study Bibles (TLSB) have been filled and are ready for pick-up. MLC members purchased more than of TLSBs and all but a few have been delivered to their new owners. If you ordered a TLSB and have not yet picked it up, please come by the church office and retrieve it. The Bible covers are due to arrive on the th of January. You may, of course, still order TLSB directly from Concordia Publishing House's Web site.



YOUNG ADULTS BIBLE STUDY—THE BOOK OF ACTS

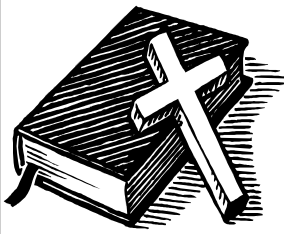
TUESDAYS - : p.m.

The meeting place is the MLC YOUTH ROOM

For information email Pastor St-Onge at cstonge@mlchouston.org



PEW BIBLES



Our Board of Elders have recommended the purchase of 180 Large Print, Pew Bibles to be placed in the sanctuary for use by our members and visitors. To pay for the Bibles (approximately ,) we requested donations from the congregation. While a number of you continue to express interest in contributing to this cause, we remain about short of our target. If you would like to help us achieve our goal of Bibles, please make a designated gift for this project by writing “Pew Bibles Project” in the memo section of your check and place it in the offering basket or deliver it to the church office. With your help, we will order all 180 Bibles by the end of this month.

LWIM TEA LUNCHEON

We invite all ladies of Memorial to join us for a tea luncheon after late service at : p.m. on January th in the Fellowship Hall. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet other ladies in the congregation and find out more about LWIM. We look forward to seeing you there!

RSVP to Kim Bohot

or kim.bohot@sbcglobal.net



CDS AND DVDS



CDs of sermons and DVDs of select services and special presentations are available on the back table in the Narthex. A DVD of Tom DuBois’s “Visual Triumphal Gospel” is available, as well as CDs of the last month’s sermons and of the latest worship service.



WINTER CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NIGHT
BEGINS THIS WEEK

JANUARY -FEBRUARY



**See
You
There!**

Evening Schedule:

: - :

Private Confession
& Absolution
Sanctuary

: - : Dinner & Fellowship

: - : Classes

: Vespers
Sanctuary

The winter term of CEN begins Wednesday, January and will end February (the week before the start of Lent), lasting five weeks. This is the perfect length of time for you to commit yourself to a special study of God's Word or theological topic. A number of children have been coming with their parents and doing special activities with school teachers. If you have a good suggestion for a potential class, please let the church office know, and we will consider your suggestion.

Pastor Murray will be continuing his class on the Formula of Concord. The class will concentrate on Articles - (including Christ's descent into hell, election, church rites, and heresies against the church).

Pastor St-Onge will teach a class on the Qur'an and the New Testament. The class will read through passages from the Qur'an using a couple of different translations, looking at how Muslim scholars interpret them, comparing them with teachings on similar issues in the New Testament.

Pastor Cholak and Cantor Muth will teach, "Theology and Music of J. S. Bach." The class will explore Bach's life, his upbringing, his theological training, and his different jobs around Germany. The class will take a look at some of his great cantatas and other works and his use of theology in the writing of such.

If you would like to sign up to provide a dinner for your fellow students, let the church office know, and we will put you on the schedule.



Memorial Lutheran Church & School

5800 WESTHEIMER @ BERING HOUSTON, TX 77057 713.782.6079 SCHOOL 713.782.4022

CALENDAR FOR JANUARY - JANUARY

TODAY:

- : Divine Service
- : Adult Instruction, Adult Bible Study, & Sunday School
- : Divine Service
- : Youth Group
- : Junior Confirmation

MONDAY:

- : English for Beginners
- : Board of Elders
- : Board Meetings
- : Parish Planning Council

TUESDAY:

- : Bagels & Bible Study
- : Tuesday Eucharist Service
- : English Conv. & Pronunciation
- : Bible Study
- : Borgie Demmers Memorial Service
- : Young Adult Bible Study

WEDNESDAY:

- : English for Beginners
- : Confession and Absolution
- : CEN Dinner and Fellowship
- : CEN Classes
- : Vespers

THURSDAY:

- : English Conv. & Pronunciation
- : Adult Handbell practice
- : Adult Choir practice

FRIDAY:

- : MLS Basketball Tournament
- : English for Beginners
- : MLS Girls Basketball Game
- : MLS JV Boys Basketball Game
- : MLS Varsity Boys Basketball Game

SATURDAY:

- : MLS Basketball Tournament
- : Men's Bible Study Breakfast
- : Men's Bible Study Class

SUNDAY:

- : MLS Basketball Tournament
- : Divine Service
- : Adult Bible Class, Sunday School
- : Adult Instruction
- : Divine Service
- : American Heritage Girls
- : Jr. Confirmation

Attendance: Jan. :	Through Dec. :
Tuesday Eucharist:	Year-to-date Budgeted Offerings: ,
Offering Jan. : ,	Year-to-date Actual Offerings: ,
	Amount above/(below) Budget: ()

ELDERS ON DUTY

Early: Joel Kuhlmann **Late:** Albert Allen
 Timothy Taylor Mark Tackett

USHERS ON DUTY

Early: Alberto Salazar **Late:** John Wagner
 Jan Morley Scott George
 Clarence Kamba Greg Koch
 Robert Kline Richard Oechslin

ALTAR GUILD

Early: Martha Fredenberg **Late:** Betsy Goff
 Hilary Murray Laura Goff

ACOLYTES ON DUTY

Early: Yassin Sotelo **Late:** Tom Harvey