



**THE EPIPHANY OF  
OUR LORD**  
January 3, 2010

**Alleluia! We saw His star in the east and  
have come to worship Him. Alleluia!**

**WELCOME to  
Brooklyn Lutheran Church.**

VISITORS please sign the guest book.

**Come and worship with us again soon!**

Available from an usher:

- **Bibles** to follow along with the Scripture Readings.
- **large print hymnal** is available.
- **Quiet bags** for small children.

Please return to ushers.

**Prayer Before Worship:** Dear Savior, upon Your gracious invitation I come to Your altar. Let me find favor in Your eyes that I may approach Your table in true faith and receive the Sacrament to the salvation of my soul. Amen

**HYMNS: 577 81 79 82 vs. 1,5**

**ORDER OF SERVICE:**

Service of Word and Sacrament: Page 26

**PRAYER FOR THE DAY—Spoken by all together.**

Lord God, by the leading of a star You once made known to the nations Your one and only Son. Guide us, also, who know Him now by faith, to come at last to the perfect joy of Your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. 🎵 Amen

**SCRIPTURE LESSONS:**

**Psalm of the Day: Psalm 72 (Page 93)**

The Savior has come for all nations. All nations are blessed through Him. We are part of “all nations” and so we praise the Lord for including us in His plan of salvation.

**Second Lesson: Ephesians 3:2-12 (Page 1820)**

God’s grace is for all people, Jews and Gentiles. St. Paul proclaimed this mystery to the Gentiles. We also proclaim that Jesus came for all.

**And God said, “Let There Be Light!”**

**Technology fuels popularity of intelligent design**

A new Zogby poll shows that a majority of Americans support intelligent design.

According to the poll, only 33 percent stated that they believe in Darwinian evolution, while 52 percent stated they believe life was guided by intelligent design.

Steve Meyer is the director for science and culture at the Discovery Institute. In his new book *Signature in the Cell: DNA and the Evidence for Intelligent Design*, Meyers suggests that the digital revolution is fueling the popularity of intelligent design: “*In the book I’ve written, I discuss the evidence of the digital code that’s inside life — the four-character digital code in the DNA molecule. I call it the signature in the cell. Bill Gates says it’s like a software program, only more complex than any we’ve ever written.*” He notes, “*You have at the base of life not just...matter and energy, but you have information as well, and I think that’s very intuitively something that arises from an intelligent source, not from undirected processes.*”

He adds that as people become aware of the scientific discoveries that show the complexity of life and they compare that with the complexity of the technology around them, they tend to question the “textbook” account of the origin of life that basically states that life arose from an undirected process.—by chance evolution, aided by “natural selection” and “survival of the fittest.” Those are now antiquated, “primitive,” and un-intelligent rationale.

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Mankind has a “natural knowledge” of a god, a creator, and one to whom each is accountable. Most even have a sense that there is an afterlife. Still, people need the Scriptures to light their way from the darkness of fallen existence to light and life in Christ!

**Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12 (Page 1497)**

The Magi learn of the new-born King and come to worship Him as their Lord and Savior. God kept them from reporting back to Herod. They returned to their home by a different route.

**SERMON: Isaiah 60:1-6 (Page 1155)**

**Let Christ Be Your Light!**

- ✘ For A Puzzled Mind.
- ✘ For a Troubled Heart.
- ✘ For a Defeated Spirit.

Offering Hymn: CW#92 vs. 4 ,5 “**Brightest and Best**”

**WEEK AT A GLANCE**

**Meditation Theme for the week:**

**“Redemption Brings Results”**

Today’s Offering Counters: D. Gabrielson and G. Schimenz

Today **10:00 Worship**  
Ushers: M. Hilliard & S. Melchert

Mon. Brooklyn Bridge School resumes

Tues 7:00 Ladies Guild

Thurs 3:00 & 3:30 Prairie Lodge Services

Fri. 9:30 Bible Class

**Next Sun. - 6:30am Time of Grace, TV ch 9**

**8:45 Sunday School**

**8:55 Adult Sunday School**

**8:55 Adult Bible Class**

**10:00 Worship** Ushers: R. Stelter & A. Boyd

Decorations down after Service. We can use your help.

7:00 West Regents

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**Last Sunday** Worship Attendance: 70

Offering: \$2047.00

Needed for Budget Week - **\$2,565**

Offerings YTD: \$128,264; (Budget: \$133,394) short:-\$5,130

**Revelation** will be the topic for 9:30am Friday Bible Class, beginning January 15. Join us!

**Offering Envelopes for 2010** are available by the mailboxes this morning. If you make regular contributions by means of electronic transfer from an account, we still had adequate supply of sets to assign you one for all the special Services and contributions.

•**The Wise Penny Thrift Store** is need of volunteers to help move everything back in place this Tuesday.

Please contact the store at 763-682-4178 or Lanita Farstad at 612-310-5418 with your availability and numbers of volunteers.

**As of Sunday, December 27th, our treasurer was showing \$128,264 income.** We would have needed \$5,130 New Years Eve to meet our 2009 budget of \$133,394.

**2010 Budget of \$130,579** has been pre-approved by the Elders and Council. You will note that it is almost \$3,000 less than what we were hoping for last year. Besides a number of cuts – including to West and Synod, whom are already far lower than recent years – there will be a freeze on paid worker remuneration. A number of members have expressed that their financial situation has deteriorated, so that they will be reducing their offerings. Will others of us make up the difference?!

With the Vision Task Force's call to stewardship of our time and talents as a congregation, we have not conducted the normal fall stewardship program during which we ask our people to prayerfully consider their regular offerings for the year ahead. Your consideration to this before we even start the new year would be appreciated. There is the probability that we will have a stewardship emphasis early next year.

**Church Christmas Decorations** will be taken down following our Service next Sunday. Your help would be much appreciated!

If you purchased a **poinsettia** and would like to enjoy it at home, please take it today.

**There is a new flower calendar for 2010** on the bulletin board. If you would like to donate flowers for the altar on a Sunday that is special to you, please sign your name by the date. Thank you!

***Thank you!** To those who remembered us with cards and gifts in the Christmas season. We feel richly blessed to be part of Brooklyn Lutheran these many years already.*

*Pastor & Jean*

**Welcome to Denise O'Connell and Jackson George Jr.**, who were received into communicant membership at our New Year's Eve Service Thursday night. *May the new year and years to come bring mutual spiritual blessing to them and us!*

#### **Why Go To Church?**

A Church goer wrote a letter to the editor of a newspaper and complained that it made no sense to go to church every Sunday "I've gone for 30 years now," he wrote, "and in that time I have heard something like 1,500 sermons. But for the life of me, I can't remember a single one of them. So, I think I'm wasting my time and the pastors are wasting theirs by giving sermons at all."

This started a real controversy in the "Letters to the Editor" column, much to the delight of the editor. It went on for weeks until someone wrote this clincher:

"I've been married for 30 years now. In that time my wife has cooked some 32,000 meals. But for the life of me, I cannot recall the entire menu for a single one of those meals. But I do know this... they all nourished me and gave me the strength I needed to do my work. If my wife had not given me these meals, I would be physically dead today. Likewise, if I had not gone to church for nourishment, I would be spiritually dead today!"



#### *Brooklyn Evangelical Lutheran Church*

**Our Mission:**

*We exist to use the  
Gospel of Christ to  
win the lost and to  
nurture  
believers, all to the  
glory of God.*



**Office: 763 560-5953**

*Pastor*

*Rev. Curtis Holub,  
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Brooklyn Park, MN  
55429*

#### **Brooklyn Bridge School**

Teacher/Director  
Miss Katie Koch

Association member of  
West Lutheran  
High School,  
Plymouth, MN

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