

The Offertory

Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, And take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, And uphold me with Thy free spirit.

Hymn 235:1-4 - O Holy Spirit, Enter In

The Offering

Prayer + The Lord's Prayer + The Benediction

All: Amen, amen, amen!

Hymn 293 - O Holy Spirit, Grant Us Grace

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Announcements

- **Today** — A Church Council meeting is scheduled to follow this morning's worship service.
- **Next Sunday** — Grace-Sleepy Eye worship services begin at 9 a.m. Worship here at Faith begins at 10:45 a.m. Sunday School is scheduled to precede next Sunday's service; Confirmation class is scheduled to follow next Sunday's service.
- **Thank You:** *"My family and I would like to thank the members of Faith for your thoughtfulness and generosity, as this past Christmas season we received a monetary gift from the congregation. We pray God's blessings for you all in the name of our greatest Christmas gift, Jesus."* - Pastor Libby
- **Women of Faith Jan. Meeting:** The Women of Faith are scheduled to meet Thursday, January 26, at 2:15 p.m. at the home of Rose Iverson (714 11th Street S.)

Our Response of Faith — January 1, 2012

Attendance: 11

Unified Budget.....	\$145.75
Total.....	\$145.75

Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church

26 North State Street
New Ulm, Minnesota 56073



A member congregation of the
Church of the Lutheran Confession -- CLC

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"A Star shall come out of Jacob; A Scepter shall rise out of Israel ..."
- Numbers 24:17

JANUARY 8, 2012 – 1ST SUNDAY IN EPIPHANY

Pre-service Meditation: Ps. 2, pg. 123

Organist: Laura Heinze

Pastor: Opening Prayer

Hymn 131 - The Star Proclaims the King Is Here

Pastor: The Invocation

People: Amen.

Pastor: Beloved of God, the Lord Himself invites us to come into His presence for worship, freely acknowledging our sins, as we look to His throne of Grace for forgiveness in Christ. Let us, therefore, confess our sins together.

People: *Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we confess that we are sinful by nature, and have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. We have not loved you above all things. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. Have mercy on us, and for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, forgive us our sins.*

All Sing: *O Jesus Christ, the only Son,
Of God Your heav'nly Father, You did for all our sins atone,
And Your lost sheep You gather. O Lamb of God, to You on high,
From depths of woe we sinners cry, Have mercy on us, Jesus!*

Pastor: Hear the holy and comforting Word of our Lord: *“Come unto Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.” “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.”* Lift up your hearts! With the authority of our Lord Jesus Christ and by His command, I forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

All Sing: *All glory be to God on high, Who has our race befriended! To us no harm shall now come nigh, The strife at last is ended; The Father’s love, the Savior’s birth, Bring peace, good will, to all the earth; Oh, thank Him for His goodness!*

Pastor: The Lord be with you
People: *And with thy spirit.*

Pastor: Prayer for the Day
People: *Amen.*

1st Scripture Reading – Isaiah 60:1-6

Arise, shine; For your light has come! And the glory of the LORD is risen upon you. 2 For behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, And deep darkness the people; But the LORD will arise over you, And His glory will be seen upon you. 3 The Gentiles 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 nursed at your side. 5 Then you shall see and become radiant, And your heart shall swell with joy; Because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you, The wealth of the Gentiles shall come to you. 6 The multitude of camels shall cover your land, The dromedaries of Midian and Ephah; All those from Sheba shall come; They shall bring gold and incense, And they shall proclaim the praises of the LORD.

Pastor: Alleluia, alleluia! *God is light and in Him is no darkness at all. (1 John 1:5)* Alleluia!

Congregation: *Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

2nd Scripture Reading – Matthew 2:1-12

People: *Glory be to Thee, 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 have seen His star in the East and

have come to worship Him." 3 When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. 4 And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. 5 So they said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it is written by the prophet: 6 'But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, Are not the least among the rulers of Judah; For out of you shall come a Ruler Who will shepherd My people Israel.' " 7 Then Herod, when he had secretly called the wise men, determined from them what time the star appeared. 8 And he sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the young Child, and when you have found Him, bring back word to me, that I may come and worship Him also." 9 When they heard the king, they departed; and behold, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came and stood over where the young Child was. 10 When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceedingly great joy. 11 And when they had come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary His mother, and fell down and worshiped Him. And when they had opened their treasures, they presented gifts to Him: gold, frankincense, and myrrh. 12 Then, being divinely warned in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed for their own country another way.

Pastor: Here ends the New Testament reading.

People: *Praise be to Thee, O Christ!*

The Apostles’ Creed -- Hymnal, pg. 12

Hymn 127 - As with Gladness Men of Old

The Sermon – 1 Corinthians 2:7-11

But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, the hidden wisdom which God ordained before the ages for our glory, 8 which none of the rulers of this age knew; for had they known, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. 9 But as it is written: "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man The things which God has prepared for those who love Him." 10 But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God. 11 For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God.

“Knowing the True God”