

St. John's Lutheran Church

Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod
Arlington, Minnesota

Pastor Gary Ruckman

Church: 507-964-2400
www.stjohnsarlingtonmn.org

The Epiphany of Our Lord

January 10, 2021

Welcome to St. John's! We are glad that you are worshipping with us today. Let us rejoice in the Lord's Day.

Order of Service: Divine Service 4, page 203

Hymns: 396, 395, 629, 405, 397, 411

Sermon: "Light Shines in Darkness!" Matthew 4:15-17

Gradual:

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.

Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name;

Bring an offering, and come into his courts!

Serving the Lord with Gladness Today:

Organist: Barb Hardel

Altar Guild: Dawn Hardel, Avis Jacobus

Elder: Mark Hardel

Ushers/ **Warren Hardel** (head usher), John Hardel,

Greeters John Wentzlaff, Carl Belz, Ryan Marben

"Land of Zebulun and land of Naphtali, the way to the sea, along the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles – the people living in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned." From that time on Jesus began to preach, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near."

Matthew 4:15-17

Upcoming Events at St. John's:

Today:	9:00 am	Sunday School and Bible Class
	10:00 am	Worship with Holy Communion
Monday:	7:00 pm	Church Council Meeting
Wednesday:	7:00 pm	Ladies Aid
Thursday:	9:00 am	Pastor's Winkel
	5:30 pm	Deadline for Bulletin Information
Saturday	10:00 am	Confirmation
Sunday:	9:00 am	Sunday School and Bible Class
	10:00 am	Worship – Life Sunday

The church council will meet at 7:00 pm on Monday evening to prepare for the Annual Meeting which will be held on Monday, January 25th.

Last Week at St. John's:

Sunday, December 27: Additional Offering: \$900.00

Sunday, January 3: At Worship: 33 Offering: \$1,526.12

LCMS Foundation: \$646.12 Missions: \$5.00

A look at Hymn 395 "O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright":

Philipp Nicolai looked out his window at the parsonage in Unna, where he served as a pastor in Germany. The year was 1597. It was August, a hot month, and a terrible time for the plague to hit their little village. Just the week before, he had buried 170 members of his flock. The number seems staggering to think about even now. He looked out of the window, longing to give his people hope in the midst of their suffering. Perhaps this was the time he began to pen the words "O Morning Star, how fair and bright..."

Nicolai's hymn is based to a large degree on Psalm 45. He subtitled the hymn as follows: "A spiritual bridal song of the believing soul concerning Jesus Christ her heavenly bridegroom: founded on the 45th Psalm of the prophet David." Psalm 45 is called a "love song" in the Hebrew introduction to the hymn.

We know Nicolai best for this hymn and "Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying" (LSB 516). These two hymns inspired J.S. Bach to write cantatas based on them.

(taken from "The Word in Song" Hymn Studies)