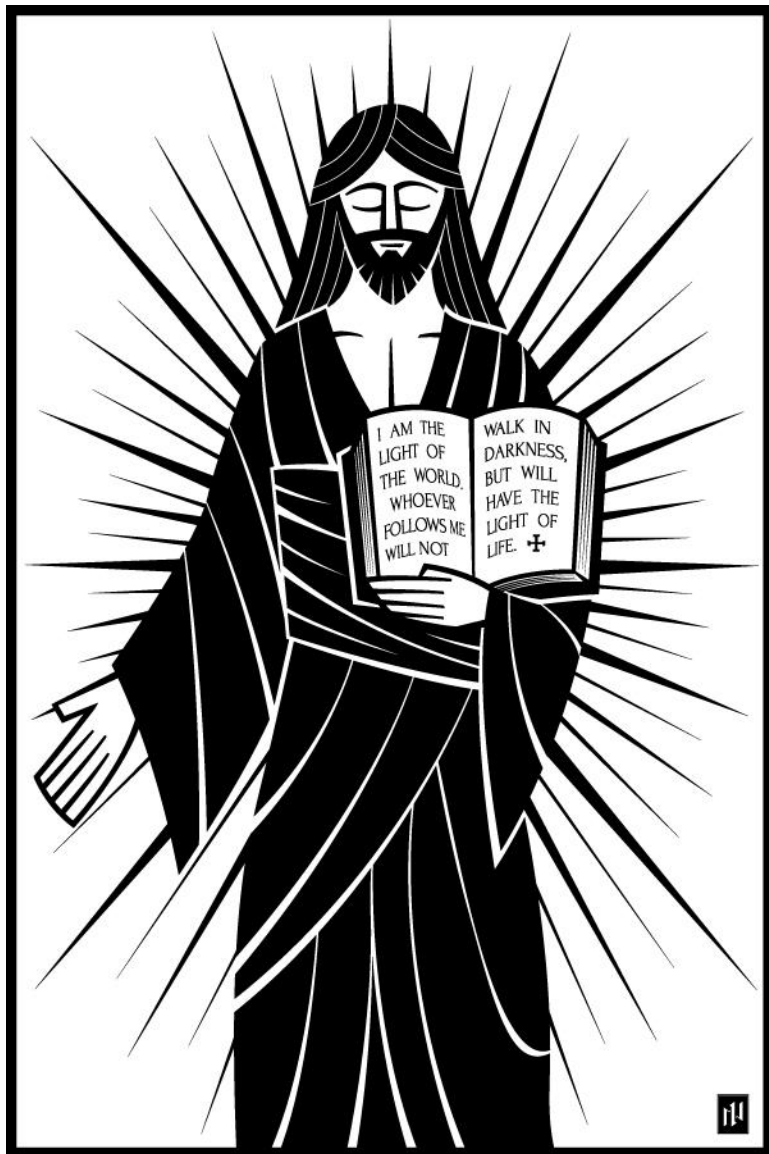


JESUS APPEARS

As the Light in the Darkness



SHINING MOUNTAINS LUTHERAN CHURCH
Bozeman, MT

Third Sunday after Epiphany – January 29th, 2023

JESUS APPEARS – As the Light in the Darkness

The prophet Isaiah vividly described humanity as “people walking in darkness.” We are completely enveloped by sin and suffering and death. Worse, when we honestly assess the content of our minds and hearts, we find darkness there too. However, the prophet also foretold that within this deep darkness, a light would shine. The light would be so brilliant that it would be impossible to miss. As Jesus began his teaching and preaching ministry, that prophecy was fulfilled.

Today Jesus continues to shine his light by preaching repentance and the good news of the nearing kingdom. He invites us to live a life that is illuminated by him. He calls us to walk in the light of love for God and for the brothers and sisters around us. Our Savior is the Light of the world, and so we shine his reflected light onto everyone around us.

INFORMATION

- ◆ **Restrooms** are located in the hall to the right as you leave the sanctuary.
- ◆ **The order of service** is printed out for you today. Note that sections for the minister to speak are marked with “**M**” while the sections for the congregation are marked with “**C**”.
- ◆ **An offering plate** can be found in the entryway. God’s love for us moves us to give, which is one way we support the preaching and teaching of God’s Word here and around the world. Visitors may join us, but please do not feel obligated to do so. If you’d like to give online via our secure site you can scan this code:



CHILDREN IN CHURCH

Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them.” We love children in church. They need to grow in the message of God’s love as much as we do. If, however, your child needs a chance to be comforted or calmed down, we have a “**parents’ room**” equipped with a window and a live stream of the worship service located immediately across from the kitchen.



Shining Mountains Lutheran Church
1710 Vaquero Parkway + Bozeman MT
Pastor Jeffrey Sonntag
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SERVICE OF THE WORD

Lutherans believe that the gospel is not only the good news that Jesus has saves sinners, but also a power God uses to create and strengthen faith in Jesus.

HYMN #732

We are Singing

Refrain

We are
sing - ing, for the Lord is our light, we are
sing - ing, for the Lord is our light. We are
sing - ing, for the Lord is our light, we are
sing - ing, for the Lord is our light. We are
sing - ing, Oh, we are
sing - ing, for the Lord is our light. We are
sing - ing, Oh, we are
sing - ing, for the Lord is our light. (Last time)



1 The Lord is the strength of our lives; Of
2 One thing have we asked of the Lord, Yes,
3 When bur - dens are heav - y to bear, Our
4 We walk in the strength of the Lord; God's



whom shall we be a - fraid? Though
this is the thing we seek: To
shel - ter is God a - lone. Our
love is ev - er sure. We



foes may be near to de - stroy; The
dwell in the house of the Lord, To
feet are lift - ed high, Yes
shout that the world may hear; We

To Refrain



Lord will be our light.
live with God for - ev - er. We are
high up - on a rock.
sing a joy - ful song.

INVOCATION

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: Amen.

HYMN #343

Christ is the World's Light



1 Christ is the world's light, Christ and none oth - er;
 2 Christ is the world's peace, Christ and none oth - er;
 3 Christ is the world's life, Christ and none oth - er;
 4 Give God the glo - ry, God and none oth - er;



Born in our dark - ness, he be - came our broth - er.
 No one can serve him and de - spise an - oth - er.
 Sold once for sil - ver, mur - dered here, our broth - er.
 Give God the glo - ry, Spir - it, Son, and Fa - ther;



If we have seen him, we have seen the
 Who else u - nites us, one with God the
 He who re - deemed us reigns with God the
 Give God the glo - ry, God with us, my



Fa - ther: Glo - ry to God on high!
 Fa - ther? Glo - ry to God on high!
 Fa - ther: Glo - ry to God on high!
 broth - er: Glo - ry to God on high!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Almighty God, you sent your Son to proclaim your kingdom and teach with authority. Anoint us with the power of your Spirit that we too may bring good news to the afflicted, bind up the brokenhearted, and proclaim liberty to the captive; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

¹⁹When someone tells you to consult mediums and spiritists, who whisper and mutter, should not a people inquire of their God? Why consult the dead on behalf of the living? ²⁰Consult God's instruction and the testimony of warning. If anyone does not speak according to this word, they have no light of dawn. ²¹Distressed and hungry, they will roam through the land; when they are famished, they will become enraged and, looking upward, will curse their king and their God. ²²Then they will look toward the earth and see only distress and darkness and fearful gloom, and they will be thrust into utter darkness. ¹Nevertheless, there will be no more gloom for those who were in distress. In the past he humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the future he will honor Galilee of the nations, by the Way of the Sea, beyond the Jordan—²The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned. ³You have enlarged the nation and increased their joy; they rejoice before you as people rejoice at the harvest, as warriors rejoice when dividing the plunder. ⁴For as in the day of Midian's defeat, you have shattered the yoke that burdens them, the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor.

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 27

Refrain

The Lord is my light and my sal - va - tion — of whom shall I



be a - fraid, of whom shall I be a - fraid?

Psalm tone

Hear my voice when I call, O LORD,*
be merciful to me and answer me.

Do not hide your face from me,*
do not turn your servant away in anger;
you have been my helper.

Do not reject me or forsake me,*
O God my Savior.

Refrain

Though my father and mother forsake me,*
the LORD will receive me.

I am still confident of this:*
I will see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living.

Wait for the LORD,*
be strong and take heart and wait for the LORD.

**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.**

Refrain

SECOND READING

1 John 2:3-11

³We know that we have come to know him if we keep his commands. ⁴Whoever says, "I know him," but does not do what he commands is a liar, and the truth is not in that person. ⁵But if anyone obeys his word, love for God is truly made complete in them. This is how we know we are in him: ⁶Whoever claims to live in him must live as Jesus did. ⁷Dear friends, I am not writing you a new command but an old one, which you have had since the beginning. This old command is the message you have heard. ⁸Yet I am writing you a new command; its truth is seen in him and in you, because the darkness is passing and the true light is already shining. ⁹Anyone who claims to be in the light but hates a brother or sister is still in the darkness. ¹⁰Anyone who loves their brother and sister lives in the light, and there is nothing in them to make them stumble. ¹¹But anyone who hates a brother or sister is in the darkness and walks around in the darkness. They do not know where they are going, because the darkness has blinded them.

VERSE OF THE DAY

C: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**These words are written that we may believe
That Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

GOSPEL

Matthew 4:12-23

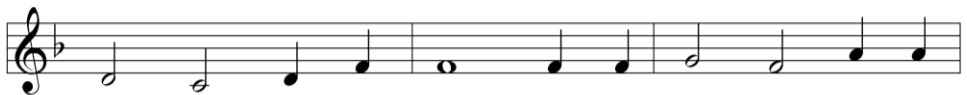
¹²When Jesus heard that John had been put in prison, he withdrew to Galilee. ¹³Leaving Nazareth, he went and lived in Capernaum, which was by the lake in the area of Zebulun and Naphtali – ¹⁴to fulfill what was said through the prophet Isaiah: ¹⁵“Land of Zebulun and land of Naphtali, the Way of the Sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles – ¹⁶the people living in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned.” ¹⁷From that time on Jesus began to preach, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” ¹⁸As Jesus was walking beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon called Peter and his brother Andrew. They were casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹“Come, follow me,” Jesus said, “and I will send you out to fish for people.” ²⁰At once they left their nets and followed him. ²¹Going on from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John. They were in a boat with their father Zebedee, preparing their nets. Jesus called them, ²²and immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him. ²³Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and sickness among the people.

HYMN #353 (vv.1-2,3)

Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness



1 Praise the one who breaks the dark - ness With a
2 Praise the one who blessed the chil - dren With a
3 Let us praise the Word in - car - nate, Christ, who



lib - er - a - ting light; Praise the one who frees the
strong, yet gen - tle, word; Praise the one who drove out
suf - fered in our place; Je - sus died and rose vic -



pris - 'ners, Turn - ing blind - ness in - to sight.
 de - mons With the pierc - ing, two - edged sword.
 to - rious That we may know God by grace.

Praise the one who preached the gos - pel, Heal - ing
 Praise the one who brings cool wa - ter To the
 Let us sing for joy and glad - ness, See - ing

ev - 'ry dread dis - ease, Calm - ing storms and feed - ing
 des - ert's burn - ing sand; From this well comes liv - ing
 what our God has done; Let us praise the true Re -

thou - sands With the Fa - ther's word of peace.
 wa - ter, Quench - ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.
 deem - er, Praise the one who makes us one.

SERMON

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

ADULT CONFIRMATION

8:30 Service

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

LORD’S PRAYER

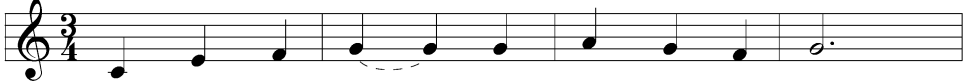
C: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

BLESSING

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

C: Amen.

HYMN #771 *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light*



1 I want to walk as a child of the light;
2 I want to see the bright - ness of God;
3 I'm look - ing for the com - ing of Christ;



I want to fol - low Je - sus.
I want to look at Je - sus.
I want to be with Je - sus.

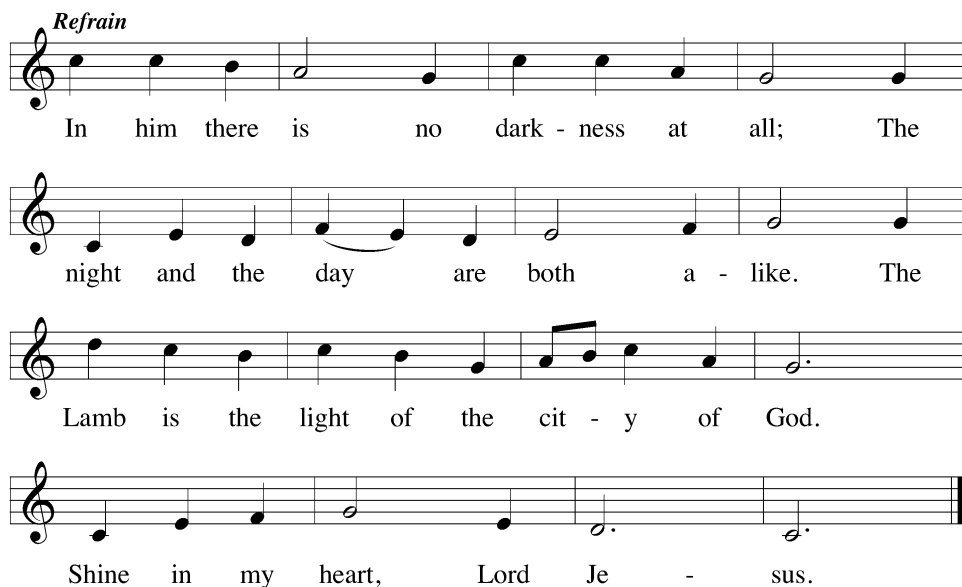


God set the stars to give light to the world;
Clear Sun of Right - eous - ness, shine on my path
When we have run with pa - tience the race,



The star of my life is Je - sus.
And show me the way to the Fa - ther.
We shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain



In him there is no dark - ness at all; The
 night and the day are both a - like. The
 Lamb is the light of the cit - y of God.
 Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cleaners This Week (Jan. 29 – Feb. 4) – *McGough, Krupa, Williams, Schunke*

Cleaners Next Week (Feb. 5th – 11th) – *Macek, Campos, Owens*

This Week at Shining Mountains:

Today	8:30 am	Divine Worship
	9:40 am	Sunday School + Adult Bible Class
	10:30 am	Divine Worship
	11:45 am	Adult Choir Practice
Tuesday, Jan. 31 st	9:00 am	Little Lambs
Thursday, Feb. 2 nd	9:00 am	Little Lambs
Friday, Feb. 3 rd	5:45 pm	Meal + Pinewood Derby Cars
Sunday, Feb. 5 th	8:30 am	Divine Worship with Communion
	9:40 am	Mission Festival Presentation
	10:30 am	Divine Worship with Communion
	11:45 am	Potluck & Pinewood Derby Races

Council Meeting – Feb. 8th

In order to re-work the 2023 budget, we are moving up our February Council meeting to Wednesday, February 8th at 7 PM.

Adult Confirmation

At the 8:30 service this morning, we welcome Mary Worthey into membership of Shining Mountains. We rejoice in the faith that God has worked in her heart and look forward to walking and working together as brothers and sisters in Christ. Welcome Mary!

Family Fun Night – Feb. 3

Our February edition of the Family Fun Night is scheduled for Friday, February 3rd. We will be working on our Pinewood Derby cars to be raced after church on Sunday, February 5th. Sign-up today, so we know how many “car kits” we will need.

Mission Festival & Potluck – Feb. 5

WELS Hispanic Ministry Counselor, Pastor Flunker, will be here on Sunday, February 5th for a Mission Festival. He will preach at both services, provide a short presentation between, and be around afterwards to answer questions. We will also have a potluck at 11:45 that day (along with Pinewood Derby races.)

Voter’s Meeting Recap

At the meeting last Sunday, the Voter’s elected three new Council Members (Michael Joecks, Nick Krupa & Jonny Thede) as well as one new Elder (Norman Gullixson). We thank Jim Lauersdorf, Roy Beall, James McGough and Dan Gustafson for their service to the Lord and this church. Due to the fact that we ended 2022 over \$19,000 short, the Voter’s asked the Council to re-work the 2023 budget & present it at a special voter’s meeting.

Basic Bible Christianity Class – starting February 7th

We are hoping to go back to having larger groups for our Basic Bible Christianity Class. So we will be starting a new session on Tuesday, February 7th at 6:30 PM. Whether you are a long-time member or a first time visitor or somewhere in-between, we’d love to have you join us. Got questions? This class is for you!