

## **February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2026, ANNOUNCEMENTS for the East Kootenay Lutheran Parish**

EKLP serves the communities of Cranbrook, at Mt. Zion Lutheran;  
Elkford, at Immanuel Lutheran; Fernie; and Kimberley.

**We are CARED FOR AND CARING IN JESUS' NAME.**

*You can contact our Parish office at 250-426-7564*

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**EKLP(MZ)Office Hours: Monday – Friday: 9:00am – 1:00pm**

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**CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE at [www.eklutheran.ca](http://www.eklutheran.ca)**

Also find us on: Facebook at "East Kootenay Lutherans"

YouTube at "East Kootenay Lutheran Parish-AFLC"

### **Services**



**Praise God!**

**We are holding Sunday services at Mt Zion (Cranbrook) at 10:00 am; and at Immanuel (Elkford) at 3:00 pm.**

**Please Note:** *Our face-to-face worship services at Trinity (Fernie) are on hold until further notice. Please join with either our Cranbrook or our Elkford congregations. Please visit our website [www.eklutheran.ca](http://www.eklutheran.ca) for updates on all our locations & inspirational resources.*

## **PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS**



**EKLP AGM:** We will be hosting our AGM this year on Sat. March 14<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am at Mt Zion in Cranbrook.

All members of the parish are invited to attend. Please consider how you might be able to assist our parish council with your talents.

### **MT. ZION ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Pancake Supper at 6:00 pm followed by Ash Wednesday Service at 7:00 pm on February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2026.
  - Mt. Zion AGM After Service February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2026.
  - Men's Breakfast is being held on February 28<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 am
  - Prayer Meeting: Every Thursday at 1:00 pm.
  - Women's Bible Study: Every Friday at 1:00 pm.
  - In March Mt. Zion will be holding two Communion Service: March 8<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>, 2026.
  - Hot Dog Sunday will be Held on March 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Food Bank Donations would be appreciated as well.

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### **The First Epiphany**

The word "epiphany" means "to manifest" or "to have a significant realization." After Jesus was born in Bethlehem Magi from the East came to worship Him. Their experience teaches us many important things about God and about ourselves.

#### **Answers to Epiphany**

1. We don't know how many there were. Because of the three gifts, many assume there were three. The Magi are mentioned in Daniel 2.12. They were probably from Persia or Arabia.

2-3. Julius Caesar made Herod, an Arabian of noble descent, the King of Judea in B.C. 47. Herod was known for his extravagant building programs and also for murdering anyone, even family members, who threatened his rule. It is no surprise that Herod sent his soldiers to Bethlehem to murder all the boys two years old and younger in his bloody attempt to preserve his authority.

4. Some think the Star of Bethlehem was a unique conjoining of certain celestial bodies. Others think that it was simply a miraculous star created by God for the purpose of leading the Magi to Jerusalem. Most likely the star wasn't unusually bright, because no one else seems to have noticed it. However, astronomers like the Magi apparently detected its movement.

5. Matthew tells us that they were living in a "house" by the time the Magi arrived.

6. The gifts were the "hard currency" of the times. They were very valuable and portable. The gifts would have been very helpful to the Holy Family for their upcoming escape to Egypt. The song, "We Three Kings" suggests that the gifts pointed to Jesus as King, God, and Sacrifice.

7. The most important gift that we bring to God is our faith. But from that faith grows love for others. Like the Magi, we bring our gifts of "hard currency" as well as our time and talents in the service of God's mission of the Gospel and mercy to the world.

8. Sometimes people think they need a miracle like a star or a special voice from the Lord in order to believe. Miracles are real, but they are rare. That's why we call them miracles. Most people who lived during the Bible times never saw a miracle. The generation of Moses saw many miracles. There were miracles in the time of Elijah and Elisha. The disciples of Jesus saw many miracles. But most of the people who lived before, between and after those amazing times never saw a miracle. We, however, do have an amazing miracle that we often take for granted. This is a miracle that neither Moses, nor the Magi, nor even the disciples had - This is the miracle of the New Testament. The Holy Spirit has given this to us. Peter said that this is something even "angels desire to look into" (1 Peter 1.12). The New Testament

and the Old Testament bring you the "epiphany" you need to realize who Jesus is, the Son of God and your savior.

# SUNDAY

## *Services*

**Experience a heartwarming Sunday Service filled with worship, reflection, and community. Let your spirit be refreshed and your heart be renewed. Everyone is welcome!**

**February 8 – Mt Zion 10:00 am Communion Service**

**February 8– IMM 3:00 pm Communion Service**

**February 15 – Mt Zion 10:00 am Service of Praise**

**February 15 – IMM No Service**

**February 22 – Mt Zion 10:00 am Service of Praise**

**February 22 – IMM 3:00 pm Service of Praise**

### **Scripture Readings – Sundays**

**February 8 "Fifth Sunday after Epiphany"**

**Isaiah 58:5-10, 1 Corinthians 2:1-5**

**February 15 "Sixth Sunday after Epiphany"**

**Deuteronomy 30:15-20, 1 Corinthians 2:6-13**

**February 22 "First Sunday in Lent"**

**Genesis 2:7-9, 15-17; 3:1-7, Romans 5:12(13-16) 17-19**