



January 2021

# GOODNEWS LETTER

WELS Europe

Light! God created light on the very first day. He created special lights to rule the days and nights on the fourth day. And many, many years later he caused a very special light to guide the wisemen to the baby Jesus. Christians celebrate the visit of the wisemen during the season of Epiphany. It is the time we remember that Jesus came not only for the Jews, but also for the Gentiles.

The Magi from the east came to Judea because they had studied the Scriptures. They knew from Numbers 24 that "A star will come out of Jacob." And they knew from the prophet Micah where they would be able to find the Savior. "But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, ... out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from old, from ancient times."

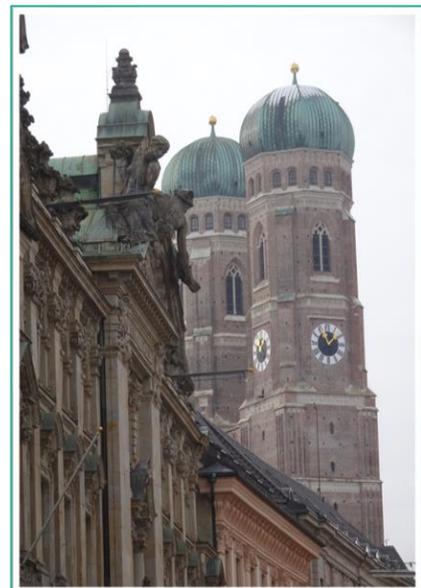
The star became their guide to the place where Jesus was. The star provided light throughout their journey. The star revealed the Savior of the world to them, the Savior they worshiped and honored with their gifts. They were overjoyed!

The star that guided the wisemen is not the same star that guides us. Our star is God's holy Word. It guides us to find Jesus. It provides light along our earthly path. It shows us how to worship and honor Jesus with our hearts and with our treasures. God's Word reveals the reason Jesus came into this world. He himself declared, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life" (John 8:12). We are overjoyed!

January 6<sup>th</sup> marks only the beginning of the Epiphany season. During the following weeks, we witness the ministry and miracles of our Lord. The season ends with the celebration of Jesus' transfiguration, when "His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light" (Matthew 17:2). May this focus on our Savior and the light that he brings to the entire world guide us as we journey into our New Year!

*I want to walk as a child of the light;  
I want to follow Jesus.  
God set the stars to give light to the world;  
The star of my life is Jesus.  
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus!*

(Christian Worship Supplement 771)



## January Worship

### January 3

London Zoom 10:00 GMT

### January 10

Wicker 11:00

Ramstein 16:00

### January 14

Munich 18:30

### January 16

Vilseck 11:00

### January 17

Switzerland 11:00

### January 24

Wicker 11:00

Ramstein 16:00

Please contact Pastor Hartwig for specific locations of and directions to our worship services.

## Help Us Reach Many More

WELS Military Services uses referrals to maintain contact and offer spiritual resources to the men and women who are serving their country. It's estimated that more than 1,500 WELS members are in the U.S. military, at U.S. installations and overseas, though only about 20 percent of them are referred for ministry at this crucial time in life.

You can find more information on this at <https://wels.net/serve-you/christian-life/special-ministries/online-referral/>.

If you know of any WELS people in Europe please let Pastor Hartwig know. They don't need to be in the military. Students, people working jobs here, retirees, all are welcome.



## Save the Date

At this time the Easter retreat in Germany is still planned for April 1-4. Watch for a special newsletter later this month with details.

### WELS European Chaplaincy

Pastor John Hartwig

Im Holzweg 4a

55288 Spiesheim

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## Our Offerings

### December

We received €1,912.02 in direct deposit gifts from members and €50.00, CHF120.00, and US\$40.00 in worship service offerings.

### Direct Deposit Information

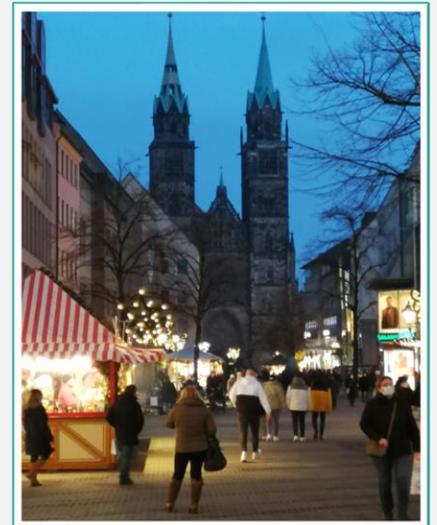
Please consider direct deposit of your offerings to WELS Europe. And note the new banking details.

Designate: John Paul Hartwig

IBAN:

DE21 5519 0000 0106 6260 13

BIC MVBMD5



## February Worship

7/2/2021: London via Zoom

14/2/2021: Wicker & Ramstein

18/2/2021: Munich

20/2/2021: Vilseck

21/2/2021: Switzerland

28/2/2021: Wicker & Ramstein