

# EPIPHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Loving Jesus by Serving Others*

**15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost, September 1, 2024**

**Praise Worship**

Far Hills Campus 9:00 AM, Austin Campus 10:30 AM

## Gather

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*(Please stand as you are able)*

**GATHERING SONG:** *THEY'LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS BY OUR LOVE*

We are one in the Spirit  
We are one in the Lord  
We are one in the Spirit  
We are one in the Lord  
And we pray that all unity  
May one day be restored

**Chorus:** And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love  
Yes they'll know we are Christians by our love

We will walk with each other  
We will walk hand in hand  
We will walk with each other  
We will walk hand in hand  
And together we'll spread the news  
That God is in our land **(Chorus)**

All praise to the Father  
From whom all things come  
And all praise to Christ Jesus  
God's only Son  
And all praise to the Spirit  
Who makes us one **(Chorus)**

Yes they'll know we are Christians by our love

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*(Please be seated)*

## **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*(Please stand as you are able)*

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

**P:** Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

**C:** **Amen.**

**P:** Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.

*(silence for reflection)*

P: Gracious God,

**C: have mercy on us.**

**We confess that we have honored you with our lips,  
but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues.**

**The cravings at war within us cause conflicts and disputes.**

**In our desire to be first, we make distinctions among ourselves.**

**We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last.**

**In your great mercy, forgive us our sins.**

**Draw near to us with grace in time of need,**

**and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

P: God promises to forgive our iniquity and to remember our sin no more.

By grace you have been saved.

In the name of † Jesus Christ, the source of eternal healing, your sins are forgiven.

**C: Amen.**

### **SHARING THE PEACE**

P: We have been forgiven and reconciled to God through Christ our Savior.

Therefore, let us be reconciled to each other and share the peace of the Lord.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

*(Greet your neighbor with a sign of peace)*

### **SONG OF PRAISE: LORD, I NEED YOU**

Lord I come, I confess

Bowing here, I find my rest

Without you, I fall apart

You're the one that guides my heart

**Chorus:** Lord I need you, oh I need you

Every hour I need you

My one defense, my righteousness

Oh God how I need you

Where sin runs deep, your grace is more

Where grace is found is where you are

And where you are Lord, I am free

Holiness is Christ in me

Yes where you are Lord, I am free

Holiness is Christ in me **(Chorus)**

**Bridge:** So teach my song to rise to you

When temptation comes my way

And when I cannot stand, I'll fall on you

Jesus you're my hope and stay

And when I cannot stand, I'll fall on you

Jesus you're my hope and stay **(Chorus 2X)**

My one defense, my righteousness

Oh God how I need you

## **APOSTOLIC GREETING**

**P:** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**W o r d**

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*(Please be seated)*

## **WELCOMING THE CHILDREN**

### **FIRST READING: DEUTERONOMY 4:1-2,6-9**

<sup>1</sup>So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the Lord, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. <sup>2</sup>You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God with which I am charging you.

<sup>6</sup>You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, “Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!” <sup>7</sup>For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the Lord our God is whenever we call to him? <sup>8</sup>And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today?

<sup>9</sup>But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children’s children.

**A:** The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### **SECOND READING: JAMES 1:17-27**

<sup>17</sup>Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. <sup>18</sup>In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

<sup>19</sup>You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; <sup>20</sup>for your anger does not produce God’s righteousness. <sup>21</sup>Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

<sup>22</sup>But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. <sup>23</sup>For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; <sup>24</sup>for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. <sup>25</sup>But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

<sup>26</sup>If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. <sup>27</sup>Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

**A:** The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*(Please stand as you are able)*

P: The holy gospel according to St. Mark.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

**GOSPEL READING: MARK 7:1-8,14-15,21-23**

<sup>1</sup>Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around [Jesus],  
<sup>2</sup>they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. <sup>3</sup>(For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; <sup>4</sup>and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) <sup>5</sup>So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?" <sup>6</sup>He said to them, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

'This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me;

<sup>7</sup>in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines.'

<sup>8</sup>You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition."

<sup>14</sup>Then he called the crowd again and said to them, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand: <sup>15</sup>there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.

<sup>21</sup>"For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, <sup>22</sup>adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. <sup>23</sup>All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."

P: The gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

*(Please be seated)*

**SERMON**

*(Please stand as you are able)*

**APOSTLES' CREED**

A: Together with the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

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

**SONG OF THE DAY: ACT JUSTLY, LOVE MERCY, WALK HUMBLY**

It all comes down to this  
What you require of me  
Love my neighbor as myself  
And you above all things

**Chorus:** Act justly love mercy walk humbly with you God  
In all things in all ways walk humbly with you God

It all comes down to this  
To be your hands and feet  
Good news to all the world  
The truth will set us free **(Chorus)**

**Bridge:** It's beauty for ashes, it's mourning to dancing  
It's closer and closer, the Kingdom of heaven *(Repeat)*

Years from now we'll see  
The fruit our hands have sown  
Faith just like a seed  
The only way it grows **(Chorus)**

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*(Please be seated)*

**PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH** *(after each petition...)*

A: Lord, in your mercy,  
C: **hear our prayer.**

**M e a l**

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**OFFERING: 10,000 REASONS**

**Chorus:** Bless the Lord, oh my soul, oh my soul  
Worship his holy name  
Sing like never before, oh my soul  
I worship your holy name

The sun comes up it's a new day dawning  
It's time to sing your song again  
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me  
Let me be singing when the evening comes **(Chorus)**

You're rich in love and you're slow to anger  
Your name is great and your heart is kind  
For all your goodness I will keep on singing  
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find **(Chorus)**

And on that day when my strength is failing  
The end draws near and my time has come  
Still my soul will sing your praise unending  
Ten thousand years and then forevermore **(Chorus)**

Yes I will worship your holy name  
Lord I'll worship your holy name

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*(Please stand as you are able)*

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

### **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

**P:** The Lord be with you.

**C:** **And also with you.**

**P:** Lift up your hearts.

**C:** **We lift them to the Lord.**

**P:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C:** **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**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.**

*(Please be seated)*

## **DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION**

*If you are unable to attend worship due to health concerns, please contact the church office to be included on the homebound list.*

*Christ welcomes you to the meal of grace! All who desire to receive Christ's nourishment and grace may join us at the Lord's Table. (9:00) Please come to the table by the diagonal aisle and return to your seat by the center or a front aisle. There is a station at the rear of the pews for those seated in the grass. Communion is by intinction; dip the wafer in the red wine or white grape juice. Gluten free wafers are available at the front of the center aisle. (10:30) Please come to the table by the center aisle and return to your seat by the front or side aisle. Communion is by intinction; dip the bread in the red wine or white grape juice. Gluten free wafers are available upon request.*

## COMMUNION SONG: OCEANS

You call me out upon the waters  
The great unknown where feet may fail  
And there I find you in the mystery  
In oceans deep my faith will stand

**Chorus:** And I will call upon your name  
And keep my eyes above the waves  
When oceans rise my soul will rest in your embrace  
For I am yours and you are mine

Your grace abounds in deepest waters  
Your sovereign hand will be my guide  
Where feet may fail and fear surrounds me  
You've never failed and you won't start now (**Chorus**)

**Bridge:** Spirit lead me where my trust is without borders  
Let me walk upon the waters wherever you would call me  
Take me deeper than my feet could ever wander  
And my faith will be made stronger in the presence of my Savior (*Sing 4X*)

**Chorus2:** I will call upon your name  
Keep my eyes above the waves  
My soul will rest in your embrace  
I am yours and you are mine

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*(Please stand as you are able)*

## POST-COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER

Send

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## BENEDICTION

### CLOSING SONG: EVERLASTING GOD

Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord  
We will wait upon the Lord, we will wait upon the Lord (*Repeat*)

**Pre-Chorus:** Our God you reign forever  
Our hope our Strong Deliverer

**Chorus:** You are the everlasting God  
The everlasting God  
You do not faint  
You won't grow weary  
You're the defender of the weak  
You comfort those in need  
You lift us up on wings like eagles

**(Repeat all)**  
**(Pre-Chorus, Chorus 2X)**

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## SENDING

L: Go in peace. Follow Jesus.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Scripture readings for the 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost, September 8, 2024:  
Isaiah 35:4-7, Psalm 146, James 2:1-17, Mark 7:24-37

### Serving in Worship

#### Far Hills Campus 9:00 AM

Presiding Minister: Pastor Julie Reuning-Scherer  
Assisting Minister: Becky Zink  
Praise Team: Carlin Heimann, Dick Lane, Mary Miller,  
Bill Norman, Thom Reitz  
Sound: Ed Wasser  
Ushers: Kevin Carlson, Angi Moots  
Communion Servers: Michelle Carlson, William Deel, Laurie Evans,  
Lori & Nolan Watamaniuk

#### Austin Campus 10:30 AM

Presiding Minister: Pastor Bob Bresemann  
Assisting Minister: Natalie Heimann  
Praise Team: Carlin Heimann, Dick Lane, Mary Miller,  
Bill Norman, Thom Reitz  
A/V: Ed Wasser, Sienna Pearson  
Usher: Owen Smith  
Communion Servers: Diana & Reid Pearson, Annie & Stephanie Wierwille  
Acolyte: Reid Pearson