# **EPIPHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Loving Jesus by Serving Others 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost, September 8, 2024 Traditional Worship Austin Campus 9:00 AM, Far Hills Campus 10:30 AM

<u>Gather</u>

# WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINISTRY MOMENT: MUSIC

John Benjamin, Director of Traditional Worship

## PRELUDE

(Please kneel or 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 + lesus Christ, the source of eternal healing, your sins are forgiven.
- C: Amen.

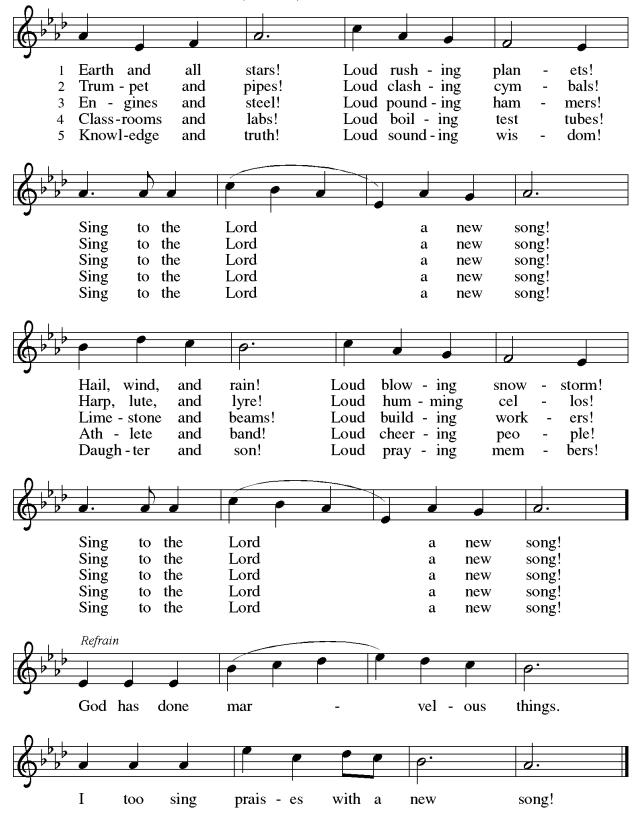
# SHARING THE PEACE

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)

**OPENING HYMN:** EARTH AND ALL STARS! (vv. 1,4,5)



Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926 Music: EARTH AND ALL STARS, David N. Johnson, 1922–1987 Text and music © 1968 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

# **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**

#### Word

(Please be seated)

# WELCOMING THE CHILDREN

#### FIRST READING: ISAIAH 35:4-7

<sup>4</sup>Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you."
<sup>5</sup>Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; <sup>6</sup>then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert;

<sup>7</sup> the burning sand shall become a pool,

- and the thirsty ground springs of water.
- A: The word of the Lord.
- C: Thanks be to God.

#### **RESPONSIVE READING:** FROM PSALM 146

- A: Hallelujah! Praise the Lord, O my soul!
- C: I will praise the Lord as long as I live;
- A: I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.
- C: Happy are they whose hope is in the Lord their God.
- A: The Lord sets the captive free.
- C: The Lord opens the eyes of the blind;
- A: the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;
- C: the Lord loves the righteous.
- A: The Lord cares for the stranger;
- C: the Lord sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.
- A: The Lord shall reign forever,
- C: your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!

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#### SECOND READING: JAMES 2:1-17

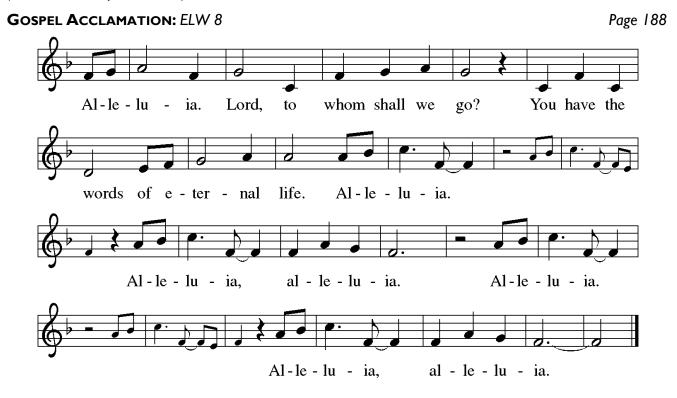
<sup>1</sup>My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? <sup>2</sup>For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, <sup>3</sup>and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit at my feet," <sup>4</sup>have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? <sup>5</sup>Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? <sup>6</sup>But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? <sup>7</sup>Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

<sup>8</sup>You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." <sup>9</sup>But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. <sup>10</sup>For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. <sup>11</sup>For the one who said, "You shall not commit adultery," also said, "You shall not murder." Now if you do not commit adultery but if you murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. <sup>12</sup>So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty. <sup>13</sup>For judgment will be without mercy to anyone who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment.

<sup>14</sup>What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? <sup>15</sup>If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, <sup>16</sup>and one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill," and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? <sup>17</sup>So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

- 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 7:24-37

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<sup>24</sup>[Jesus] set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice,<sup>25</sup>but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. <sup>26</sup>Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophoenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. <sup>27</sup>He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." <sup>28</sup>But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." <sup>29</sup>Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter." <sup>30</sup>So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

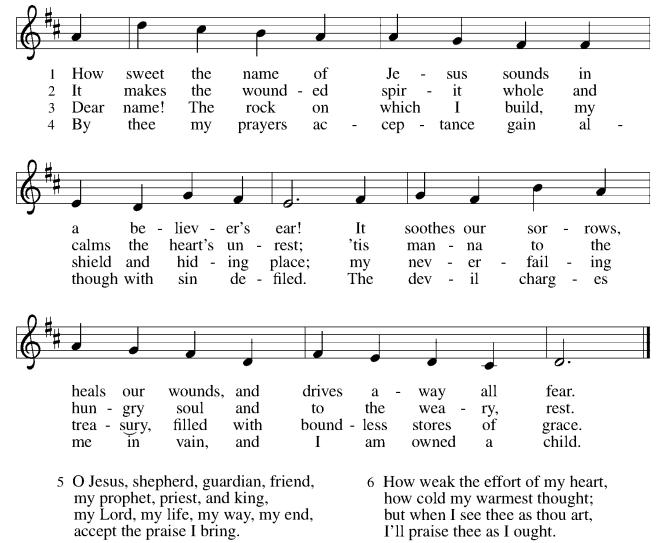
<sup>31</sup>Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. <sup>32</sup>They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. <sup>33</sup>He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. <sup>34</sup>Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." <sup>35</sup>And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. <sup>36</sup>Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. <sup>37</sup>They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

- P: The gospel of the Lord.
- C: Praise to you, O Christ.

(Please be seated)

SERMON

#### HYMN OF THE DAY: HOW SWEET THE NAME OF JESUS (vv. 1,2,3,5)



7 Till then I would thy love proclaim with every fleeting breath; and may the music of thy name refresh my soul in death!

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt. Music: ST. PETER, Alexander R. Reinagle, 1799–1877 #620

# **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.

(Please kneel or be seated)

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

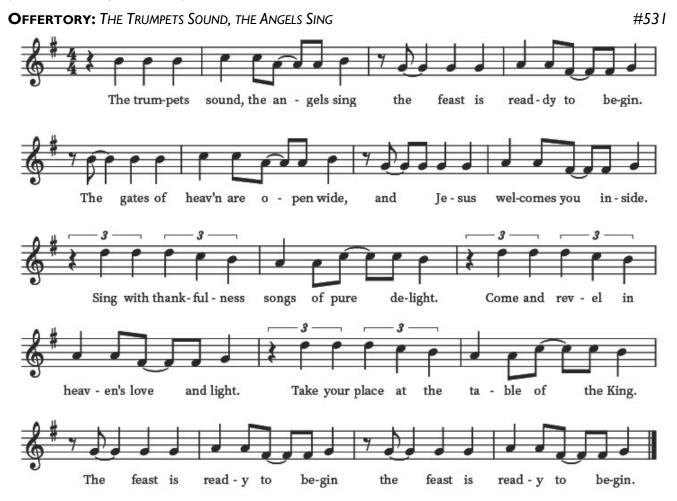
- A: Lord, in your mercy,
- C: hear our prayer.

# Meal

(Please be seated)

**OFFERING:** FESTIVAL JUBILATE (Roger Emerson)

Jubilate Deo! (Be joyful in the Lord) Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye who music love. Come into his presence now and sing your songs of joy! Glorify and magnify the Lord, the King of Kings. Play the music to the glory of his mighty name! **Epiphany Chorale** 

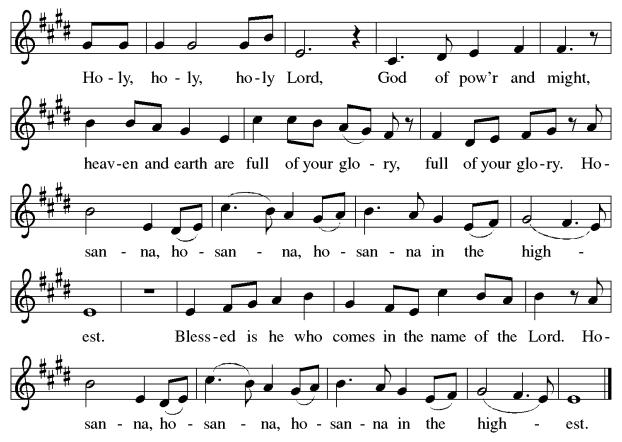


Text and music Graham Kendrick, b. 1950 © 1989 Make Way Music, admin. by Music Services in the Western Hemisphere. All rights reserved. ASCAP.

# **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.
- P: It is indeed right...join their unending hymn:



#### THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

#### 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 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. (10:30) Please come to the table by the diagonal aisle and return to your seat by the center or a front aisle. 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.

**COMMUNION HYMN:** HEALER OF OUR EVERY ILL



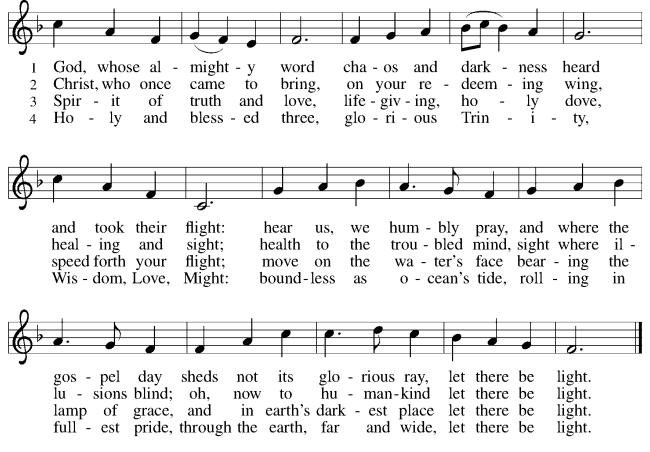
Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950 Music: HEALER OF OUR EVERY ILL, Marty Haugen Text and music © 1987 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

(Please stand as you are able)

#### **POST-COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER**

Send

BENEDICTION



Text: John Marriott, 1780–1825, alt. Music: ITALIAN HYMN, Felice de Giardini, 1716–1796

#### SENDING

- A: Go in peace. Follow Jesus.
- C: Thanks be to God.

# Serving in Worship

# Austin Campus 9:00 AM

Presiding Minister: Pianist: Pastor Julie Reuning-Scherer John Benjamin

# Far Hills Campus 10:30 AM

Presiding Minister:

Assisting Minister: Organist: A/V: Stream Team: Ushers: Communion Servers: Pastor Drew Tucker, Executive Director HopeWood Outdoors (ELCA Lutheran Outdoor Ministries in Ohio) Mark Chilson John Benjamin Melonie June Warren Scott Haligowski, Landon Henderson Adam & Todd Armstrong Wendy Beavers, Cindy Hess, Ann Painter, Charlotte Richard