

# EPIPHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter, April 27, 2025

Praise Worship

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

Gather

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**GATHERING SONG:** *THIS IS AMAZING GRACE*

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### FAR HILLS ONLY

**PUPPETS:** *WAKE ME UP AND CHANGE MY LIFE, LORD*

*Lori Embry, director*

**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:** *ISLA JAYNE ROSE WATAMANIUK*

*daughter of Erika & Spencer Watamaniuk*

*Mason & Nolan Watamaniuk, sponsors*

P: Do you believe in God the Father?

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

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, God the Son?

**C: 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.**

P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**C: 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.**

**C: We welcome you into the body of Christ and the mission we  
share. Join us as we give praise to God and bear God's creative  
and redeeming word to all the world.**

## THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

P: In the name of ✠ the One who was, who is, and who is to come.

**C: Amen.**

P: Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection,  
and called to live the baptized life, let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Holy God, we give you thanks for the waters of baptism,  
waters that make a people your own, that restore to wholeness,  
and empower us to be witnesses in your name.

Baptized into you, O Living One,

**C: make us one as you are one.**

P: We give you thanks for the waters of baptism,  
waters that strengthen believers and give new life to beloved servants  
of your church; waters that extend your boundless love  
and cross barriers of our own making.

Baptized into you, O Living One,

**C: make us one as you are one.**

P: We give you thanks for the waters of baptism,  
waters that open the hearts of believers and give a voice in the night to  
those in captivity; waters that set your people on a new path,  
rejoicing in the Spirit's power.

Baptized into you, O Living One,

**C: make us one as you are one.**

P: Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One, that our every day is  
shaped by these waters that give us our very lives in you.

We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One.

**C: Amen.**

## SHARING THE PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

## SONG OF PRAISE: MIGHTY TO SAVE

## **APOSTOLIC GREETING**

**P:** The grace of our risen 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

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## **WELCOMING THE CHILDREN**

### **FIRST READING: ACTS 5:27-32**

*<sup>27</sup> When they had brought [the apostles,] they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, <sup>28</sup> saying, “We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man’s blood on us.” <sup>29</sup> But Peter and the apostles answered, “We must obey God rather than any human authority. <sup>30</sup> The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. <sup>31</sup> God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. <sup>32</sup> And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him.”*

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

**C:** **Thanks be to God.**

### **RESPONSIVE READING: PSALM 150**

**A:** Hallelujah! Praise God in the holy temple;

**C:** **praise God in the mighty firmament.**

**A:** Praise God for mighty acts;

**C:** **praise God for exceeding greatness.**

**A:** Praise God with trumpet sound;

**C:** **praise God with lyre and harp.**

**A:** Praise God with tambourine and dance;

**C:** **praise God with strings and pipe.**

**A:** Praise God with resounding cymbals;

**C:** **praise God with loud clanging cymbals.**

A: Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.

**C: Hallelujah!**

**SECOND READING: REVELATION 1:4-8**

<sup>4</sup> John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, <sup>5</sup> and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, <sup>6</sup> and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

<sup>7</sup> Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen.

<sup>8</sup> "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

A: The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

P: The holy gospel according to St. John.

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

**GOSPEL READING: JOHN 20:19-31**

<sup>19</sup> When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>20</sup> After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup> Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." <sup>22</sup> When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup> If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

<sup>24</sup> But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup> So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

<sup>26</sup> A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>27</sup> Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." <sup>28</sup> Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" <sup>29</sup> Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

<sup>30</sup> Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. <sup>31</sup> But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

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

## **SERMON**

## **NICENE CREED**

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

**C: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,  
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## **SONG OF THE DAY:** *THE COMMISSION*

## **PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

Meal

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**OFFERING:** *GREAT ARE YOU LORD*

## **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, our duty, and our joy...join their unending hymn:

**C: Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

## **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.**

### **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. 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: O COME TO THE ALTAR**

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

Send \_\_\_\_\_

### **BENEDICTION**

### **CLOSING SONG: THE LORD'S PRAYER (IT'S YOURS)**

### **SENDING**

**L: Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!**  
**C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

## Serving in Worship

### Far Hills Campus 9:00 AM

Presiding Minister: Pastor Julie Reuning-Scherer  
Assisting Minister: Mark Chilson  
Organist: John Benjamin  
Sound: Alex Wasser  
Ushers: Landon Henderson, John Venis  
Communion: Kim Knechtly, Mary Moenter, Ann Painter

### Austin Campus 10:30 AM

Presiding Minister: Pastor Corey Wagonfield  
Assisting Minister: Chris Young  
Praise Team: Ned Greene, Carlin Heimann, Dick Lane,  
Sienna Pearson, Thom Reitz, Anastasia Rodgers,  
Cat Sorensen, Scott Watamaniuk  
A/V: Ted Meyer, Gia Pinto  
Stream Team: Anthony Brown, Scott Haligowski  
Usher: Stephanie Fulton  
Communion: The Leep Family