

# EPIPHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter, May 18, 2025

Traditional Worship

Austin Campus 9:00 AM, Far Hills Campus 10:30 AM\* (\*Livestreamed)

Gather

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## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**PRELUDE:** JOYSONG (Kevin McChesney)

*Jubilate Bells, Jill Byers, director*

## 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.

## OPENING HYMN: JOYFUL, JOYFUL, WE ADORE THEE

#836



- 1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
- 2 All thy works with joy sur-round thee, earth and heav'n re - flect thy rays,
- 3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless-ing, ev - er blest,



Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee, prais-ing thee, their sun a - bove.  
stars and an - gels sing a-round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.  
well-spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean-depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the gloom of doubt a - way.  
Field and for - est, vale and moun-tain, flow-'ry mead-ow, flash - ing sea,  
Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, all who live in love are thine;



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.  
chant-ing bird, and flow - ing foun - tain call us to re - joice in thee.  
teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine!

Text: Henry van Dyke, 1852–1922

Music: HYMN TO JOY, Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827, adapt.

## 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

## WELCOMING THE CHILDREN

### FIRST READING: ACTS 11:1-18

<sup>1</sup> Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. <sup>2</sup> So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, <sup>3</sup> saying, “Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?” <sup>4</sup> Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, <sup>5</sup> “I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. <sup>6</sup> As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. <sup>7</sup> I also heard a voice saying to me, ‘Get up, Peter; kill and eat.’ <sup>8</sup> But I replied, ‘By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.’ <sup>9</sup> But a second time the voice answered from heaven, ‘What God has made clean, you must not call profane.’ <sup>10</sup> This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. <sup>11</sup> At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. <sup>12</sup> The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man’s house. <sup>13</sup> He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, ‘Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; <sup>14</sup> he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.’ <sup>15</sup> And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. <sup>16</sup> And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, ‘John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’ <sup>17</sup> If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?” <sup>18</sup> When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, “Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life.”

A: The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## SECOND READING: REVELATION 21:1-6

<sup>1</sup> I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. <sup>2</sup> And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. <sup>3</sup> And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

“See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them;

they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them;

<sup>4</sup> he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more;

mourning and crying and pain will be no more,

for the first things have passed away.”

<sup>5</sup> And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.”

<sup>6</sup> Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.”

A: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: NOW THE FEAST

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, to whom shall we go?

5  
You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - - ia!

P: The holy gospel according to St. John.

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

### GOSPEL READING: JOHN 13:31-35

<sup>31</sup> When he had gone out, Jesus said, “Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. <sup>32</sup> If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. <sup>33</sup> Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, ‘Where I am going, you cannot come.’ <sup>34</sup> I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. <sup>35</sup> By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

P: The gospel of the Lord.

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

### SERMON

### HYMN OF THE DAY: WHERE CHARITY AND LOVE PREVAIL (vv. 1,4,5)

#359



- 1 Where char - i - ty and love pre - vail, there God is ev - er found;
- 2 With grate-ful joy and ho - ly fear, God's char - i - ty we learn;
- 3 Let us re - call that in our midst dwells Christ, God's ho - ly Son;
- 4 Let strife a - mong us be un - known; let all con - ten - tions cease.
- 5 Let us for - give each oth - er's faults as we our own con - fess,



brought here to - geth - er by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.  
let us with heart and mind and soul now love God in re - turn.  
as mem - bers of each bod - y joined, in him we are made one.  
Be God's the glo - ry that we seek; be his our on - ly peace.  
that we may love each oth - er well in Chris - tian gen - tle - ness.

Text: Latin hymn, 9th cent.; tr. Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997, alt.

Music: TWENTY-FOURTH, attr. Lucius Chapin, 1760–1842

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

A: Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

Meal

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**OFFERING: ALLEGRO SPIRITOSO** (Greg Underwood)

*Jubilate Bells*

**OFFERTORY: LET US TALENTS AND TONGUES EMPLOY** (v. 1)

#674



- 1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a shout of joy:
- 2 Christ is a - ble to make us one, at the ta - ble he sets the tone,
- 3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a world of doubt,



bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured, Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.  
teach - ing peo - ple to live to bless, love in word and in deed ex - press.  
gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Im - man - u - el) ev - 'ry - where!

*Refrain*



Je - sus lives a - gain, earth can breathe a - gain, pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929

Music: LINSTAD, Jamaican folk tune; adapt. Doreen Potter, 1925–1980

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## OFFERING PRAYER

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: *NOW THE FEAST*

*Presider:*

The Lord be with you.

*Congregation:*

And also with

you. *Presider:* Lift up your hearts. *Congregation:* We

lift them to the Lord. *Presider:* Let us give

*Congregation:*

thanks to the Lord our God. It is

right to give God thanks and praise.

## SANCTUS

#191

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and  
might; heav - en and earth are filled with your  
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is the one who comes in your name. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: *Now the Feast and Celebration*, Marty Haugen, b. 1950

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## 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.**

## **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 MUSIC:** *CALMING PEACE* (Cathy Moglebust)

*Jubilate Bells*

(Austin) **COMMUNION HYMN: GREAT GOD, YOUR LOVE HAS CALLED US** #358



1 Great God, your love has called us here, as we, by love, for  
2 We come with self - in - flict - ed pains of bro - ken trust and  
3 Great God, in Christ you call our name and then re - ceive us  
4 Then take the towel, and break the bread, and hum - ble us, and  
5 Great God, in Christ you set us free your life to live, your



love were made. Your liv - ing like - ness still we bear,  
cho - sen wrong, half - free, half - bound by in - ner chains,  
as your own, not through some mer - it, right, or claim,  
call us friends. Suf - fer and serve till all are fed,  
joy to share. Give us your Spir - it's lib - er - ty



though marred, dis - hon - ored, dis - o - beyed. We come, with all our  
by so - cial forc - es swept a - long, by pow'rs and sys - tems  
but by your gra - cious love a - lone. We strain to glimpse your  
and show how grand - ly love in - tends to work till all cre -  
to turn from guilt and dull de - spair, and of - fer all that



heart and mind your call to hear, your love to find.  
close con - fined, yet seek - ing hope for hu - man - kind.  
mer - cy seat and find you kneel - ing at our feet.  
a - tion sings, to fill all worlds, to crown all things.  
faith can do while love is mak - ing all things new.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: RYBURN, Norman Cocker, 1889–1953

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## POST-COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER

Send

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## BENEDICTION

# CLOSING HYMN: *LET ALL THINGS NOW LIVING*

#881

1 Let all things now liv - ing a song of thanks - giv - ing to  
2 God rules all the forc - es: the stars in their cours-es and

God the cre - a - tor tri - um - phant - ly raise,  
sun in its or - bit o - be - dient - ly shine;

who fash - ioned and made us, pro - tect - ed and stayed us, who  
the hills and the moun - tains, the riv - ers and foun - tains, the

still guides us on to the end of our days.  
deeps of the o - cean pro - claim God di - vine.

God's ban - ners are o'er us, God's light goes be -  
We too should be voic - ing our love and re -

fore us, a pil - lar of fire shin - ing forth in the night,  
joic - ing; with glad ad - o - ra - tion a song let us raise

till shad - ows have van - ished and dark - ness is ban - ished, as  
till all things now liv - ing u - nite in thanks - giv - ing: "To

for - ward we trav - el from light in - to light.  
God in the high - est, ho - san - na and praise!"

Text: Katherine K. Davis, 1892–1980, alt.  
Music: THE ASH GROVE, Welsh folk tune  
Text © 1939, 1966 E. C. Schirmer Music Company.

## SENDING

A: Go in peace. In Christ you are made new.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE:** *JUBILO (Matthew Prins)*

*Jubilate Bells*

### Serving in Worship

#### Austin Campus 9:00 AM

Presiding Minister: Pastor Julie Reuning-Scherer

Pianist: Bill Serr

Lay Reader: Donna Cooper

#### Far Hills Campus 10:30 AM

Presiding Minister: Pastor Corey Wagonfield

Assisting Minister: Sandy Houpt

Organist: Bill Serr

Cantor: Suzie Peloquin

Sound: Ted Meyer

Stream Team: Anthony Brown, Melonie June Warren

Ushers: Adam & Todd Armstrong

Communion: Felicity Glass, Landon Henderson, Lisa Miller,  
Verity Snyder