

**EPIPHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**9<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost, August 10, 2025**

Traditional Worship

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

Gather

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**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE**

*Liam Utt, piano*

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P: Merciful God,

**C: you free us to love others,  
but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way.  
You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace,  
but we turn away from the abundant life you offer.  
You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity,  
but we grow weary in doing what is right.  
In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us.  
Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life. Amen.**

P: You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith.  
In the cross of ✝ Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit,  
your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation. Amen.

**SHARING THE PEACE**

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

**C: And also with you.**

# OPENING HYMN: THE GOD OF ABRAHAM PRAISE (vv. 1-4)

#831



- 1 The God of A - br'ham praise, who reigns en - throned a - bove;
- 2 The God of A - br'ham praise! At your su - preme com - mand
- 3 The God of A - br'ham praise! Your all - suf - fi - cient grace
- 4 Your prom - ise you have sworn; I on your oath de - pend.



An - cient of ev - er - last - ing days, and God of love—  
from earth I rise and seek the joys at your right hand.  
shall guide me all my pil - grim days in all my ways.  
I shall, on ea - gle wings up - borne, to heav'n as - cend.



"I Am the One I Am"—by earth and heav'n con - fessed;  
I all on earth for - sake—its wis - dom, fame, and pow'r—  
You deign to call me friend; you call your - self my God!  
I shall be - hold your face; I shall your pow'r a - dore,



I bow and bless the sa - cred name for - ev - er blest.  
and you my on - ly por - tion make, my shield and tow'r.  
And you will save me to the end through Je - sus' blood.  
and sing the won - ders of your grace for - ev - er - more.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p>5 Though nature's strength decay,<br/>and earth and hell withstand,<br/>to Canaan's bounds I urge my way<br/>at your command.<br/>The wat'ry deep I pass,<br/>with Jesus in my view,<br/>and through the howling wilderness<br/>my way pursue.</p> | <p>7 Before the great Three-One<br/>the saints exulting stand<br/>and tell the wonders God has done<br/>through all their land.<br/>The list'ning spheres attend<br/>and swell the growing fame<br/>and sing the songs which never end,<br/>the wondrous name.</p> |
| <p>6 The goodly land I see,<br/>with peace and plenty blest;<br/>a land of sacred liberty<br/>and endless rest.<br/>There milk and honey flow,<br/>and oil and wine abound,<br/>and trees of life forever grow<br/>with mercy crowned.</p>            | <p>8 The whole triumphant host<br/>give thanks to God on high.<br/>"Hail, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!"<br/>they ever cry.<br/>Hail, Abr'ham's God and mine!<br/>I join the heav'nly lays:<br/>to you be glory, might divine,<br/>and endless praise!</p>          |

Text: Thomas Olivers, 1725–1799, alt., based on the Yigdal, c. 14th cent.  
Music: YIGDAL, Jewish melody; arr. Meyer Lyon, 1751–1797

## 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 \_\_\_\_\_

## BLESSING OF BACKPACKS

### FIRST READING: GENESIS 15:1-6

*<sup>1</sup> After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." <sup>2</sup> But Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" <sup>3</sup> And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." <sup>4</sup> But the word of the Lord came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." <sup>5</sup> He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." <sup>6</sup> And he believed the Lord, and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.*

A: The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### RESPONSIVE READING: PSALM 33:12-22

A: Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord!

**C: Happy are the people chosen to be God's heritage!**

A: The Lord looks down from heaven and sees all humankind.

**C: God sits firmly enthroned and watches all who dwell on the earth.**

A: God fashions all their hearts and observes all their deeds.

**C: Truly, your eye is upon those who fear you, O Lord;**

A: your eye is upon those who wait for your steadfast love.

**C: Our innermost being waits for you, O Lord,  
our helper and our shield.**

A: Surely, our heart rejoices in you,  
**C: in your holy name we put our trust.**  
A: Let your lovingkindness, O Lord, be upon us,  
**C: we place our hope in you.**

**SECOND READING: HEBREWS 11:1-3,8-16**

<sup>1</sup> Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

<sup>2</sup> Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. <sup>3</sup> By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

<sup>8</sup> By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance, and he set out, not knowing where he was going.

<sup>9</sup> By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. <sup>10</sup> For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. <sup>11</sup> By faith, with Sarah's involvement, he received power of procreation, even though he was too old, because he considered him faithful who had promised. <sup>12</sup> Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore."

<sup>13</sup> All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, <sup>14</sup> for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. <sup>15</sup> If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. <sup>16</sup> But as it is, they desire a better homeland, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

A: The word of the Lord.  
**C: Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: ELW I

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*Repeat alleluia*

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

**P:** The holy gospel according to St. Luke.

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

## GOSPEL READING: LUKE 12:32-40

[Jesus said:] <sup>32</sup> “Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. <sup>33</sup> Sell your possessions and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. <sup>34</sup> For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

<sup>35</sup> “Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; <sup>36</sup> be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. <sup>37</sup> Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. <sup>38</sup> If he comes during the middle of the night or near dawn and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

<sup>39</sup> “But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. <sup>40</sup> You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”

**P:** The gospel of the Lord.

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

## SERMON



1 Have no fear, lit - tle flock; have no fear, lit - tle  
 2 Have good cheer, lit - tle flock; have good cheer, lit - tle  
 3 Praise the Lord high a - bove; praise the Lord high a -  
 4 Thank - ful hearts raise to God; thank - ful hearts raise to



flock, for the Fa - ther has cho - sen to  
 flock, for the Fa - ther will keep you in  
 bove, for he stoops down to heal you, up -  
 God, for he stays close be - side you, in



give you the king - dom; have no fear, lit - tle flock!  
 his love for - ev - er; have good cheer, lit - tle flock!  
 lift and re - store you; praise the Lord high a - bove!  
 all things works with you; thank - ful hearts raise to God!

Text: Luke 12:32, st. 1; Marjorie Jillson, b. 1931, sts. 2-4  
 Music: LITTLE FLOCK, Heinz Werner Zimmermann, b. 1930  
 Text and music © 1973 Concordia Publishing House.

## 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.

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

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

Meal

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### OFFERING

Liam Utt, piano

### OFFERTORY: O GOD OF MERCY (v. 1,4)

#714



1 O God of mer - cy, God of light, in love and  
2 You sent your Son to die for all, that our lost  
3 Teach us the les - son Je - sus taught: to feel for  
4 For all are kin - dred, far and wide, since Je - sus



mer - cy in - fi - nite, teach us, as ev - er  
world might hear your call; oh, hear us lest we  
those his blood has bought, that ev - 'ry deed and  
Christ for all has died; grant us the will, and



in your sight, to live our lives in you.  
stray and fall! We rest our hope in you.  
word and thought may work a work for you.  
grace pro - vide, to love them all in you.

5 In sickness, sorrow, want, or care,  
may we each other's burdens share;  
may we, where help is needed, there  
give help as though to you.

6 And may your Holy Spirit move  
all those who live to live in love,  
till you receive in heav'n above  
all those who live in you.

Text: Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, alt.

Music: JUST AS I AM, Joseph Barnby, 1838–1896

### OFFERING PRAYER

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: *ELW I*

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

This musical score is for a hymn in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves of music. The first staff has two measures: 'The Lord be with you.' and 'And al - so with you.' The second staff also has two measures: 'Lift up your hearts.' and 'We lift them to the Lord.' The third staff has one long measure: 'Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.' The fourth staff has one long measure: 'It is right to give our thanks and praise.' The melody is simple, using quarter and eighth notes with various rests and slurs.

## SANCTUS: *ELW I*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of

pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the

name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

This musical score is for a hymn in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves of music. The first staff has two measures: 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of'. The second staff has two measures: 'pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -'. The third staff has two measures: 'san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the'. The fourth staff has two measures: 'name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.' The melody is more complex than the first hymn, featuring eighth and sixteenth notes, as well as dotted notes and slurs.



## **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 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: THE KING OF LOVE MY SHEPHERD IS

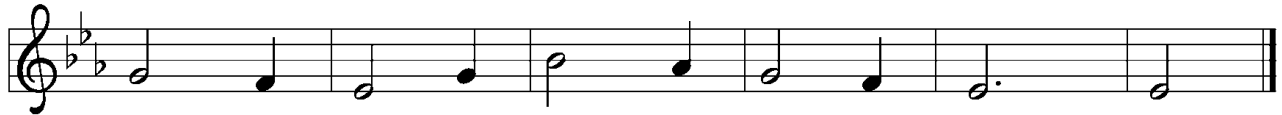
#502



1 The King of love my shep - herd is, whose good - ness  
2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, my ran - somed  
3 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, but yet in  
4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill, with thee, dear



fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if  
soul he lead - eth and, where the ver - dant  
love he sought me, and on his shoul - der  
Lord, be - side me, thy rod and staff my



I am his and he is mine for - ev - er.  
pas - tures grow, with food ce - les - tial feed - eth.  
gent - ly laid, and home, re - joic - ing, brought me.  
com - fort still; thy cross be - fore to guide me.

5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight;  
thine unction grace bestoweth;  
and, oh, what transport of delight  
from thy pure chalice floweth!

6 And so, through all the length of days,  
thy goodness faileth never.  
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise  
within thy house forever.

Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821–1877  
Music: ST. COLUMBA, Irish tune

## POST-COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER

Send

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## BENEDICTION

## CLOSING HYMN: O GOD, OUR HELP IN AGES PAST (vv. 1,2,4,6)

#632



- 1 O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,  
2 Un - der the shad - ow of your throne your saints have dwelt se - cure;  
3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood or earth re - ceived its frame,  
4 A thou - sand a - ges in your sight are like an eve - ning gone,



our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:  
suf - fi - cient is your arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.  
from ev - er - last - ing you are God, to end - less years the same.  
short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.

5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,  
bears all our years away;  
they fly forgotten, as a dream  
dies at the op'ning day.

6 O God, our help in ages past,  
our hope for years to come,  
still be our guard while troubles last  
and our eternal home.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.  
Music: ST. ANNE, William Croft, 1678–1727

## SENDING

**A:** Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

**C:** Thanks be to God.

### Serving in Worship

### Austin Campus 9:00 AM

Presiding Minister:	Pastor Tracy Paschke-Johannes University Pastor, Wittenberg University
Pianist:	Liam Utt
Lay Reader:	David Moenter

Far Hills Campus 10:30 AM

Presiding Minister:	Pastor Corey Wagonfield
Assisting Minister:	Mark Chilson
Pianist:	Liam Utt
Cantors:	Charlotte & Katie Richard
Sound:	Ed Wasser
Stream Team:	Melonie June Warren, Alex Wasser
Ushers:	Brooks & Landon Henderson
Communion:	Noel Greiman, Lisa Miller, Mary Moenter, RoseAnn Venis