

EPIPHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH
12th Sunday after Pentecost, August 31, 2025

Praise Worship

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

Gather

GATHERING SONG: TAKE YOU AT YOUR WORD

Your word is a lamp unto my feet
Your way is the only way for me
It's a narrow road that leads to life but I want to be on it
It's a narrow road but the mercy's wide
'Cause you're good on your promise

Chorus: I'll take you at your word
If you said it I'll believe it
I've seen how good it works
If you start it you'll complete it
I'll take you at your word

You spoke and the chaos fell in line
I know 'cause I've seen it in my life
It's a narrow road that leads to life but I want to be on it
It's a narrow road the tide is high
But you parted the water (*Chorus 2X*)

Bridge: You said your love will never give up
You said your grace is always enough
You said your heart would never forget or forsake me
You said I'm saved, you call me yours
You said my future's full of your hope
You've never failed so I know that you'll never fail me
(*Chorus 2X*)

'Cause you're good on your promise
I'll take you at your word

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Merciful God,

**C: We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves.
We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.
Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,
so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your holy name. 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.

SONG OF PRAISE: *YOU BLESS ME*

Every time I think of your kindness
Every time I'm singing your name Jesus
Never thought my life could look like this
I give thanks everyday for your amazing grace

Chorus: God I'm in love with who you are
You are the bright and morning star
You fill me with joy inside my heart
You bless me, you bless me

When I look at how far you brought me
Nothing I could do to deserve
When I was a sinner you called me
I'm alive by your side because you loved me first (*Chorus*)

Chorus2: When everything seems impossible
You are my peace through every storm
You are the God of miracles
You bless me, you bless me

Bridge: Thank you hallelujah
Thank you hallelujah
Thank you for all that you have done
Hallelujah (*Sing Bridge 3X*)

(Chorus, Chorus2, Bridge 2X)

Words and Music by Ed Cash, Scott Cash, Martin Cash, Andrew Bergthold & Dwan Hill © 2025 We The Kingdom Music, Bay19, Scott Cash Publishing Designee, Angie Feel Good Songs, Martin Cash Designee, Capitol CMG Genesis, Capitol CMG Paragon (Admin by Capitol CMG Publishing), Always Bell Songs, Words And Notes (Admin by Essential Music Publishing).

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

WELCOMING THE CHILDREN

FIRST READING: PROVERBS 25:6-7

⁶ *Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence
or stand in the place of the great,
^{7a} for it is better to be told, "Come up here,"
than to be put lower in the presence of a noble*

A: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: HEBREWS 13:1-8,15-16

¹ Let mutual affection continue. ² Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. ³ Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them, those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. ⁴ Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterers. ⁵ Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have, for he himself has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." ⁶ So we can say with confidence,

"The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can anyone do to me?"

⁷ Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. ⁸ Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. ¹⁵ Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. ¹⁶ Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

A: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

P: The holy gospel according to St. Luke.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL READING: LUKE 14:1,7-14

¹ On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the Sabbath, they were watching him closely.

⁷ When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. ⁸ "When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host, ⁹ and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. ¹⁰ But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. ¹¹ For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

¹² He said also to the one who had invited him, “When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers and sisters or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. ¹³ But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. ¹⁴ And you will be blessed because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

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: WHO YOU SAY I AM

Who am I that the highest King would welcome me
I was lost but he brought me in
Oh his love for me, oh his love for me

Chorus I: Who the Son sets free oh is free indeed
I'm a child of God, yes I am

Free at last he has ransomed me, his grace runs deep
While I was a slave to sin
Jesus died for me, yes he died for me (*Chorus 1*)

Chorus2: In my Father's house there's a place for me
I'm a child of God, yes I am

Bridge: I am chosen not forsaken
I am who you say I am
You are for me not against me
I am who you say I am (*Repeat*)

I am who you say I am
Yes I am who you say I am (*Chorus 1 & 2 2X*)

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

A: Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

Meal

OFFERING: *SALT AND LIGHT*

Oh, the beauty of a King
You make righteous those who seek
You have written, and redeemed my story

Chorus: Let my eyes see your kingdom shine all around
Let my heart overflow with passion for your name
Let my life be a song, revealing who you are
For you are salt and light

Oh, the love that set me free
You bring hope to those in need
You have written and redeemed my story (*Chorus*)

Bridge: You are love's great height
You are deep and wide, a consuming fire
You are salt and light (*Repeat Bridge*) (*Chorus*)

You are salt and light (2X)

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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: RECKLESS LOVE

Before I spoke a word, you were singing over me
You have been so, so good to me
Before I took a breath, you breathed your life in me
You have been so, so kind to me

Chorus: Oh the overwhelming, never-ending, reckless love of God
Oh it chases me down, fights 'til I'm found, leaves the 99
I couldn't earn it, and I don't deserve it, still you give yourself away
Oh the overwhelming, never-ending, reckless love of God

When I was your foe, still your love fought for me
You have been so, so good to me
When I felt no worth, you paid it all for me
You have been so, so kind to me (*Chorus*)

Bridge: There's no shadow you won't light up
Mountain you won't climb up, coming after me
There's no wall you won't kick down
Lie you won't tear down, coming after me (*Sing 3X*) (*Chorus*)

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POST-COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER

BENEDICTION

CLOSING SONG: *BECAUSE OF YOUR LOVE*

As we come into your presence, we remember every blessing
That you've poured out so freely from above
Lifting gratitude and praises for compassion so amazing
Lord we've come to give you thanks for all you've done

Chorus: Because of your love we're forgiven
Because of your love our hearts are clean
We lift you up with songs of freedom
Forever we're changed because of your love
(Verse) (Chorus 2X)

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SENDING

L: Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Serving in Worship

Far Hills Campus 9:00 AM

Presiding Minister:	Pastor Julie Reuning-Scherer
Assisting Minister:	Jane Lane
Praise Team:	Rich Embry, Gabe Ferraiuolo, Al Grodrian, Dick Lane, Mary Miller, Bill Norman, Alexis Veigel, Scott Watamaniuk
Sound:	Spencer Watamaniuk
Ushers:	George Downs, Chris Ziehler
Communion:	Sandy Czewski, Mary Downs, Laurie Evans, Lori & Mason Watamaniuk

Austin Campus 10:30 AM

Presiding Minister: Pastor Bob Bresemann
Assisting Minister: Candy Norman
Praise Team: Rich Embry, Gabe Ferraiuolo, Al Grodrian,
Dick Lane, Mary Miller, Bill Norman, Alexis Veigel,
Scott Watamaniuk
Sound: Spencer Watamaniuk
Stream Team: Anthony Brown, Landon Henderson
Ushers: Emily & Todd Schluter
Communion: The Manning Family