

**EPIPHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany, February 8, 2026**

Praise Worship

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

Gather

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**GATHERING SONG:** *HOPE OF THE NATIONS*

Jesus hope of the nations  
Jesus comfort for all who mourn  
You are the source of heaven's hope on earth

Jesus light in the darkness  
Jesus truth in each circumstance  
You are the source of heaven's light on earth

In history You lived and died  
You broke the chains, you rose to life

**Chorus:** You are the hope living in us  
You are the Rock in whom we trust  
You are the light shining for all the world to see  
You rose from the dead conquering fear  
Our Prince of Peace drawing us near  
Jesus our hope living for all who will receive  
Lord we believe

Lord we believe (3X)

Words and Music by Brian Doerksen © 2002 Integrity's Hosanna! Music

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**MINISTRY MOMENT:** *DAY OF CARING*

*Sharon Bond/Laurie Griffin*

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Mighty God, lover of justice,

**C: you call us to life in community, but we have served  
our own interests at the expense of our neighbors.  
We have sown deceit where honesty was needed.  
We say the right words, but our hearts are far from you.  
Turn us to seek your face.  
Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ,  
that we may do justice, love mercy,  
and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.**

## SHARING THE PEACE

P: Please stand as you are able.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

## SONG OF PRAISE: 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 1:** 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*)

**Chorus 2:** 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*)

## **APOSTOLIC GREETING**

**P:** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the light of the world,  
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: ISAIAH 58:1-12**

<sup>1</sup> *Shout out; do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet!  
Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins.*

<sup>2</sup> *Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways,  
as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness  
and did not forsake the ordinance of their God;  
they ask of me righteous judgments; they want God on their side.*

<sup>3</sup> *“Why do we fast, but you do not see?  
Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?”*

*Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day and oppress all your workers.*

<sup>4</sup> *You fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist.  
Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high.*

<sup>5</sup> *Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself?  
Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?  
Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the Lord?*

<sup>6</sup> *Is not this the fast that I choose:  
to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the straps of the yoke,  
to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke?*

<sup>7</sup> *Is it not to share your bread with the hungry  
and bring the homeless poor into your house;  
when you see the naked, to cover them  
and not to hide yourself from your own kin?*

<sup>8</sup> Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,  
and your healing shall spring up quickly;  
your vindicator shall go before you;  
the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard.

<sup>9a</sup> Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer;  
you shall cry for help, and he will say, “Here I am.”

<sup>9b</sup> If you remove the yoke from among you,  
the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,

<sup>10</sup> if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,  
then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday.

<sup>11</sup> The Lord will guide you continually  
and satisfy your needs in parched places and make your bones strong,  
and you shall be like a watered garden,  
like a spring of water whose waters never fail.

<sup>12</sup> Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;  
you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;  
you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.

A: The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

P: The holy gospel according to St. Matthew.

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

**GOSPEL READING: MATTHEW 5:13-20 (The Message\*)**

<sup>13</sup> “Let me tell you why you are here. You’re here to be salt-seasoning that brings out the God-flavors of this earth. If you lose your saltiness, how will people taste godliness? You’ve lost your usefulness and will end up in the garbage.

<sup>14-16</sup> “Here’s another way to put it: You’re here to be light, bringing out the God-colors in the world. God is not a secret to be kept. We’re going public with this, as public as a city on a hill. If I make you light-bearers, you don’t think I’m going to hide you under a bucket, do you? I’m putting you on a light stand. Now that I’ve put you there on a hilltop, on a light stand—shine! Keep open house; be generous with your lives. By opening up to others, you’ll prompt people to open up with God, this generous Father in heaven.

<sup>17-18</sup> “Don’t suppose for a minute that I have come to demolish the Scriptures—either God’s Law or the Prophets. I’m not here to demolish but to complete. I am going to put it all together, pull it all together in a vast panorama. God’s Law is more real and lasting than the stars in the sky and the ground at your feet. Long after stars burn out and earth wears out, God’s Law will be alive and working.

<sup>19-20</sup> “Trivialize even the smallest item in God’s Law and you will only have trivialized yourself. But take it seriously, show the way for others, and you will find honor in the kingdom. Unless you do far better than the Pharisees in the matters of right living, you won’t know the first thing about entering the kingdom.

**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: WE ARE

Every secret, every shame  
Every fear, every pain  
Live inside the dark  
But that's not who we are  
We are children of the day

So wake up sleeper, lift your head  
We were meant for more than this  
Fight the shadows, conquer death  
Make the most of the time we have left

**Chorus:** We are the light of the world  
We are the city on a hill  
We are the light of the world  
And we gotta, we gotta, we gotta  
Let the light shine

We are called to spread the news  
To tell the world the simple truth  
Jesus came to save  
There's freedom in his name  
So let his love break through (*Chorus 2X*)

**Bridge:** We are the light, we are the light, we are the light  
So let your light shine brighter  
We are the light, we are the light, we are the light  
Jesus  
You are the light, you are the light, you are the light  
We will lift you high  
And shine, shine, shine (*Chorus 2X*)

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

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

**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.**

## **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 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: GREAT ARE YOU LORD**

You give life, you are love  
You bring light to the darkness  
You give hope, you restore every heart that is broken  
And great are you, Lord

**Chorus:** It's your breath in our lungs  
So we pour out our praise, we pour out our praise  
It's your breath in our lungs  
So we pour out our praise to you only (*Verse, Chorus 2X*)

**Bridge:** All the earth will shout your praise  
Our hearts will cry, these bones will sing  
Great are you, Lord (*Repeat Bridge*) (*Chorus*)

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Music | Little Way Creative

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

Send

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## **BENEDICTION**

## **CLOSING SONG: SING SING SING**

**Chorus:** Sing, sing, sing  
And make music with the heavens  
We will sing, sing, sing  
Grateful that you hear us  
When we shout your praise  
Lift high the name of Jesus

What's not to love about you  
Heaven and Earth adore you  
Kings and kingdoms bow down  
Son of God you are the One  
You are the One

You are the love that frees us  
You are the light that leads us  
Like a fire burning  
Son of God you are the One  
You are the One we're living for (*Chorus*)

What's not to love about you  
Heaven and Earth adore you  
Kings and kingdoms bow down  
Son of God you are the One  
You are the One we're living for (*Chorus 3X*)

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## **SENDING**

**L:** Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### Serving in Worship

#### Far Hills Campus 9:00 AM

Presiding Minister:	Pastor Corey Wagonfield
Assisting Minister:	Judith Clark
Organist:	John Benjamin
Sound:	Ted Meyer
Ushers:	Karen & Phil Nardi
Communion:	William Deel, Noel Greiman, Kathy Hibbs, Lisa Miller, Mary Moenter

## Austin Campus 10:30 AM

Presiding Minister: Pastor Julie Reuning-Scherer  
Assisting Minister: Candy Norman  
Praise Team: Olivia & Sara Donaghue, Mary Groom,  
Emily & Hannah Hendrickson, Dick Lane,  
Thom Reitz, Scott Watamaniuk  
A/V: Roland & Kalie Hogendoorn  
Stream Team: Anthony Brown, Scott Haligowski  
Ushers: Bob & Kris Mangan  
Communion: Sharon Culham, The Haligowski Family