

EPIPHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH
Ist Sunday in Lent, February 22, 2026

Praise Worship

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

Tell Me Something Good
the good news is...so good it catches us by surprise

Gather

GATHERING SONG: *THE FATHER'S HOUSE*

Sometimes on this journey I get lost in my mistakes
What looks to me like weakness is a canvas for your strength
And my story isn't over, my story's just begun
And failure won't define me 'cause that's what my Father does
Yeah failure won't define me 'cause that's what my Father does

Chorus: Lay your burdens down here in the Father's house
Check your shame at the door 'cause it ain't welcome anymore
You're in the Father's house

Arrival's not the endgame, the journey's where you are
You never wanted perfect, you just wanted my heart
And the story isn't over if the story isn't good
And failure's never final when the Father's in the room
And failure's never final when the Father's in the room (*Chorus*)

Bridge: Prodigals come home, the helpless find hope
Love is on the move when the Father's in the room
Prison doors fling wide, the dead come to life
Love is on the move when the Father's in the room

Miracles take place, the cynical find faith
And love is breaking through when the Father's in the room
Jericho walls are quaking, strongholds now are shaking
Love is breaking through when the Father's in the room
Love is breaking through when the Father's in the room
(*Chorus 2X*)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Loving 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: God's grace is wild and unruly. God's mercy is abundant and surprising.

God's love is expansive and unending.

So if you ask, "Holy One, am I forgiven?"

the answer is and always will be: of course, of course, of course.

This is the good news of the gospel.

C: Thanks be to God. Amen.

SHARING THE PEACE

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

C: And also with you.

SONG OF PRAISE: *DESPERATE*

I'm at the end of myself and I'm tired

I've tried all that I know to do

Right now it's just by a thread

But I'm hangin' onto you

Pre-Chorus: I'm running outta hope

I need a miracle

And if I ever needed you it's right now

Chorus: Oh God I'm desperate
Down on my knees
Send help from Heaven
'Cause that's what I need
Redeem this wreckage
Restore my peace
I'm not asking I'm begging
Lord come through for me
I need Heaven
And I'm desperate
Desperate
Oh I need Heaven
And I'm desperate

Prayed all the prayers I can pray
But I won't stop knocking 'til you open the door
You can move a mountain, you can calm a storm
I know you can 'cause I've seen it before (*Chorus*)

Pre-Chorus 2: And you're my only hope
I need a miracle
And if I ever needed you it's right now (*Chorus*)

Words and Music by Jamie MacDonald, Jonathan Conrad Gamble, and Jordan Sapp © Capitol CMG Paragon, Jamie Mac Publishing, Jonathan Conrad Gamble Publishing, and Songs By JSapp

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Word

WELCOMING THE CHILDREN

FIRST READING: NUMBERS 27:1-11

¹ Then the daughters of Zelophehad came forward. Zelophehad was son of Hopher, son of Gilead, son of Machir, son of Manasseh, of the clans of Manasseh, son of Joseph. The names of his daughters were Mahlah, Noah, Hoglah, Milcah, and Tirzah. ² They stood before Moses, Eleazar the priest, the leaders, and all the congregation, at the entrance of the tent of meeting, saying,

³ “Our father died in the wilderness; he was not among the congregation of those who gathered themselves together against the Lord in the congregation of Korah, but died for his own sin, and he had no sons. ⁴ Why should the name of our father be taken away from his clan because he had no son? Give to us a possession among our father’s brothers.” ⁵ Moses brought their case before the Lord. ⁶ And the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, ⁷ “The daughters of Zelophehad are right in what they are saying; you shall indeed let them possess an inheritance among their father’s brothers and pass the inheritance of their father on to them. ⁸ You shall also speak to the Israelites, saying: If a man dies and has no son, then you shall pass his inheritance on to his daughter. ⁹ If he has no daughter, then you shall give his inheritance to his brothers. ¹⁰ If he has no brothers, then you shall give his inheritance to his father’s brothers. ¹¹ And if his father has no brothers, then you shall give his inheritance to the nearest kinsman of his clan, and he shall possess it. It shall be for the Israelites a statute and ordinance, as the Lord commanded Moses.”

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 2:1-11

¹ On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. ² Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. ³ When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, “They have no wine.” ⁴ And Jesus said to her, “Woman, what concern is that to me and to you? My hour has not yet come.” ⁵ His mother said to the servants, “Do whatever he tells you.” ⁶ Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. ⁷ Jesus said to them, “Fill the jars with water.” And they filled them up to the brim. ⁸ He said to them, “Now draw some out, and take it to the person in charge of the banquet.” So they took it. ⁹ When the person in charge tasted the water that had become wine and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), that person called the bridegroom ¹⁰ and said to him, “Everyone serves the good wine first and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now.” ¹¹ Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee and revealed his glory, and his disciples believed in him.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

A: Believing the good news, let us confess our faith.

C: I believe in the good news of Jesus Christ.

It sounds like welcome and feels like home.

It sounds like laughter and feels like mercy.

**It sounds like love and feels like a seat at the table,
so I believe in the good news of Jesus Christ.**

I have seen it alive in the world.

**And even when my heart aches, even when wars rage,
even when mercy feels out of reach,**

**I remember the one who welcomed the children
and led with nonviolence.**

**I remember the one who cared for the vulnerable
and inspired those around him.**

**I remember that the good news really is good news,
for I have seen it alive in the world.**

Thanks be to God! Amen.

SONG OF THE DAY: A MIGHTY FORTRESS

Our God is a consuming fire

A burning Holy Flame

With glory and freedom

Our God is the only righteous judge

Ruling over us with kindness and wisdom

And we will keep our eyes on you

We will keep our eyes on you

Chorus: A mighty fortress is our God

A sacred refuge is your name

Your kingdom is unshakable

With you forever we will reign

Our God is jealous for his own
None could comprehend his love and his mercy
Our God is exalted on his throne
High above the heavens
Forever he is worthy
And we will keep our eyes on you
We will keep our eyes on you (*Chorus*)

We will keep our eyes on you
We will keep our eyes on you
So we can set our hearts on you
Lord we will set our hearts on you (*Chorus 2X*)

With you forever we will reign
With you forever we will reign

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PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Meal

OFFERING: 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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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, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ.

You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace.

And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and 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.**

COMMUNION SONG: *TURN YOUR EYES UPON JESUS*

O soul my soul are you weary and troubled
No night so dark that our eyes cannot see
There's light so bright as we look to our Savior
Life more abundant and free
Life more abundant and free

Chorus: Turn your eyes upon Jesus
Look full in his wonderful face
And the things of earth
Will grow strangely dim
In the light of his glory and grace

O God our God, you are with us in darkness
Your Word your Light is leading us on
Our hearts can hear you Heavenly Father
Calling us all to your Son
Calling us all to your Son (*Chorus*)

In the light of his glory and grace

Bridge: We turn our eyes to you
Beholding all your beauty
You are holy (*Sing 3X*) (*Chorus*)

In the light of his glory and grace
In the light of his glory and grace
We turn our eyes to you
We turn our eyes to you

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER

Send

BENEDICTION

CLOSING SONG: *LOVE THE LORD*

Chorus: Love the Lord your God
With all your heart
With all your soul
With all your mind
And with all your strength (2X)

With all your heart
With all your soul
With all your mind
And with all your strength (*Chorus*)

Chorus2: I will serve the Lord
With all my heart
With all my soul
With all my mind
And with all my strength (2X)

With all my heart
With all my soul
With all my mind
And with all my strength (*Chorus2*)

Bridge: I will love you
I will praise you
I will serve you, Lord
I will trust you, Lord

With all my heart
With all my soul
With all my mind
And with all my strength (2X) (*Chorus*)

SENDING

L: Go in peace. Believe the good news.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Serving in Worship

Far Hills Campus 9:00 AM

Presiding Minister: Pastor Julie Reuning-Scherer
Assisting Minister: Andy Addy
Praise Team: Michele Borns, Rich Embry, Mary Groom,
Craig Hoerig, Dick Lane, Thom Reitz,
Scott Watamaniuk
Sound: Spencer Watamaniuk
Ushers: Kevin Carlson, George Downs
Communion: Joyce Addy, Lori Embry, Josh & Nathan Hendrickson

Austin Campus 10:30 AM

Presiding Minister: Pastor Corey Wagonfield
Assisting Minister: Billy Heaning
Praise Team: Michele Borns, Rich Embry, Mary Groom,
Craig Hoerig, Dick Lane, Thom Reitz,
Scott Watamaniuk
Sound: Spencer Watamaniuk, Gretchen Voisard
Stream Team: Scott Haligowski, Landon Henderson
Usher: Todd Schluter
Communion: The Manning Family