

# EPIPHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent, March 1, 2026

Traditional Worship

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

**Tell Me Something Good**  
the good news is...great love for God and neighbor

Gather

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## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## PRELUDE

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Merciful God,

**C: Did we see you hungry and give you something to eat?  
Did we see you thirsty and give you something to drink?  
Did we see you alone and offer you compassion?  
Or did we cross the street? Did we avert our eyes?  
Did we come up with every excuse in the book?  
God, we long to be people who love our neighbors  
with the same overwhelming love that you have for them.  
But we must admit, we have a long way to go.  
Forgive us for the times when we let bias, scarcity, or fear  
get in the way of love.  
Wash us clean and give us the courage to try again.  
With hope for a better tomorrow we pray, amen.**

P: Even when we act with judgment, even when we are guided by fear,  
even when we turn our back on a neighbor in need,  
God does not turn God's back on us.

So join me in this good-news declaration:

**C: We are seen. We are forgiven. We are invited to try again.  
Thanks be to God for this unending love.**

## SHARING THE PEACE

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

C: **And also with you.**

## OPENING HYMN: O GOD OF MERCY, GOD OF LIGHT (vv. 1-3,5)

#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

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Word

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## WELCOMING THE CHILDREN

**FIRST READING: PSALM 25:1-10**

A: To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul

**C: O my God, in you I trust**

A: Do not let me be put to shame

**C: Do not let my enemies exult over me**

A: Make me to know your ways, O Lord

**C: Teach me your paths**

A: Lead me in your truth and teach me

**C: For you are the God of my salvation, for you I wait all day long**

A: Be mindful of your mercy, O Lord, and of your steadfast love

**C: For they have been from of old**

A: Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions

**C: Remember me according to your steadfast love  
and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord!**

A: Good and upright is the Lord

**C: Therefore he instructs sinners in the way**

A: He leads the humble in what is right and teaches the humble his way

**C: All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness,  
for those who keep his covenant and his decrees**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: ELW 3**



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and



mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in



stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

P: The holy gospel according to St. Luke.

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

**GOSPEL READING: LUKE 7:36-50**

<sup>36</sup> One of the Pharisees asked Jesus to eat with him, and when he went into the Pharisee's house he reclined to dine. <sup>37</sup> And a woman in the city who was a sinner, having learned that he was eating in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster jar of ointment. <sup>38</sup> She stood behind him at his feet, weeping, and began to bathe his feet with her tears and to dry them with her hair, kissing his feet and anointing them with the ointment. <sup>39</sup> Now when the Pharisee who had invited him saw it, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would have known who and what kind of woman this is who is touching him, that she is a sinner." <sup>40</sup> Jesus spoke up and said to him, "Simon, I have something to say to you." "Teacher," he replied, "speak." <sup>41</sup> "A certain moneylender had two debtors; one owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. <sup>42</sup> When they could not pay, he canceled the debts for both of them. Now which of them will love him more?" <sup>43</sup> Simon answered, "I suppose the one for whom he canceled the greater debt." And Jesus said to him, "You have judged rightly." <sup>44</sup> Then turning toward the woman, he said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave me no water for my feet, but she has bathed my feet with her tears and dried them with her hair. <sup>45</sup> You gave me no kiss, but from the time I came in she has not stopped kissing my feet. <sup>46</sup> You did not anoint my head with oil, but she has anointed my feet with ointment. <sup>47</sup> Therefore, I tell you, her many sins have been forgiven; hence she has shown great love. But the one to whom little is forgiven loves little." <sup>48</sup> Then he said to her, "Your sins are forgiven." <sup>49</sup> But those who were at the table with him began to say among themselves, "Who is this who even forgives sins?" <sup>50</sup> But he said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."

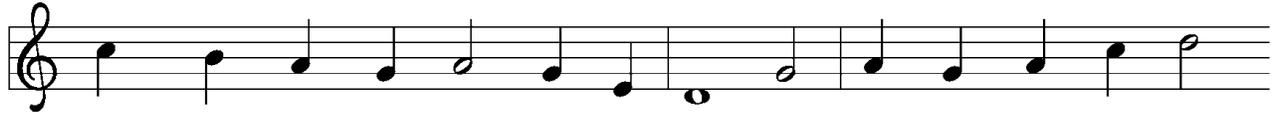
P: The gospel of the Lord.

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

**SERMON**



1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What  
2 When I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when  
3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; to  
4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and



won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this  
I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when I was sink - ing down  
God and to the Lamb I will sing; to God and to the Lamb,  
when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free,



that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dread-ful curse for my  
be - neath God's righ-teous frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my  
who is the great I AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will  
I'll sing God's love for me, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing



soul, for my soul, to bear the dread-ful curse for my soul?  
soul, for my soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul.  
sing, I will sing, while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing.  
on, I'll sing on; and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

Text: North American folk hymn, 19th cent., alt.  
Music: WONDROUS LOVE, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

**INSTALLATION OF THE CONGREGATION COUNCIL**

Troy Stoller, president  
Ryan Helbach, president-elect  
Carol Gorsuch, treasurer

At-large members:

Andy Addy, Lou Czewski, Martha Meyer, David Schmidt,  
RoseAnn Venis, Andy Voisard, Arlon Zabel

P: People of God, I ask you:

Will you support these, your elected leaders, and will you share in the mutual ministry that Christ has given to all who are baptized?

C: **We will, and we ask God to help us.**

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Meal

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**OFFERING:** *HE, WATCHING OVER ISRAEL (Felix Mendelssohn) Epiphany Chorale*  
*from ELIJAH*

**OFFERTORY:** *ON MY HEART IMPRINT YOUR IMAGE*

#811



On my heart im - print your im - age, bless - ed Je - sus, king of grace,



that life's trou - bles nor its plea - sures ev - er may your work e - rase.



Let the clear in - scrip - tion be: Je - sus, cru - ci - fied for me,



is my life, my hope's foun - da - tion, all my glo - ry and sal - va - tion!

Text: Thomas H. Kingo, 1634–1703; tr. Peer O. Strømme, 1856–1921, alt.  
Music: DER AM KREUZ, Johann B. König, 1691–1758

## OFFERING PRAYER

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: ELW 3

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.

Detailed description: This block contains four staves of musical notation in G major, 4/4 time. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (F major). The notes are simple, mostly quarter and half notes, with some slurs. The lyrics are printed below each staff, aligned with the notes.

## SANCTUS: ELW 3

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -  
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

Detailed description: This block contains four staves of musical notation in G major, 4/4 time. The notation is more complex than the first section, featuring eighth and sixteenth notes, and some rests. The lyrics are printed below each staff, aligned with the notes.

## 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.**

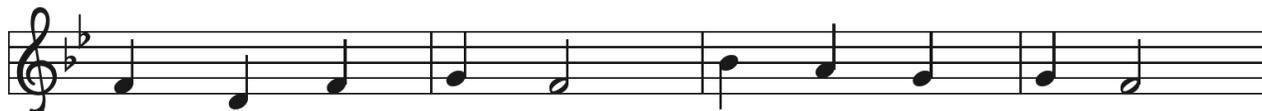
## COMMUNION HYMN: *COME NOW, YOU BLESSED*



1 "Come now, you bless - ed, eat at my ta - ble,"  
2 When did we see you hun - gry or thirst - y?  
3 "When you gave bread to earth's hun - gry chil - dren,  
4 Christ, when we meet you out on life's road - ways,



said Je - sus Christ to the righ - teous a - bove.  
When were you home - less, a strang - er a - lone?  
when you gave wel - come to war's ref - u - gees,  
look - ing to us in the fac - es of need,



"When I was hun - gry, thirst - y, and home - less,  
When did we see you sick or in pris - on?  
when you re - mem - bered those most for - got - ten,  
then may we know you, wel - come and show you



sick and in pris - on, you showed me your love."  
What have we done that you call us your own?  
you cared for me in the small - est of these."  
love that is faith - ful in word and in deed.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: MATTHEW 25, Emily R. Brink, b. 1940

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# POST-COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER

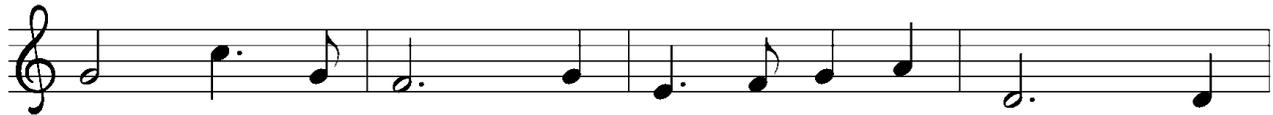
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## BENEDICTION

### CLOSING HYMN: *LIFT HIGH THE CROSS* (vv. 3-4)

#660



Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim till



all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.



- 1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our cap - tain trod,
- 2 All new - born ser - vants of the Cru - ci - fied
- 3 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,
- 4 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

*Refrain*



our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.  
bear on their brows the seal of him who died.  
as thou hast prom - ised, draw us all to thee.  
praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry!

Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827–1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874–1956

Music: CRUCIFER, Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875–1947

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## SENDING

**A:** Go in peace. Believe the good news.

**C:** Thanks be to God.

## Serving in Worship

### Austin Campus 9:00 AM

Presiding Minister: Pastor Corey Wagonfield  
Pianist: John Benjamin  
Lay Reader: Marcia Drake

### Far Hills Campus 10:30 AM

Presiding Minister: Pastor Julie Reuning-Scherer  
Assisting Minister: Linda June Snyder  
Organist: John Benjamin  
Sound: Ed Wasser  
Stream Team: Melonie June Warren, Alex Wasser  
Ushers: Adam, Ron & Todd Armstrong  
Communion: Wendy Beavers, Noel Greiman, Mary Moenter,  
Dorothy Sisken, Verity Snyder