

EPIPHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

4th Sunday in Lent, March 15, 2026

Traditional Worship

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

Tell Me Something Good
the good news is...protection and care for the vulnerable

Gather

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINISTRY MOMENT: *QUILTS FOR FAMILY PROMISE*

Joy Marts

PRELUDE: *GOD HELP THE OUTCASTS (Stephen Schwartz/Alan Menken)*

Kandis Wean Gibson

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: God said, "When a foreigner resides among you in your land, do not mistreat them."

C: Holy God, we confess, we have mistreated the immigrants in our land.

P: Jesus said, "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God."

C: We confess, we have clung to guns and war more than we have pursued peace.

P: God said, "When you gather the grapes of your vineyard, do not glean what is left; it shall be for the alien, the orphan, and the widow."

C: We confess, we have hoarded our resources and failed to care for our neighbors.

P: Jesus said, "Let the children come to me, and do not stop them."

C: We confess, we have gate-kept the good news in unfair ways.

P: Fortunately for all of us, God also said, "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name; you are mine."

C: By God's grace, despite our sin and shortcomings, we are redeemed, claimed, forgiven, and loved.

P: May this good news change our lives! Amen.

SHARING THE PEACE

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

C: And also with you.

OPENING HYMN: ALL ARE WELCOME (v. 1,3,4)

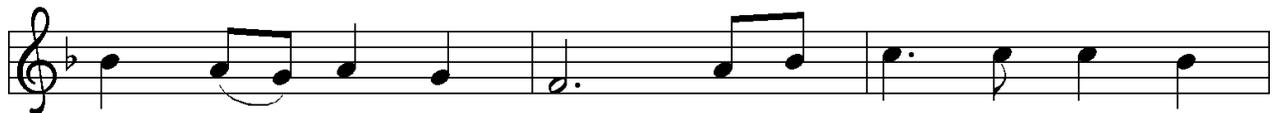
#641



1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe - ly
2 Let us build a house where proph-ets speak, and words are strong and
3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter, wine and
4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the wood and
5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and vi - sions



live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell how
true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek to
wheat: a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground where
stone to heal and strength - en, serve and teach, and
heard and loved and trea - sured, taught and claimed as



hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and
dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as
peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through
live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the
words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and



vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of
wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as one we
Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we share in
strang - er bear the im - age of God's face; let us bring an
laugh - ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace, let this house pro -



Christ shall end di - vi - sions:
claim the faith of Je - sus:
Christ the feast that frees us: All are wel - come,
end to fear and dan - ger:
claim from floor to raf - ter:



all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
Music: TWO OAKS, Marty Haugen
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PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Word

WELCOMING THE CHILDREN

FIRST READING: DEUTERONOMY 24:21-22

²¹ “When you gather the grapes of your vineyard, do not glean what is left; it shall be for the alien, the orphan, and the widow. ²² Remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt; therefore I am commanding you to do this.

A: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

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. Matthew.

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

GOSPEL READING: MATTHEW 19:13-15

¹³ Then children were being brought to him in order that he might lay his hands on them and pray. The disciples spoke sternly to those who brought them, ¹⁴ but Jesus said, "Let the children come to me, and do not stop them, for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs." ¹⁵ And he laid his hands on them and went on his way.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON

Pr. Julie

HYMN OF THE DAY: SEE THE PRECIOUS CHILDREN (vv. 1-3)



See the pre - cious chil - dren seat - ed on the lap of
See the pre - cious wi - dowed wo - men glean - ing har - vests
See the pre - cious for - eign stran - gers as they car - ry

[3]



Christ our Lord Called the great - est in the king - dom,
from the field Then re - turn - ing to their kit - chen
all they own To a land that's full of dan - gers

[6]



held so gent - ly and a - dored They are pre - cious
to pre - pare their dai - ly meal They are pre - cious
for the pow - er - less and prone They are pre - cious

[9]



in the sight of God who made each ti - ny toe In their
in the sight of God who holds their bro - ken hearts In their
in the sight of God who made their home - land, too In their

13

weak - ness they're held by love as each day they learn and grow
 sor - row they're held by love that re - deems each fra - gile part
 jour - ney they're held by love as they start each day a - new

Words: Anna Strickland © 2025. Commissioned by A Sanctified Art, LLC. Free for congregational use. Music: B. F. White (1844).

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

Meal

OFFERING: *LAMB OF GOD, WHAT WONDROUS LOVE* (Gabriel Fauré, arr. Allen Petker)
 Epiphany Chorale

OFFERTORY: ON MY HEART IMPRINT YOUR IMAGE

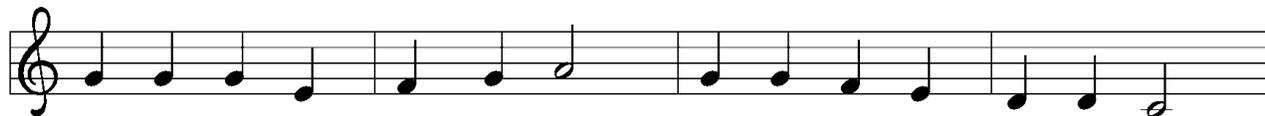
#811



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.

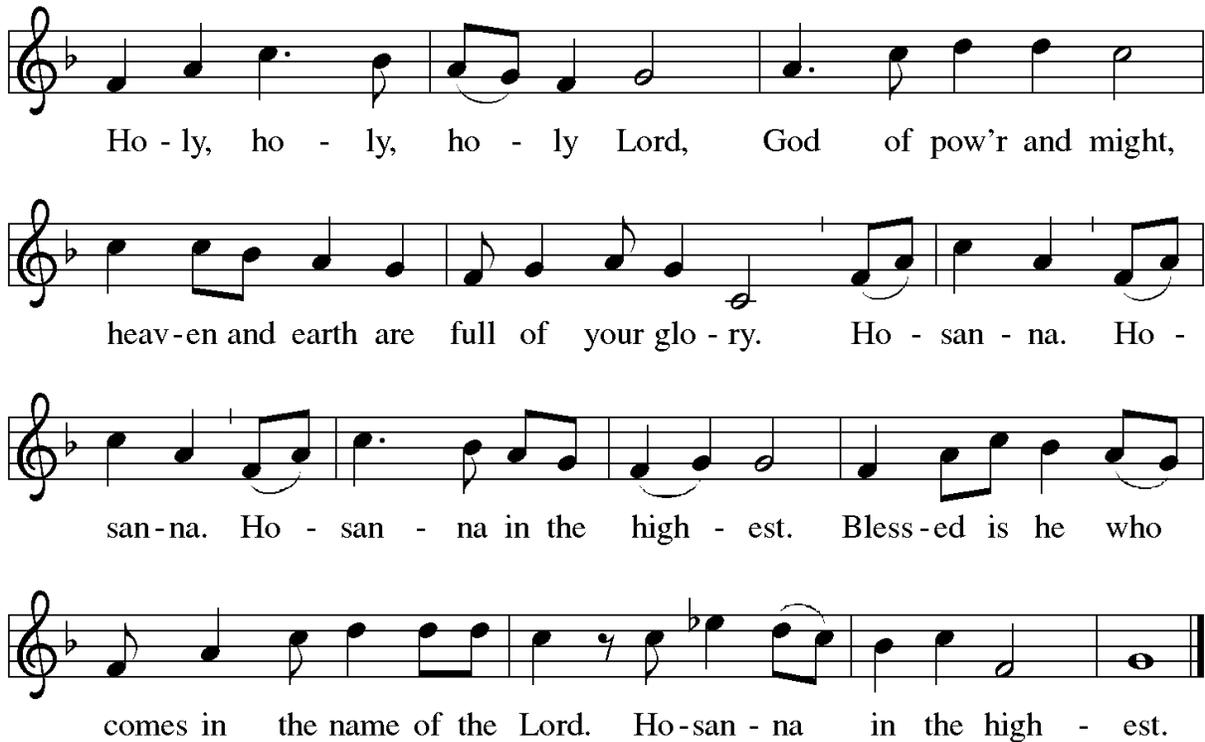


Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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.

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 MUSIC: KYRIE (*Cathy Moglebust*)

Jubilate Bells
Jill Byers, director

COMMUNION HYMN: AS CHRIST HAS WELCOMED US

Tune: DENNIS
(Blest Be the Tie that Binds)

As Christ has welcomed us
We welcome one and all
To love O God as you have loved
This is our gospel call

Since Christ has offered us
The riches of your grace
So may we truly welcome all
Of ev'ry age and race

Our children lead the way
With welcome full and free
They show us how to sing your song
And live in harmony

Our door is open wide
Our hands reach out in care
Together lifting joys and tears
To you O God in prayer

O Spirit shape our life
That all may take their part
That we may listen, speak with care
With open minds and hearts

When we are called to part
O Spirit guide us still
To love the world with open hearts
To do your righteous will

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947 © 2005 GIA Publications, Inc.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER

Send

BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN: AWAKE, O SLEEPER, RISE FROM DEATH

#576

(v. 1-2 – All, v. 3 – Men, v. 4 – Women, v. 5 – All)



- 1 A - wake, O sleep-er, rise from death, and Christ shall give you light;
- 2 To us on earth he came to bring from sin and fear re - lease,
- 3 There is one bod - y and one hope, one Spir - it and one call,
- 4 Then walk in love as Christ has loved, who died that he might save;
- 5 For us Christ lived, for us he died, and con - quered in the strife.



so learn his love, its length and breadth, its full - ness, depth, and height.
to give the Spir - it's u - ni - ty, the ver - y bond of peace.
one Lord, one faith, and one bap - tism, one God who made us all.
with kind and gen - tle hearts for - give as God in Christ for - gave.
A - wake, a - rise, go forth in faith, and Christ shall give you life.

Text: F. Bland Tucker, 1895–1984

Music: AZMON, Carl G. Gläser, 1784–1829

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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: Jim Petteys

Far Hills Campus 10:30 AM

Presiding Minister: Pastor Julie Reuning-Scherer
Assisting Minister: Judith Clark
Organist: John Benjamin
Sound: Melonie June Warren
Stream Team: Landon Henderson, Jerry Slaughter
Ushers: Lon & Therese Molnar
Communion: Kathy Hibbs, Sandy Houpt, Kim Knechtly,
Rose Wasky, Kathleen Wilson