

**EPIPHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Epiphany, April 19, 2026**

Traditional Worship

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

Gather

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**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**BLESSING OF VOLUNTEERS**

**PRELUDE**

**(9:00) THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

P: Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

P: Merciful God, you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come.  
You lead us beside still waters.

We thank you for the waters of creation and those that nourish us:  
morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves, flowing rivers.

Blessed are you.

**C: You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

P: Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness  
who accompanies us on our journeys.

We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection.

We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow.

Blessed are you.

**C: You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

P: Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows.  
Break down barriers that divide us.

Fill us with the breath of peace.

Blessed are you.

**C: You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

(10:30) **SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:** *REID PATRICK KIGER*

*son of Brandon Patrick & Mary Martinez Kiger*

*Bryan Kiger, Lisa Martinez, sponsors*

P: People of God, do you promise to support Reid and pray for him in his new life in Christ?

**C: We do.**

#### PROFESSION

P: I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God,  
the powers of this world that rebel against God,  
and the ways of sin that draw you from God?

**C: We do.**

P: Do you confess your continual struggle with sin, and affirm afresh your baptismal call and identity, turning from sin and death to be forgiven and born anew in Christ?

**C: We do.**

P: Do you believe in God the Father?

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, God the Son?

**C: 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.**

P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**C: 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.**

## WELCOME

**P:** Through baptism you have been received into the household of God, entrusted with the good news of Jesus Christ, and strengthened to serve by the holy and life-giving Spirit.

**C:** **We welcome you into the body of Christ and the mission we share. Join us as we give praise to God and bear God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.**

## SHARING THE PEACE

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

**C:** **And also with you.**

**OPENING HYMN: ALLELUIA! JESUS IS RISEN (v. 1-3)**

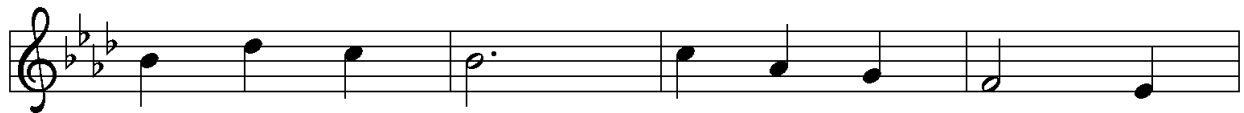
#377



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus is ris - en!  
 2 Walk - ing the way, Christ in the cen - ter  
 3 Je - sus the vine, we are the branch - es;  
 4 Weep - ing, be gone; sor - row, be si - lent:  
 5 Cit - y of God, Eas - ter for - ev - er,



Trum - pets re - sound - ing in glo - ri - ous light!  
 tell - ing the sto - ry to o - pen our eyes;  
 life in the Spir - it the fruit of the tree;  
 death put a - sun - der, and Eas - ter is bright.  
 gold - en Je - ru - sa - lem, Je - sus the Lamb,



Splen - dor, the Lamb, heav - en for - ev - er!  
 break - ing our bread, giv - ing us glo - ry:  
 heav - en to earth, Christ to the peo - ple,  
 Cher - u - bim sing: O grave, be o - pen!  
 riv - er of life, saints and arch - an - gels,



Oh, what a mir - a - cle God has in sight!  
 Je - sus our bless - ing, our con - stant sur - prise.  
 gift of the fu - ture now flow - ing to me.  
 Clothe us in won - der, a - dorn us in light.  
 sing with cre - a - tion to God the I AM!

*Refrain*



Je - sus is ris - en and we shall a - rise.



Give God the glo - ry! Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926  
 Music: David N. Johnson, 1922-1987  
 Text © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.  
 Music © 1969 *Contemporary Worship 1*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

## **APOSTOLIC GREETING**

**P:** The grace of our risen 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

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## **WELCOMING THE CHILDREN**

### **FIRST READING: ACTS 2:14,36-41**

*<sup>14a</sup> Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd]:*

*<sup>36</sup> “Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.”*

*<sup>37</sup> Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, “Brothers, what should we do?” <sup>38</sup> Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.*

*<sup>39</sup> For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.” <sup>40</sup> And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” <sup>41</sup> So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.*

**A:** The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### **RESPONSIVE READING: PSALM 116:1-4,12-19**

**A:** I love the Lord, who has heard my voice and listened to my supplication

**C: For the Lord has given ear to me whenever I called**

**A:** The cords of death entangled me

**C: I came to grief and sorrow**

**A:** Then I called upon the name of the Lord

**C: O Lord, I pray you, save my life**

**A:** How shall I repay the Lord for all the good things God has done for me?

**C: I will lift the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord**

A: I will fulfill my vows to the Lord in the presence of all God's people

**C: O Lord, truly I am your servant**

A: You have freed me from my bonds

**C: I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving  
and call upon the name of the Lord**

**SECOND READING: 1 PETER 1:17-23**

*<sup>17</sup> If you invoke as Father the one who judges impartially according to each person's work, live in fear during the time of your exile. <sup>18</sup> You know that you were ransomed from the futile conduct inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold <sup>19</sup> but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. <sup>20</sup> He was destined before the foundation of the world but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake.*

*<sup>21</sup> Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your trust and hope are in God.*

*<sup>22</sup> Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual affection, love one another deeply from the heart.*

*<sup>23</sup> You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.*

A: The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**



1 Christ the Lord is ris'n to - day; Al - le - lu - ia!  
 2 For the sheep the Lamb has bled, Al - le - lu - ia!



Chris-tians, has - ten on your way; Al - le - lu - ia!  
 sin - less in the sin - ner's stead. Al - le - lu - ia!



of - fer praise with love re - plete, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Al - le - lu - ia!



at the pas - chal vic - tim's feet. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 now he lives, no more to die. Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: attr. Wipo of Burgundy, d. c. 1050; tr. Jane E. Leeson, 1807–1882, alt.  
 Music: LLANFAIR, Robert Williams, 1781–1821

**P:** The holy gospel according to St. Luke.

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

**GOSPEL READING: LUKE 24:13-35**

<sup>13</sup> Now on that same day two [disciples] were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, <sup>14</sup> and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. <sup>15</sup> While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, <sup>16</sup> but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. <sup>17</sup> And he said to them, “What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?” They stood still, looking sad. <sup>18</sup> Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, “Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?” <sup>19</sup> He asked them, “What things?”

They replied, “The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people,<sup>20</sup> and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him.

<sup>21</sup> But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place.<sup>22</sup> Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning,<sup>23</sup> and when they did not find his body there they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive.<sup>24</sup> Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see him.”<sup>25</sup> Then he said to them, “Oh, how foolish you are and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared!

<sup>26</sup> Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?”<sup>27</sup> Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

<sup>28</sup> As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on.<sup>29</sup> But they urged him strongly, saying, “Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.” So he went in to stay with them.<sup>30</sup> When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them.<sup>31</sup> Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him, and he vanished from their sight.<sup>32</sup> They said to each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?”<sup>33</sup> That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem, and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together.<sup>34</sup> They were saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!”<sup>35</sup> Then they told what had happened on the road and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

**P:** The gospel of the Lord.

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

**SERMON**

## HYMN OF THE DAY: *STAY WITH US* (vv. 1,3,5)



1 Stay with us, till night has come: our praise to  
 2 Walk with us, our spir - its sigh: hear when our  
 3 Walk with us, the road will bend: make all our  
 4 Talk with us, till we be - hold a joy - ful  
 5 Stay with us, till day is done: no tears nor



you this day be sung. Bless our bread, o - pen our  
 wea - ry spir - its cry. Feel a - gain our loss, our  
 weep - ing, wail - ing end. Wipe our tears, for - give our  
 life you will un - fold. Heal our eyes to see the  
 dark shall dim the sun. Cheer the heart, your grace im -



eyes: Je - sus, be our great sur - prise.  
 pain: Je - sus, take us to your side.  
 fears: Je - sus, lift the heav - y cross.  
 prize: Je - sus, take us to the light.  
 part: Je - sus, bring e - ter - nal life.

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926  
 Music: *STAY WITH US*, Walter L. Pelz, b. 1926

Text and music © 1990 Concordia Publishing House

## (9:00) **NICENE CREED**

**P:** Together with the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**C: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
 maker of heaven and earth,  
 of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
 the only Son of God,  
 eternally begotten of the Father,  
 God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,  
 begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;  
 through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## **PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

Meal

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**OFFERING:** *THE FEAST OF CHARITY* (arr. Alice Parker)

*Epiphany Chorale*  
*Nick Hess, saxophone*

**OFFERTORY:** *HOPE OF THE WORLD*

Hope of the world, who by your cross did save us  
From death and deep despair, from guilt and sin  
We render back the love your mercy gave us  
Work through our lives to bring your purpose in

Hope of the world, Christ ris'n from death victorious  
Who by this triumph conquered grief and pain  
We would be faithful to your gospel glorious  
You are our Lord and will forever reign

Text: Georgia Harkness, 1891–1974, alt. © 1954, ren. 1982 The Hymn Society, admin. Hope Publishing Company. All rights reserved.

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

### **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

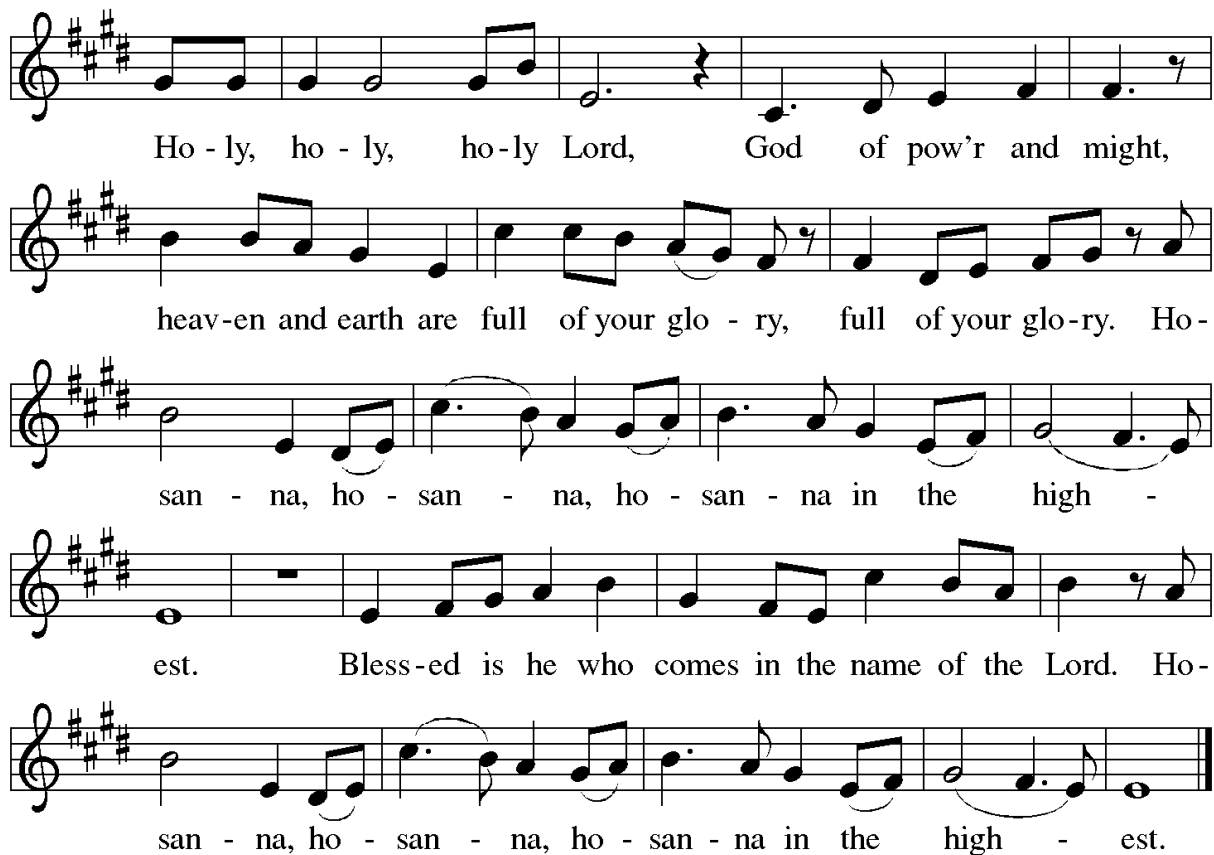
**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

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, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## SANCTUS: ELW 8



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

## 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.**

# COMMUNION HYMN: COME, LET US EAT

#491



1 Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread,  
2 Come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured,  
3 In Je - sus' pres - ence now we meet and rest,  
4 Rise, then, to spread a - broad God's might - y word,



come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread.  
come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured.  
in Je - sus' pres - ence now we meet and rest.  
rise, then, to spread a - broad God's might - y word.



Our Lord's bod - y let us take to - geth - er,  
Je - sus' blood poured let us drink to - geth - er,  
In the pres - ence of our Lord we gath - er,  
Je - sus ris - en will bring in the king - dom,



our Lord's bod - y let us take to - geth - er.  
Je - sus' blood poured let us drink to - geth - er.  
in the pres - ence of our Lord we gath - er.  
Je - sus ris - en will bring in the king - dom.

Text: Billema Kwillia, b. 1925, sts. 1-3; Gilbert E. Doan Jr., b. 1930, st. 4, alt.; tr. Margaret D. Miller, b. 1927, sts. 1-3, alt.  
Music: A VA DE, Billema Kwillia, adapt.

Text sts. 1-3 and tune © Lutheran World Federation; text st. 4 and music adapt. © 1972 *Contemporary Worship 4*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

## POST-COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER

Send

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## BENEDICTION

## **CLOSING HYMN: RISE, O CHURCH**

- 1 Rise, O church, like Christ arisen,  
from this meal of love and grace;  
may we through such love envision  
whose we are, and whose, our praise.  
Alleluia, alleluia;  
God, the wonder of our days.
- 2 Rise, transformed, and choose to follow  
after Christ, though wounded, whole;  
broken, shared, our lives are hallowed  
to release and to console.  
Alleluia, alleluia;  
Christ, our present, past, and goal.
- 3 Rise, remember well the future  
God has called us to receive;  
present by God's loving nurture,  
Spirited then let us live.  
Alleluia, alleluia;  
Spirit, grace by whom we live.

Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, b. 1953 © 1997 Susan Palo Cherwien, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

## **SENDING**

- A:** Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!  
**C:** **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

## Serving in Worship

### Austin Campus 9:00 AM

Presiding Minister: Pastor John Hitzeroth  
Pianist: John Benjain  
Lay Reader: Marcia Drake

### Far Hills Campus 10:30 AM

Presiding Minister: Pastor Julie Reuning-Scherer  
Assisting Minister: Mark Chilson  
Organist: John Benjamin  
Sound: Todd Armstrong  
Stream Team: Landon Henderson, Melonie June Warren  
Ushers: Karen & Phil Nardi  
Communion: Teresa Accuntius, Noel Greiman, Sandy Houpt,  
Sam Richard, Kathleen Wilson

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