

EPIPHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

4th Sunday of Easter, April 26, 2026

Praise Worship

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

Gather

GATHERING SONG: *I WILL FOLLOW*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINISTRY MOMENT: *CYF CELEBRATION*

(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: MATTHEW WILLIAM ROBERT SLUSHER

LEO ROCK WILLIAM SLUSHER

ISLA ANN SLUSHER

ZOE ROSE SLUSHER

children of Andrea & Matthew Slusher

Tom Kantner, Julia Slusher, sponsors

P: People of God, do you promise to support Matt, Leo, Isla, and Zoe and pray for them in their 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.**

SONG OF PRAISE: *GLORIOUS DAY*

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

WELCOMING THE CHILDREN

FIRST READING: *ACTS 2:42-47*

⁴² *[The baptized] devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.*

⁴³ *Awe came upon everyone because many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles.* ⁴⁴ *All who believed were together and had all things in common;* ⁴⁵ *they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need.* ⁴⁶ *Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts,* ⁴⁷ *praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.*

A: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING: 1 PETER 2:19-25

¹⁹ It is a commendable thing if, being aware of God, a person endures pain while suffering unjustly. ²⁰ If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do good and suffer for it, this is a commendable thing before God. ²¹ For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

²² “He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.”

²³ When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. ²⁴ He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, having died to sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵ For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

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 10:1-10

[Jesus said:] ¹ “Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. ² The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³ The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴ When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵ They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” ⁶ Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

⁷ So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸ All who came before me are thieves and bandits, but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹ I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰ The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.”

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

(9:00) NICENE CREED

A: 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.**

SONG OF THE DAY: *GOODNESS OF GOD*

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Meal

OFFERING: *HOW GREAT IS OUR GOD*

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:

**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: *STILL WATERS*

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER

Send

BENEDICTION

CLOSING SONG: *YOU NEVER LET GO*

SENDING

L: Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Serving in Worship

Far Hills Campus 9:00 AM

Presiding Minister:	Pastor Tracy Paschke-Johannes
Assisting Minister:	Becky Zink
Lay Reader:	Hannah Hendrickson
Praise Team:	Olivia Donaghue, Al Grodrian, Mary Groom, Dick Lane, Bill Norman, Thom Reitz, Cat Sorensen, Alexis Veigel
Sound:	Ted Meyer
Ushers:	George Downs, Athena & Kellen Helbach, Chris Ziehler
Communion:	Michelle Carlson, The Hendrickson Family

Austin Campus 10:30 AM

Presiding Minister: Pastor Corey Wagonfield
Assisting Minister: Jane Lane
Praise Team: Olivia Donaghue, Al Grodrian, Mary Groom,
Dick Lane, Bill Norman, Thom Reitz, Cat Sorensen,
Alexis Veigel
A/V: Ted Meyer, Owen Smith
Stream Team: Reid & Ryan Pearson
Usher: Brittany Albert
Communion: Diana & Paige Pearson