

EPIPHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH
12th Sunday after Pentecost, August 16, 2026
Praise Worship
Far Hills Campus 9:00 AM, Austin Campus 10:30 AM

Gather

GATHERING SONG: *HOUSE OF THE LORD*

We worship the God who was
We worship the God who is
We worship the God who evermore will be
He opened the prison doors
He parted the raging sea
My God He holds the victory yeah

Chorus: There's joy in the house of the Lord
There's joy in the house of the Lord today
And we won't be quiet
We shout out Your praise
There's joy in the house of the Lord
Our God is surely in this place
And we won't be quiet
We shout out Your praise

Interlude: Oh oh oh

We shout out Your praise
We sing to the God who heals
We sing to the God who saves
We sing to the God who always makes a way
'Cause He hung up on that cross
Then He rose up from that grave
My God's still rolling stones away (*Chorus*)

Bridge: ('Cause) We were the beggars
Now we're royalty
We were the prisoners
We are forgiven accepted
Redeemed by His grace
Let the house of the Lord sing praise (*Chorus 2x, Interlude*)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Compassionate 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**

SHARING THE PEACE

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

C: And also with you.

SONG OF PRAISE: *HOLY WATER*

God I'm on my knees again

God I'm begging please again

I need You

Oh I need You

Walking down these desert roads

Water for my thirsty soul

I need You

Oh I need You

Chorus: Your forgiveness

Is like sweet sweet honey on my lips

Like the sound of a symphony to my ears

Like holy water (on my skin)

Dead man walking slave to sin

I wanna know about being born again

I need You

Oh God I need You

So take me to the riverside

Take me under baptize

I need You

Oh God I need You oh (*Chorus*)

Bridge 3x: I don't wanna abuse Your grace

God I need it ev'ry day

It's the only thing that ever really

Makes me wanna change (*Chorus 2x*)

Yeah it's like holy water on my skin

Oh it's like holy water

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APOSTOLIC GREETING

P: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Word

WELCOME THE CHILDREN

FIRST READING: *GENESIS 45:1-15*

¹ Joseph could no longer control himself before all those who stood by him, and he cried out, “Send everyone away from me.” So no one stayed with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers. ² And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard it. ³ Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?” But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

⁴ Then Joseph said to his brothers, “Come closer to me.” And they came closer. He said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. ⁵ And now do not be distressed or angry with yourselves because you sold me here, for God sent me before you to preserve life. ⁶ For the famine has been in the land these two years, and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. ⁷ God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth and to keep alive for you many survivors. ⁸ So it was not you who sent me here but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of

Egypt. ⁹ Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, ‘Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me; do not delay. ¹⁰ You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children’s children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. ¹¹ I will provide for you there, since there are five more years of famine to come, so that you and your household and all that you have will not come to poverty.’ ¹² And now your eyes and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see that it is my own mouth that speaks to you. ¹³ You must tell my father how greatly I am honored in Egypt and all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here.” ¹⁴ Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin’s neck and wept, while Benjamin wept upon his neck. ¹⁵ And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them, and after that his brothers talked with him.

A: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL READING: MATTHEW 15:21-28

²¹ Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²² Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, “Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.” ²³ But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, “Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.” ²⁴ He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” ²⁵ But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, help me.” ²⁶ He answered, “It is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” ²⁷ She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” ²⁸ Then Jesus answered her, “Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.” And her daughter was healed from that moment.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

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.**

SONG OF THE DAY: *SOMEBODY LIKE ME*

I'm the child of a loving Father
I'm a part of the family
His mercy is sweet like summer
And He's always welcoming
So if you feel like you're going under
Come and fall on amazing grace
He's the God who can walk on water
And His love can change

Chorus: (If you're) Somebody like me
Somebody like you
You come as you are
And you leave brand new
If you're feeling broken
Running out of hope then
Just look how His love set free
Somebody like me
(Somebody like me)

Somebody like me
Should be buried under all my mistakes
Six feet under what I've done
But now I'm covered by the weight of His grace
Hallelujah for the blood that saves (*Chorus*)

Bridge: If you're the wayward son
If you're the daughter on the run
It doesn't matter where you're coming from
He'll set you free
He'll wash you clean
If you're the sheep that's lost
If you're the thief on the cross
You can change the road you're walking on
He'll set you free
He'll wash you clean. (*Chorus 2x*)

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PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Meal

OFFERING: *JESUS CHANGED MY LIFE*

I spent my time running to all the wrong places
I thought that I would be the last one
That You'd ever wanna see
I was so far gone
The kind they give up on
But You are not the kind of God
To ever give up on me
Oh, your kindness led me home

Chorus: Grace came calling my name
Lifted my soul up out of that grave
Was hell bound lost and then found
Look what You've done
You turned it all around
And I can testify
I'm not the same

Like lightning from the sky
Jesus changed my life
You wouldn't let go
You wouldn't leave me
Followed me through darkness
And chased me down with mercy
You wouldn't look back
You see beyond my past
There is nothing I have ever done
To make You love me less (*Chorus*)
Bridge 2x: Thank You for loving me
Thank You for setting me free
Thank You for taking these chains off of me
Thank You that I'm not who I used to be (yeah) (*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...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: *THERE WAS JESUS*

Every time I tried to make it on my own
Every time I tried to stand and start to fall
All those lonely roads that I have traveled on
There was Jesus
When the life I built came crashing to the ground
When the friends I had were nowhere to be found
I couldn't see it then but I can see it now
There was Jesus

Chorus: In the waiting in the searching
In the healing and the hurting
Like a blessing buried in the broken pieces
Every minute every moment
Of where I been or where I'm going
Even when I didn't know it
Or couldn't see it
(There was Jesus)

For this anyone who needs amazing kind of grace
For forgiveness at a price I couldn't pay
I'm not perfect so I thank God every day
There was Jesus (There was Jesus) (*Chorus*)

Bridge: There was Jesus on the mountain in the valleys
(There was Jesus) in the shadows of the alleys
(There was Jesus) in the fire in the flood
(There was Jesus) always is and always was
No I never walk alone You are always there
(Never walk alone) (*Chorus*)

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER

Send

BENEDICTION

CLOSING SONG: *GOODBYE YESTERDAY*

Verse 1A: Goodbye yesterday

I'm living in the light of a new day

I won't waste another minute in my old ways

Praise the Lord I've been born again (2x)

Chorus: Again and again and again and again

You rescued me out of the mess I was in

You traded my sorrow for something to sing

Now I'm dancing on the grave that I once lived in (Verse 1A)

Goodbye yesterday

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me

I've got resurrection in my veins

Praise the Lord I've been born (Chorus 2x)

Bridge: I have decided

To follow Jesus

The world behind

The cross before

And I won't turn back (Chorus)

Post-Chorus: Praise the Lord I've been born again

Praise the Lord I've been born again

Now I'm dancing on the grave that I once lived in

Now I'm dancing on the grave that I once lived in

Dancing on the grave that I once lived in

Dancing on the grave that I once lived in

(REPEAT)

Dancing on the grave that I once lived in

Praise the Lord I've been born again

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SENDING

L: Heaven has come near. Go share 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, Gebe Ferraiuolo, Al Grodrian, Emily Hendrickson, Hannah Hendrickson, Bill Norman, Alexis Veigel, Scott Watamaniuk
Sound: Roland Hogendoorn
Usher: George Downs, Chris Ziehler
Communion: Joyce Addy, Ryan Helbach, Karenn Senger, Kelly Stoller, Nora Wilhelm

Austin Campus 10:30 AM

Presiding Minister: Pastor Corey Wagonfield
Assisting Minister: Candy Norman
Praise Team: Michele Borns, Gebe Ferraiuolo, Al Grodrian, Emily Hendrickson, Hannah Hendrickson, Bill Norman, Alexis Veigel, Scott Watamaniuk
Sound: Roland Hogendoorn
A/V: Billy Heaning
Usher: Kris and Bob Mangan
Communion: The Walker Family