

EPIPHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH
15th Sunday after Pentecost, September 6, 2026

Praise Worship

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

Gather

GATHERING SONG: *YOUR LOVE AWAKENS ME*

There were walls between us
By the cross You came and broke them down
You broke them down
And there were chains around us
By Your grace we are no longer bound
No longer bound

Pre-Chorus: You called me out of the grave
You called me into the light
You called my name and then my heart came alive

Chorus: Your love is greater
Your love is stronger
Your love awakens awakens awakens me
(REPEAT)

Feel the darkness shaking
All the dead are coming back to life
I'm back to life
Hear the song awaken
All creation singing we're alive
'Cause You're alive (*Pre-Chorus, Chorus*)

Bridge 2x: And what a love we've found
Death can't hold us down
We shout it out
We're alive 'cause You're alive (*Chorus 2x*)

Ending: Your love awakens me
Your love is greater
Your love is stronger
Your love awakens awakens awakens me

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: *ACT JUSTLY, LOVE MERCY, WALK HUMBLY*

It all comes down to this

What you require of me

Love my neighbor as myself

And You above all things

Chorus: Act justly love mercy walk humbly

With You God

In all things in all ways walk humbly

With You God

It all comes down to this

To be Your hands and feet

Good news to all the world

The truth will set us free (*Chorus*)

Bridge 2x: It's beauty for ashes

It's mourning to dancing

It's closer and closer

The Kingdom of heaven

Years from now we'll see
The fruit our hands have sown
Faith just like a seed
The only way it grows (*Chorus*)

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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: *EZEKIEL 33:7-11*

⁷ So you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸ If I say to the wicked, “O wicked ones, you shall surely die,” and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. ⁹ But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.

¹⁰ Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel: Thus you have said: “Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?” ¹¹ Say to them: As I live, says the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die, O house of Israel?

A: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: ROMANS 13:8-14

⁸ Owe no one anything, except to love one another, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹ The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery; you shall not murder; you shall not steal; you shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁰ Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

¹¹ Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is already the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹² the night is far gone; the day is near. Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³ let us walk decently as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in illicit sex and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴ Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

A: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

P: The holy gospel according to St. Matthew.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL READING: MATTHEW 18:15-20

¹⁵ “If your brother or sister sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If you are listened to, you have regained that one. ¹⁶ But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷ If that person refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church, and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸ Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹ Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. ²⁰ For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

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: *THEY'LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS BY OUR LOVE*

We are one in the Spirit

We are one in the Lord

We are one in the Spirit

We are one in the Lord

And we pray that all unity

May one day be restored

Chorus: And they'll know we are Christians

By our love by our love

Yes they'll know we are Christians

By our love

We will walk with each other

We will walk hand in hand

We will walk with each other

We will walk hand in hand

And together we'll spread the news

That God is in our land (*Chorus*)

All praise to the Father
From whom all things come
And all praise to Christ Jesus
His only Son
And all praise to the Spirit
Who makes us one (*Chorus*)

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PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Meal

OFFERING: *START A FIRE*

This world can be cold and bitter
Feels like we're in the dead of winter
Waiting on something better
But am I really gonna hide forever
Over and over again
I hear Your voice in my head
Let Your light shine
Let Your light shine for all to see
 Chorus: (And) start a fire in my soul
 Fan the flame and make it grow
 So there's no doubt or denying
 Let it burn so brightly
 That everyone around can see
 That it's You that it's You that we need
 Start a fire in me
You only need a spark to start a whole blaze
It only takes a little faith
Let it start right here in this city
So these old walls will never be the same
Over and over again
I hear Your voice in my head
They need to know I need to go
Spirit won't You fall on my heart now (*Chorus*)
 Bridge: You are the fire You are the flame
 You are the light on the darkest day

We have the hope we bear Your name
We carry the news that You have come to save
Only You can save (*Chorus*)

Tag: You are the fire You are the flame
You are the light on the darkest day
Start a fire in me
Oo oo oo oo
Oo oo oo

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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: *HERE'S MY HEART LORD*

Chorus 1: Here's my heart Lord

Here's my heart Lord

Here's my heart Lord

Speak what is true

V1: 'Cause I am found I am Yours

I am loved I'm made pure

I have life I can breathe

I am healed I am free (*Chorus 1, V1*)

V2: 'Cause You are strong You are sure

You are life You endure

You are good always true

You are light breaking through (*Chorus*)

Tag: Speak what is true, speak what is true. (*V1, V2, Chorus*)

Bridge: You are more than enough

You are here You are love

You are hope You are grace

You're all I have You're everything (*Chorus, Tag*)

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POST-COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER

Send

BENEDICTION

CLOSING SONG: GLORIOUS DAY

I was buried beneath my shame
Who could carry that kind of weight
It was my tomb 'til I met You
I was breathing but not alive
All my failures I tried to hide
It was my tomb 'til I met You

Chorus: ('Cause when) You called my name (and)
I ran out of that grave
Out of the darkness into Your glorious day
You called my name (and) I ran out of that grave
Out of the darkness into Your glorious day

Now Your mercy has saved my soul
Now Your freedom is all that I know
The old made new Jesus when I met You (*Chorus*)

Bridge: I needed rescue my sin was heavy
But chains break at the weight of Your glory
I needed shelter I was an orphan
Now You call me a citizen of Heaven
When I was broken You were my healing
Now Your love is the air that I'm breathing
I have a future my eyes are open (*Chorus*)

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SENDING

L: Go in peace. Flourish with creation.

C: Thanks be to God.

Serving in Worship

Far Hills Campus 9:00 AM

Presiding Minister: Pastor Julie Reuning-Scherer
Assisting Minister: Jane Lane
Praise Team: Doug Day, Al Grodrian, Mary Groom, Craig Hoerig
Anastasia Rodgers, Alexis Veigel, Scott Watamaniuk
Sound: Roland Hogendoorn
Usher: Beth Fischer, Angi Moots
Communion: Mary Downs, Lori Embry, Josh Hendrickson,
Leah Hendrickson, Nathan Hendrickson

Austin Campus 10:30 AM

Presiding Minister: Pastor Corey Wagonfield
Assisting Minister: Billy Heaning
Praise Team: Doug Day, Al Grodrian, Mary Groom, Craig Hoerig
Anastasia Rodgers, Alexis Veigel, Scott Watamaniuk
Sound: Roland Hogendoorn
A/V: Todd Schluter
Stream Team: Anthony Brown, and Landon Henderson
Usher: Kim Brown
Communion: The Manning Family

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