

EPIPHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH
19th Sunday after Pentecost, October 4, 2026

Praise Worship

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

Gather

GATHERING SONG: *MY FEET ARE ON THE ROCK*

I can see the clouds roll in
I can feel the winds, they try to shake me
I will not be moved, my feet are on the Rock

I can feel the waters rise
I can hear the howling lies that haunt me
Fear won't hold me now, my feet are on the Rock

Chorus: When I feel my hope about to break
I will cling to your unchanging grace
Let the waters come and the Earth give way
I'll be dancing in the rain, my feet are on the Rock

I can see the morning light
I can feel the joy on the horizon
Here my faith is found
I stand on solid ground (**Chorus**)

Bridge: On Christ the solid Rock I stand
All other ground is sinking sand
So stomp your feet and clap your hands
Our feet are on the Rock (*Sing Bridge 3X*)
(**Chorus 2X**)

My feet are on the Rock, my feet are on the Rock

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WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Everlasting God, the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end,

C: We confess that we participate in systems that perpetuate oppression and injustice. We are often numb to the pain of the world around us, resistant to change that costs us something, and reluctant to love our neighbors as ourselves. We sin against your good creation, failing to be faithful stewards of the land, the sea, and all their creatures. Make your home among us once more, O God, naming us beloved and opening our hearts to do your will.

Amen.

SHARING THE PEACE

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

C: And also with you.

SONG OF PRAISE: CORNERSTONE

My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness
I dare not trust the sweetest frame
But wholly trust in Jesus' name **(Repeat)**
Chorus: Christ alone, cornerstone
Weak made strong in the Savior's love
Through the storm He is Lord
Lord of all

When darkness seems to hide his face
I rest on His unchanging grace
In every high and stormy gale
My anchor holds within the veil
My anchor holds within the veil **(Chorus 3x)**

When He shall come with trumpet sound
Oh may I then in Him be found
Dressed in His righteousness alone
Faultless stand before the throne

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: *PHILIPPIANS 3:4B-14*

^{4b} If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more:

⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

⁷ Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸ More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰ I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

¹² Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal, but I press on to lay hold of that for which Christ has laid hold of me.

¹³ Brothers and sisters, I do not consider that I have laid hold of it, but one thing I have laid hold of: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal, toward the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

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 21:33-46

³³ “Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a winepress in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went away. ³⁴ When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. ³⁵ But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶ Again he sent other slaves, more than the first, and they treated them in the same way. ³⁷ Then he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ ³⁸ But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.’ ³⁹ So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. ⁴⁰ Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” ⁴¹ They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.”

⁴² Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the scriptures:
‘The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone;
this was the Lord’s doing,
and it is amazing in our eyes’?

⁴³ “Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces its fruits. ⁴⁴ The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces, and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.”

⁴⁵ When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. ⁴⁶ They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

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: *NO LONGER SLAVES*

You unravel me with a melody
You surround me with a song
Of deliverance from my enemies
Till all my fears are gone

Chorus: I'm no longer a slave to fear, I am a child of God **(Repeat)**

From my mother's womb you have chosen me
Love has called my name
I've been born again into your family
Your blood flows through my veins **(Chorus)**

Bridge: You split the sea so I could walk right through it
My fears were drowned in perfect love
You rescued me so I could stand and sing
I am a child of God

I am a child of God **(3x) (Chorus)**

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PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

OFFERING: *YOUR MERCY*

I once was lost, I walked away
The road was dark, I could not see
My hope was gone, the pain was real
But Your mercy
You saw my steps, You felt my fear
You heard my cries, You caught my tears
Arms open wide, You ran to me
With Your mercy

Chorus: Your mercy, Your mercy

I stand before my King
And I bow my heart to sing
You save me, You raise me
You died so I could live
No greater love than this
Your mercy

You gave me life beyond the grave
My deepest shame is cast away
You sing a song that covers me
It's Your mercy (**Chorus**)
Your mercy

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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: *BEAUTIFUL THINGS*

All this pain
I wonder if I'll ever find my way
I wonder if my life could really change at all
All this earth
Could all that is lost ever be found
Could a garden come up from this ground at all
Chorus: You make beautiful things
You make beautiful things out of the dust
You make beautiful things
You make beautiful things out of us
All around
Hope is springing up from this old ground
Out of chaos life is being found in you **(Chorus 2x)**
Bridge: You make me new
You are making me new **(Repeat) (Chorus 2x)**

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER

Send

BENEDICTION

CLOSING SONG: *YOU NEVER LET GO*

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death
Your perfect love is casting out fear
And even when I'm caught in the middle of the storms of this life
I won't turn back, I know you are near

Pre-Chorus: And I will fear no evil

For my God is with me

And if my God is with me

Whom then shall I fear

Whom then shall I fear

Chorus: Oh no you never let go

Through the calm and through the storm

Oh no you never let go

In every high and every low

Oh no you never let go

Lord you never let go of me

And I can see a light that is coming for the heart that holds on
A glorious light beyond all compare
And there will be an end to these troubles but until that day comes
We'll live to know you here on the earth **(Pre-Chorus) (Chorus)**

You keep on runnin' and you never let go

Singing... **(Chorus)**

Bridge: Yes I can see a light that is coming

For the heart that holds on

And there will be an end to these troubles

But until that day comes

Still I will praise you

Still I will praise you **(Repeat Bridge) (Chorus 2x)**

Lord you never let go of me

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: Lori Brockman
Praise Team: Mary Groom, Emily Hendrickson, Hanah
Hendrickson, Dick Lane, Bill Norman, Thom Reitz,
Anastasia Rodgers, and Scott Watamaniuk
Slides: Ed Wasser
Sound: Roland Hogendoorn
Usher: John Dietrich, Kevin Carlson
Communion: Andy Addy, Joyce Addy, Lori Watmaniuk, Mason
Watamaniuk

Austin Campus 10:30 AM

Presiding Minister: Pastor Corey Wagonfield
Assisting Minister: Mike Wipperman
Praise Team: Mary Groom, Emily Hendrickson, Hanah
Hendrickson, Dick Lane, Bill Norman, Thom Reitz,
Anastasia Rodgers, and Scott Watamaniuk
Slides: Gianna Pinto
Sound: Roland Hogendoorn
Stream Team: Reid and Ryan Pearson, Evan Wierwille-training
Usher: Ryan Hunt, Cat Sorensen
Communion: Sharon Culham, Ben, Sam and Erin Haligowski