

EPIPHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH
21st Sunday after Pentecost, October 18, 2026

Praise Worship

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

Gather

GATHERING SONG: *COME, NOW IS THE TIME TO WORSHIP*

Chorus: Come now is the time to worship
Come now is the time to give your heart
Come just as you are to worship
Come just as you are before your God
Come

One day every tongue will confess you are God
One day every knee will bow
Still the greatest treasure remains for those who gladly choose you now
(Chorus)

One day every tongue will confess you are God
One day every knee will bow
Still the greatest treasure remains for those who gladly choose you now
(Chorus)

Come, come, come
Just as you are, come, come

Words and Music by Brian Doerkson © 1998 Vineyard Songs.

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: *GREAT ARE YOU LORD*

You give life, you are love
You bring light to the darkness
You give hope, you restore every heart that is broken
And great are you, Lord

Chorus: It's your breath in our lungs
So we pour out our praise, we pour out our praise
It's your breath in our lungs
So we pour out our praise to you only (**Verse, Chorus 2x**)

Bridge: All the earth will shout your praise
Our hearts will cry, these bones will sing
Great are you, Lord (**Bridge 3x**) (**Chorus 2x**)

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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: *ISAIAH 45:1-7*

- ¹ Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus,
whose right hand I have grasped
to subdue nations before him
and to strip kings of their robes,
to open doors before him—
and the gates shall not be closed:
- ² I will go before you
and level the mountains;
I will break in pieces the doors of bronze
and cut through the bars of iron;
- ³ I will give you the treasures of darkness
and riches hidden in secret places,
so that you may know that it is I, the LORD,
the God of Israel, who call you by your name.
- ⁴ For the sake of my servant Jacob
and Israel my chosen,
I call you by your name;
I give you a title, though you do not know me.
- ⁵ I am the LORD, and there is no other;
besides me there is no god.
I arm you, though you do not know me,
- ⁶ so that they may know, from the rising of the sun
and from the west, that there is no one besides me;
I am the LORD, and there is no other.
- ⁷ I form light and create darkness,
I make weal and create woe;
I the LORD do all these things.

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 22:15-22

¹⁵ The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said. ¹⁶ So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one, for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷ Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar or not?” ¹⁸ But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹ Show me the coin used for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰ Then he said to them, “Whose head is this and whose title?” ²¹ They answered, “Caesar’s.” Then he said to them, “Give therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s and to God the things that are God’s.” ²² When they heard this, they were amazed, and they left him and went away.

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: *BUILD MY LIFE*

Worthy of every song we could ever sing
Worthy of all the praise we could ever bring
Worthy of every breath we could ever breathe
We live for You, oh, we live for You

Jesus, the name above every other name
Jesus, the only one who could ever save
Worthy of every breath we could ever breathe
We live for You, we live for You

Chorus: Holy, there is no one like you
There is none beside you, open up my eyes in wonder
And show me who you are and fill me with your heart
And lead me in your love to those around me

Jesus, the name above every other name
Jesus, the only One who could ever save
Worthy of every breath we could ever breathe
We live for you, oh, we live for you (**Chorus**)

Bridge: I will build my life upon your love,
It is a firm foundation
And I will put my trust in you alone and I will not be shaken (**Chorus**)

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PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

OFFERING: I'VE GOT A FIRE

I've got a fire that will never burn out
I've got a song that you can't turn down
I've got a joy deep down in my soul
I've got joy and it overflows

Break off the chains, let the horses run
Unleash the praise at the top of your lungs
Right now we're living in the Father's grace
Right now heaven is in this place

Chorus: I could sing forever
How you freed my soul
Freed my soul
Freed my soul
I could sing forever
How you made me whole
Made me whole
Made me whole

Break off the chains, let the horses run
Unleash the praise at the top of your lungs
Right now we're living in the Father's grace
Right now heaven is in this place

Bridge: How could I forget
Just how good you've been
All your promises
I'll sing it again and sing it again **(Repeat)**

I've got a fire that will never burn out
(I've got a fire that will never burn out) **(Repeat)**
I've got a fire that will never burn out

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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: WHAT A BEAUTIFUL NAME

You were the Word at the beginning
One with God the Lord Most High
Your hidden glory in creation
Now revealed in You our Christ

Chorus 1: What a beautiful Name it is, what a beautiful Name it is
The Name of Jesus Christ my King
What a beautiful Name it is, nothing compares to this
What a beautiful Name it is, the Name of Jesus

You didn't want heaven without us
So Jesus You brought heaven down
My sin was great, Your love was greater
What could separate us now

Chorus 2: What a wonderful Name it is, what a wonderful Name it is
The Name of Jesus Christ my King
What a wonderful Name it is, Nothing compares to this
What a wonderful Name it is, the Name of Jesus
What a wonderful Name it is, the Name of Jesus

Bridge: Death could not hold You, the veil tore before You
You silence the boast of sin and grave
The heavens are roaring the praise of Your glory
For You are raised to life again
You have no rival, You have no equal
Now and forever God You reign
Yours is the kingdom, Yours is the glory
Yours is the Name above all names

Chorus 3: What a powerful Name it is, What a powerful Name it is
The Name of Jesus Christ my King
What a powerful Name it is, nothing can stand against
What a powerful Name it is, the Name of Jesus
What a powerful Name it is, the Name of Jesus
What a powerful Name it is, the Name of Jesus

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POST-COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER

COMMISSIONING OF HOME COMMUNION VOLUNTEERS

BENEDICTION

CLOSING SONG: HALLELUJAH ANYWAY

I'll find a way to praise You
From the bottom of my broken heart
'Cause I think I'd rather strike a match
Than curse the dark
I'll find a way to thank You
Though the bitterness is real and hard
'Cause I'd rather take a chance on hope
Than fall apart
I don't think I'm ready to surrender to the dark

Chorus: Even if my daylight never dawns
Even if my breakthrough never comes
Even if, I'll fight to bring You praise
Even if my dreams fall to the ground
Even if I'm lost, I know I'm found
Even if, my heart will somehow say
Hallelujah anyway

I hear a hymn of triumph
In the wilderness of my lament
In the lowlands or the mountain tops I won't forget
All that goodness that You have shown me
The promises that You have kept
There's better days on the horizon up ahead (**Chorus**)

Bridge: Let it rise let it rise
In the dark or the light
Oh my soul stand and fight
If you've got a song to sing let it rise (**Chorus**)

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 John Hitzeroth
Assisting Minister: Kathy Whited
Praise Team: Doug Day, Olivia Donaghue, Sara Donaghue, Mary Groom, Craig Hoerig, Thom Reitz, Scott Watamaniuk and Robyn Zimmann
Slides: Felicity Glass
Sound: Ed Wasser
Usher: John Dietrich, Troy Stoller
Communion: Lou Czewski, Sandy Czewski, Mary Downs, Sheryl Kent

Austin Campus 10:30 AM

Presiding Minister: Pastor Julie Reuning-Scherer
Assisting Minister: Billy Heaning
Praise Team: Doug Day, Olivia Donaghue, Sara Donaghue, Mary Groom, Craig Hoerig, Thom Reitz, Scott Watamaniuk and Robyn Zimmann
Live Stream: Jacob Knueven, Anthony Brown, Troy Wipperman
Slides: Brittany Albert
Sound: Spencer Watamaniuk
Usher: Kim Brown
Communion: The Manning family