

EPIPHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

We Love Jesus by Serving Others
18th Sunday after Pentecost
September 26, 2021, Traditional Worship
Far Hills Campus, 10:30 AM

Serving in Worship

Presiding Minister:	Pastor John Mittermaier
Assisting Minister:	Melonie June Warren
Organist:	John Benjamin
Cantor:	Martha Armstrong-Benjamin
Sound:	Ed Wasser
Stream Team:	Anthony Brown, Alex Wasser
Ushers:	David Huber, Mark Wilson
Communion Servers:	Felicity Glass, Bob & Cindy Hess, Barb Parisi, RoseAnn Venis

GATHER

PRE-SERVICE: *BRING FORTH THE KINGDOM OF GOD (Marty Haugen)*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

- P: In Holy Baptism our Lord Jesus Christ received you...
- P: We thank you, Lord, for these new disciples you have brought to our congregation. By your life-giving power, bind us to each other in you, strengthen us for service, support us all our days, and bring us at length to that day when all your children will be one and you will be All-in-All.
- C: We welcome you as brothers and sisters in Christ who share your commitment to be disciples of Jesus. We pledge you our prayers, a spirit of friendliness and warmth, and an extended concern for your faithful and continued relationship to our Lord through his Church.**

PRELUDE: *CHORALE #3 (César Franck)*

(Please stand as you are able and face the baptismal font)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Most merciful 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. Amen.

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

SHARING THE PEACE

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

C: And also with you.

At this time, please share the peace with those around you. Also, please take this time to say hello and share the peace in the comment section of the YouTube channel livestream or in the Facebook feed comment section. Take a selfie and let us know you are worshipping with us!



1 *Can - tad al Se - ñor un cán - ti - co nue - vo.*
 1 Oh, sing to the Lord, oh, sing God a new song.
 2 For God is the Lord, and God has done won - ders.
 3 So dance for our God and blow all the trum - pets.
 4 Oh, shout to our God, who gave us the Spir - it.
 5 For Je - sus is Lord! A - men! Al - le - lu - ia!



Can - tad al Se - ñor un cán - ti - co nue - vo.
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 For God is the Lord, and God has done won - ders.
 So dance for our God and blow all the trum - pets.
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 For Je - sus is Lord! A - men! Al - le - lu - ia!



¡Can - tad al Se - ñor, can - tad al Se - ñor!
 Oh, sing to our God, oh, sing to our God.

Text: Brazilian folk song; tr. Gerhard M. Cartford, b. 1923, Spanish and English
 Music: CANTAD AL SEÑOR, Brazilian folk tune
 Spanish and English text © Gerhard Cartford, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

APOSTOLIC GREETING

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

C: **And also with you.**

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb

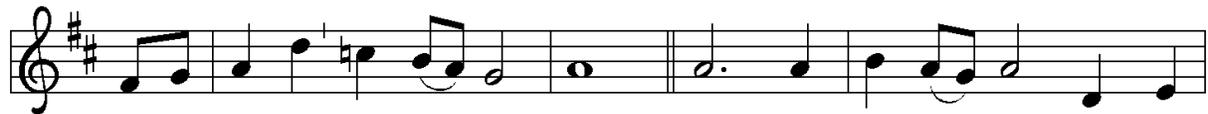


who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and

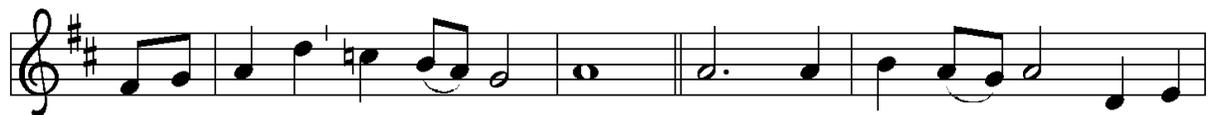


strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of

(continued)



God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,

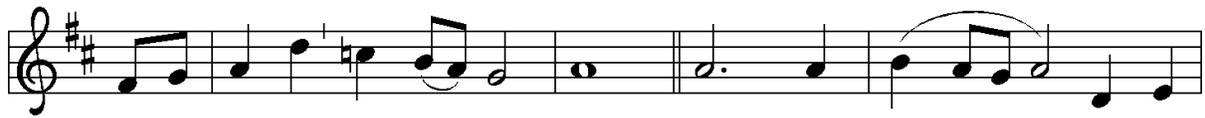


glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was



slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

(Please be seated)

WORD

WELCOMING THE CHILDREN

⁴The rabble among them had a strong craving; and the Israelites also wept again, and said, “If only we had meat to eat! ⁵We remember the fish we used to eat in Egypt for nothing, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic; ⁶but now our strength is dried up, and there is nothing at all but this manna to look at.”

¹⁰Moses heard the people weeping throughout their families, all at the entrances of their tents. Then the LORD became very angry, and Moses was displeased. ¹¹So Moses said to the LORD, “Why have you treated your servant so badly? Why have I not found favor in your sight, that you lay the burden of all this people on me? ¹²Did I conceive all this people? Did I give birth to them, that you should say to me, ‘Carry them in your bosom, as a nurse carries a sucking child, to the land that you promised on oath to their ancestors?’ ¹³Where am I to get meat to give to all this people? For they come weeping to me and say, ‘Give us meat to eat!’ ¹⁴I am not able to carry all this people alone, for they are too heavy for me. ¹⁵If this is the way you are going to treat me, put me to death at once—if I have found favor in your sight—and do not let me see my misery.”

¹⁶So the LORD said to Moses, “Gather for me seventy of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them; bring them to the tent of meeting, and have them take their place there with you.”

²⁴So Moses went out and told the people the words of the LORD; and he gathered seventy elders of the people, and placed them all around the tent. ²⁵Then the LORD came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders; and when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. But they did not do so again.

²⁶Two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the spirit rested on them; they were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. ²⁷And a young man ran and told Moses, “Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.”

²⁸And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men, said, “My lord Moses, stop them!”

²⁹But Moses said to him, “Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the LORD’s people were prophets, and that the LORD would put his spirit on them!”

A: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSIVE READING: FROM PSALM 119



A: The teaching of the Lord is perfect and revives the soul;

C: **the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.**

A: The statutes of the Lord are just and rejoice the heart;

C: **the commandment of the Lord is clear and gives light to the eyes.**

A: The fear of the Lord is clean and endures forever;

C: **the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether. (Refrain)**

A: More to be desired are they than much fine gold,

C: **they are far sweeter than honey in the comb.**

A: By them also is your servant enlightened,

C: **in keeping them there is great reward.**

A: Who can detect one’s own offenses?

C: **Cleanse me from my secret faults.**

A: Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer. **(Refrain)**

¹³Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. ¹⁴Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. ¹⁵The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. ¹⁶Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. ¹⁷Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. ¹⁸Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest. ¹⁹My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, ²⁰you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

A: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

(Please stand as you are able)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the

words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL READING: MARK 9:38-50

P: The holy gospel according to St. Mark.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁸John said to [Jesus,] “Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.” ³⁹But Jesus said, “Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. ⁴⁰Whoever is not against us is for us. ⁴¹For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward. ⁴²“If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. ⁴³If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. ⁴⁵And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. ⁴⁷And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, ⁴⁸where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched. ⁴⁹“For everyone will be salted with fire. ⁵⁰Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.”

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

(Please be seated)

SERMON

(Please stand as you are able)

HYMN OF THE DAY: *WHERE CROSS THE CROWDED WAYS OF LIFE*

#719



1 Where cross the crowd-ed ways of life, where sound the
2 In haunts of wretch-ed - ness and need, on shad - owed
3 From ten - der child-hood's help - less - ness, from hu - man
4 The cup of wa - ter giv'n for you still holds the



cries of race and clan, a - bove the noise of
thresh-olds dark with fears, from paths where hide the
grief and bur - dened toil, from fam - ished souls, from
fresh - ness of your grace; yet long these mul - ti -



self - ish strife, we hear your voice, O Son of Man.
lures of greed, we catch the vi - sion of your tears.
sor - row's stress, your heart has nev - er known re - coil.
tudes to view the strong com - pas - sion in your face.

5 O Master, from the mountainside
make haste to heal these hearts of pain;
among these restless throngs abide;
oh, tread the city's streets again;

6 Till all the world shall learn your love,
and follow where your feet have trod;
till glorious from your heav'n above
shall come the city of our God.

Text: Frank M. North, 1850–1935, alt.
Music: WALTON, W. Gardiner, Sacred Melodies, 1815

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.**

(Please kneel or be seated)

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH (after each petition...)

A: Lord, in your mercy,

C: **hear our prayer.**

(Please be seated)

MEAL

OFFERING: *THIS LITTLE LIGHT OF MINE* (arr. Neil Johnson)

Epiphany Chorale

(Please stand as you are able)

OFFERTORY: *LORD, WHOSE LOVE IN HUMBLE SERVICE*

#712



4 Called by wor - ship to your ser - vice, forth in your dear name we go,



to the child, the youth, the a - ged, love in liv - ing deeds to show;



hope and health, good-will and com - fort, coun - sel, aid, and peace we give,



that your ser - vants, Lord, in free - dom may your mer - cy know and live.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984

Music: BEACH SPRING, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844

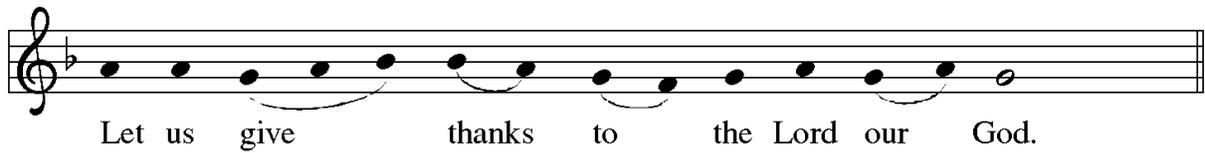
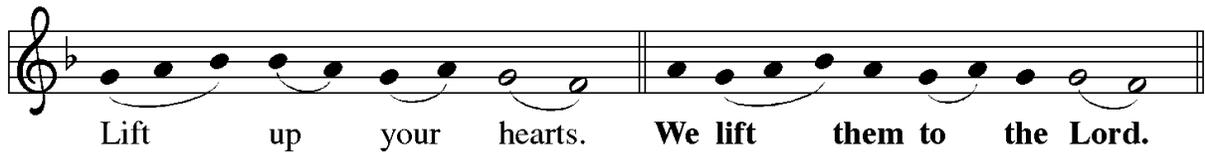
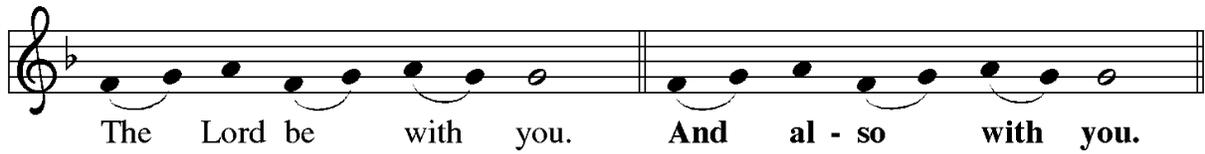
Text © Oxford University Press

OFFERING PRAYER

A: Let us pray. God of abundance, you cause streams to break forth in the desert and manna to rain from the heavens. Accept the gifts you have first given us. Unite them with the offering of our lives to nourish the world you love so dearly; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

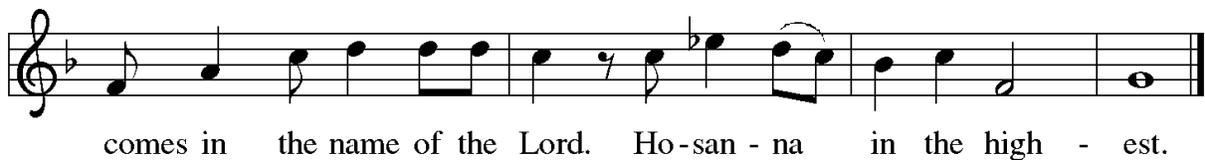
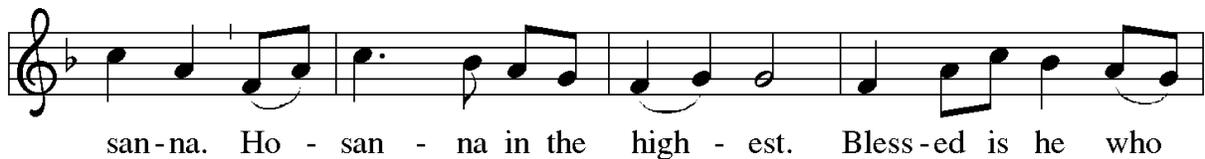
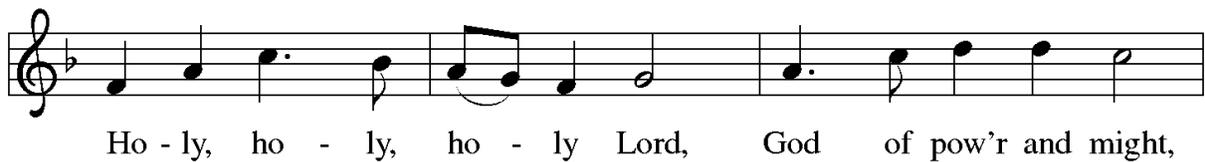
C: **Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

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.

(Please be seated)

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

Homebound List and Communion: If you are unable to attend worship due to health concerns, please contact the church office to be included on the homebound list.

COMMUNION HYMN: YOU SATISFY THE HUNGRY HEART

#484

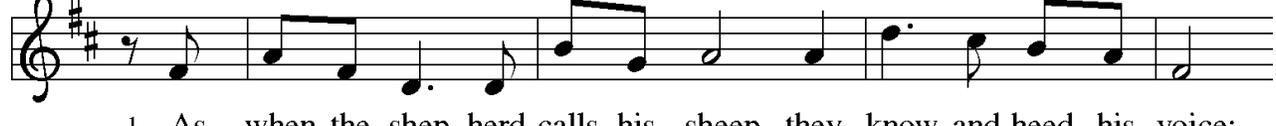
Refrain



You sat - is - fy the hun - gry heart with gift of fin - est wheat.



Come give to us, O sav - ing Lord, the bread of life to eat.



- 1 As when the shep - herd calls his sheep, they know and heed his voice;
- 2 With joy - ful lips we sing to you our praise and grat - i - tude
- 3 Is not the cup we bless and share the blood of Christ out - poured?
- 4 The mys - t'ry of your pres - ence, Lord, no mor - tal tongue can tell:
- 5 You give your - self to us, O Lord; then self - less let us be,



Refrain

so when you call your fam - 'ly, Lord, we fol - low and re - joi - ce.
that you should count us wor - thy, Lord, to share this heav' n - ly food.
Do not one cup, one loaf, de - clare our one - ness in the Lord?
whom all the world can - not con - tain comes in our hearts to dwell.
to serve each oth - er in your name in truth and char - i - ty.

Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997
Music: BICENTENNIAL, Robert E. Kreutz, 1922–1996
Text and music © 1977 Archdiocese of Philadelphia.

(Please stand as you are able)

SEND

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN: LORD, DISMISS US WITH YOUR BLESSING

#545



1 Lord, dis - miss us with your bless-ing, fill our hearts with joy and peace;
2 Thanks we give and ad - o - ra - tion for your gos - pel's joy - ful sound.
3 Sav - ior, when your love shall call us from our strug - gling pil - grim way,



let us each, your love pos - sess-ing, tri - umph in re - deem-ing grace.
May the fruits of your sal - va - tion in our hearts and lives a - bound.
let no fear of death ap - pall us, glad your sum - mons to o - bey.



Oh, re - fresh us; oh, re - fresh us, trav - 'ling through this wil - der - ness.
Ev - er faith - ful, ev - er faith - ful to your truth may we be found.
May we ev - er, may we ev - er reign with you in end - less day.

Text: attr. John Fawcett, 1740–1817, sts. 1–2, alt.; Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, st. 3, alt.
Music: SICILIAN MARINERS, Sicilian, 18th cent.

DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

*Please take a moment to share comments and fellowship with each other after the service is completed.
The livestream will continue for a few minutes to allow for your interaction.*

Parish Notes

The flowers on the Far Hills altar are placed by Jeff and Donna Teuscher in honor of their daughter, Emilie's, birthday

Recently hospitalized: Trent Brooks

Our Sympathy to Carla Smith on the death of her mother, Candy Norman on the death of her uncle, and Kathy Hibbs on the death of her mother.

Blessing of the Animals

Saturday, October 2 | 12:30-1:30 PM

St. Francis Picnic Shelter, 6245 Wilmington Pike, Centerville 45459

In honor of the Feast of St Francis (Oct. 4), Epiphany and St. Francis are joining together for a Blessing of the Animals. All pets are welcome! Feel free to bring a picture of any pets that aren't easily transported or who might be too nervous to enjoy the event. Questions? Contact Phil Nielsen

Third Grade Bible Presentation

October 10 Worship Services | Both Campuses

We are pleased to present a personalized NRSV Bible to your child during one of three worship services on Sunday, October 10. **Interested parents and caregivers, please register your child by October 4.** Children older than third grade, but who have not yet received a Bible, are also welcome to register.

Service of Silent Loss

October 13 | 7 PM | Austin Campus

October is Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Month. We invite those who have experienced this type of loss to join us in this service of acknowledgment and healing.

Stewardship Commitment Sunday on October 17, 2021

The Stewardship Committee recently announced Epiphany's "FAITHFUL STEWARDS in the New Normal" campaign. This year's campaign is comprehensive – inviting the gifts of our time, talents, and abundance. Over the next few weeks, you'll hear stories that lead up to Stewardship Commitment Sunday on October 17, 2021. We pray that you'll come celebrate with us that day, and we would like to treat you to some heartfelt gratitude following all worship services.

Give Altar Flowers, Eternal Flame

Give altar flowers in honor, celebration or memory of loved ones, and you may also light the Eternal Flame in memory of loved ones. The cost is \$30 for flowers and \$10 to light the flame. Give online or by check made out to Epiphany with altar flowers or eternal flame noted in the memo. Please contact Natalie Heimann (nheimann@epiphanydayton.org).

Let Us Pray for You! We want to know when you're hospitalized or when you have a life event, such as a birth, marriage, death in the family, etc. Contact Pastor Jay (937-750-2333). Prayer requests can also be sent to nheimann@epiphanydayton.org.

Epiphany Lutheran Church streams one of its worship services every Sunday, and the videos are shared on Epiphany's website and social media channels.

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FAITHFUL STEWARDS

IN THE NEW NORMAL

Stewardship Appeal 2022



The Psalmist writes in Psalm 85:2 “Your love has always been our lives’ foundation, your fidelity has been the roof over our world.” (from THE MESSAGE)

If you think the word “stewardship” translates into “money,” we think you will be pleasantly surprised by this year’s appeal! Our bulletin inserts for the next three weeks will highlight the three goals of this year’s campaign. The first two goals are not about money – they are about your time and talents. From grateful hearts comes the offering of our very selves. As we pray in worship, *“Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions.”* (ELW p. 107)

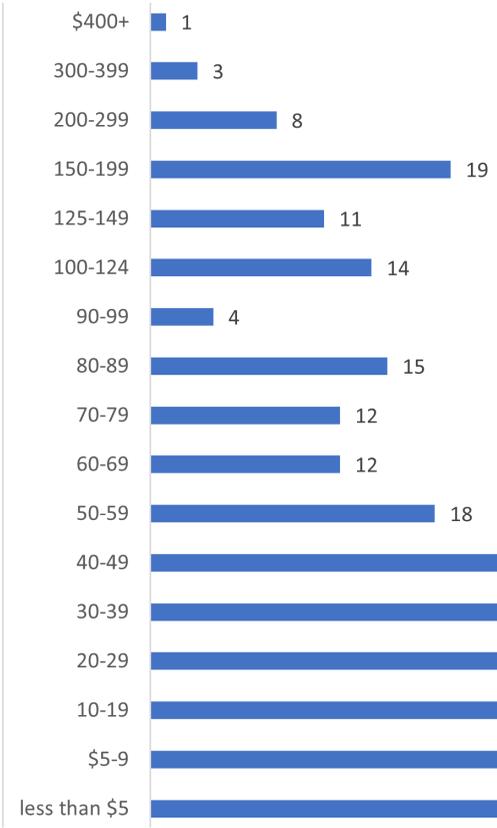
This week’s emphasis: 1. We invite you to GROW IN SPIRIT. Spiritual growth has both corporate and individual elements. At the time of last year’s appeal, both Epiphany campuses were closed to in-person worship. Many people reported how much they missed being together and they now have a new appreciation for gathering in-person for Word and Sacrament. This year we hope to remain safely open for one of the most important elements of our faith lives – worship. Renew your commitment to worship faithfully.

Many other aspects of spiritual growth and nurture can take place at home. Set aside a special place and time for Bible reading, reflection, and prayer. Use the God Pause daily devotion provided online by Epiphany. Both online and in-person group Bible studies are available. Commit to grow spiritually in the coming year. As you make this commitment, know that Epiphany is dedicated to providing resources you need for spiritual growth.

Next week's emphasis: 2. We invite you to GROW IN SERVICE. The second week we will emphasize re-engagement. COVID prevented many service and volunteer opportunities. Several ministry group leaders told us that the greatest need was for volunteers. Remember, we love Jesus by serving others!

The third week's emphasis: 3. We invite you to GROW IN GENEROSITY. The third week we will talk about money. Our financial giving is an indicator of spiritual growth and a necessary foundation for ministry.

COMMITMENT SUNDAY IS OCTOBER 17. Our Stewardship Team will share our thanks after each service at both campuses.



RANGE OF GIFTS GIVEN

This chart shows how we are currently funding our operating budget, which enables our worship, service and fellowship to thrive. Look through the chart to see where you are currently. As you do this, consider these questions:

- †How does my giving level compare with other ways I use my money?
- †How adequately does my giving reflect my gratitude to God for all the blessings I receive?

CURRENT GIVING
383 Total Households

On a recent Sunday morning at our Austin Campus, first-time visitors announced, “We’re new here!” They were new to the service and the facility, but it turns out that they had been worshipping online with us for almost a year. They had even noticed their next door neighbor on the live stream of worship! Their faith was being nurtured and fed by methods we could not have imagined a generation ago. We can measure worship attendance at our services – even the online worshipers. We can, of course, measure our offerings by the weekly count. There’s probably complete agreement that we would like to see attendance and offerings grow, but that’s a challenge in these pandemic times.

An even tougher challenge is measuring personal spiritual growth! You can’t use a yardstick and make marks on the doorpost like you do for children and grandchildren as they grow in height. Journaling might serve that purpose, recording time spent in prayer, meditation, and quiet time with God. Perhaps the best method for measuring growth is adding something. Do you allow enough time for prayer? Is Bible reading and study on your calendar, whether it be online or in person? Are you worshipping regularly – online or in person? These are possible ways to “measure” spiritual growth with a very desirable outcome of being drawn closer to God.

Christian stewardship is not just about money but about all that we have been given – ourselves, our time, and our possessions.