

EPIPHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

We Love Jesus by Serving Others
1st Sunday of Advent
November 28, 2021, Traditional Worship
Far Hills Campus, 10:30 AM

Serving in Worship

Presiding Minister:	Pastor Bob Breseman
Assisting Minister:	Bob Ellefson
Organist:	John Benjamin
Cantor:	Kathleen Wilson
Chorale Accompanist:	Amy Gray
Sound:	Melonie June Warren
Stream Team:	Ryan Pearson, Drew Simon
Usher:	Ron Armstrong, John Venis
Communion Servers:	Bob & Cindy Hess, Sandy Houpt, Ann Painter, Cooper Richard

GATHER

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC: *CANTABILE (Jacques Lemmens)*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE: *CREATOR OF THE STARS OF NIGHT (David Johnson)*

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

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity: one God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin, trusting in the tender mercy of our God.

(silence for reflection and self-examination)

P: God for whom we wait,

C: in the presence of one another, we confess our sin before you. We fail in believing that your good news is for us. We falter in our call to tend your creation. We find our sense of self in material wealth. We fear those different from ourselves. We forget that we are your children and turn away from your love. Forgive us, Blessed One, and assure us again of your saving grace. Amen.

P: God, in Christ Jesus, has looked with favor upon you. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, † your sins are forgiven. You are children of the Most High, inheritors of the eternal promise, and recipients of divine mercy. God strengthens you anew to follow the way of peace.

C: Amen.

SHARING THE PEACE

P: We have been forgiven and reconciled to God through Christ our Savior.
Therefore, let us be reconciled to each other and share the peace of the Lord.
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!

OPENING HYMN: REJOICE, REJOICE, BELIEVERS

#244



1 Re - joice, re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear;
2 The watch - ers on the moun - tain pro - claim the bride - groom near;
3 The saints, who here in pa - tience their cross and suf - f'ring bore,
4 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;



the eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.
go forth as he ap - proach - es with al - le - lu - ias clear.
shall live and reign for - ev - er when sor - row is no more.
a - rise, O Sun so longed for, o'er this be - night - ed sphere.



The bride - groom is a - ris - ing and soon is draw - ing nigh.
The mar - riage feast is wait - ing; the gates wide o - pen stand.
A - round the throne of glo - ry the Lamb they shall be - hold;
With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see



Up, pray and watch and wres - tle; at mid - night comes the cry.
A - rise, O heirs of glo - ry; the bride - groom is at hand.
in tri - umph cast be - fore him their di - a - dems of gold.
the day of earth's re - demp - tion that sets your peo - ple free!

Text: Laurentius Laurenti, 1660–1722; tr. Sarah B. Findlater, 1823–1907
Music: HAF TRONES LAMPA FÄRDIG, Swedish folk tune

APOSTOLIC GREETING

P: From the one who is and who was and who is to come, grace and peace be with you all.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection alert us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and redeem us for your life of justice, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

(Please be seated)

WORD

WELCOMING THE CHILDREN AND LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

(the first candle is lit)

A: We praise you, O God, for this evergreen crown that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent. As we light the first candle on this wreath, rouse us from sleep, that we may be ready to greet our Lord when he comes with all the saints and angels. Enlighten us with your grace, and prepare our hearts to welcome him with joy. Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near.

C: Amen.

RESPONSE: LIGHT ONE CANDLE

#240



1 Light one can - dle to watch for Mes - si - ah: let the light ban - ish dark - ness.



He shall bring sal - va - tion to Is - ra - el, God ful - fills the prom - ise.

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954
Music: TIF IN VELDELE, Yiddish folk tune
Text © 1984 Fortress Press, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

FIRST READING: JEREMIAH 33:14-16

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¹⁴The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ¹⁵In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ¹⁶In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

A: Word of God. Word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSIVE READING: FROM PSALM 25

A: To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

C: My God, I put my trust in you.

A: Show me your ways, O Lord, and teach me your paths.

C: Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation.

A: Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love, for they are from everlasting.

C: Remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.

A: You are gracious and upright, O Lord; therefore you teach sinners in your way.

C: You lead the lowly in justice and teach the lowly your way.

A: All your paths, O Lord, are steadfast love and faithfulness to those who keep your covenant and your testimonies.

SECOND READING: I THESSALONIANS 3:9-13

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⁹How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? ¹⁰Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

¹¹Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. ¹²And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. ¹³And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

A: Word of God. Word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

(Please stand as you are able)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: WAIT FOR THE LORD (sing twice)

#262

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

Text: Taizé Community

Music: WAIT FOR THE LORD, Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994

Text and music © 1984 Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent, 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638.

www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

P: The holy gospel according to St. Luke.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL READING: LUKE 21:25-36

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[Jesus said:] ²⁵“There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. ²⁶People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in a cloud’ with power and great glory. ²⁸Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

²⁹Then he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees; ³⁰as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. ³¹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³²Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. ³³Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³⁴“Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, ³⁵like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

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: O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL

#257



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things
3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on
4 O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
far and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;
Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law
tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save,



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joice! Re-joice!
in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.
and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.



Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

Text: *Psalteriolum Cantionum Catholicarum*, Köln, 1710; tr. composite
Music: VENI, EMMANUEL, French processional, 15th cent.
Text sts. 2, 6, 7 © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.

NICENE CREED

A: Together with the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**C: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven**

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. 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: *KEEP YOUR LAMPS!* (arr. André Thomas)

*Epiphany Chorale
Bradley Cordonnier, percussion*

(Please stand as you are able)

OFFERTORY: LET ALL MORTAL FLESH KEEP SILENCE

#490



1 Let all mor - tal flesh keep si - lence, and with fear and trem - bling stand;
2 King of kings, yet born of Mar - y, as of old on earth he stood,



pon - der noth - ing earth - ly - mind - ed, for with bless - ing in his hand
Lord of lords in hu - man ves - ture, in the bod - y and the blood,



Christ our God to earth de - scend - ing comes full hom - age to de - mand.
he will give to all the faith - ful his own self for heav' - n - ly food.

Text: Liturgy of St. James; tr. Gerard Moultrie, 1829–1885, alt.
Music: PICARDY, French folk tune, 17th cent.

OFFERING PRAYER

A: Let us pray. God of our waiting and watching, we offer the gifts of our hearts and our lives to the service of all your people. Prepare the way before us as we meet you in this simple meal, through Christ Jesus, our pathway and our peace.

C: Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.



Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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

SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes



in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

P: Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life....

P: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P: With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.

C: Come, Lord Jesus.

P: Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

P: All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

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: WAKE, AWAKE, FOR NIGHT IS FLYING

#436



1 Wake, a - wake, for night is fly - ing, the watch-men
2 Zi - on hears the watch-men sing - ing, and all her
3 Glo - ri - a! Let heav'n a - dore you! Let saints and



on the heights are cry - ing; a - wake, Je - ru - sa - lem, at last.
heart with joy is spring-ing. She wakes, she ris - es from her gloom.
an - gels sing be - fore you, with harp and cym-bal's clear-est tone.



Mid - night hears the wel - come voic - es, and at the
Her dear friend comes down, all glo - rious, the strong in
Gates of pearl, twelve por - tals gleam - ing, lead us to



thrill-ing cry re - joic - es: "Come forth, you maid-ens! Night is past.
grace, in truth vic - to - rious: her star is ris'n; her light is come.
bliss be - yond all dream - ing, with an - gel choirs a - round your throne.



The bride - groom comes! A - wake; your lamps with glad - ness take!"
Now come, O Bless - ed One, Lord Je - sus, God's own Son.
No eye has caught the light, no ear the thun - d'ring might



Al - le - lu - ia! Rise and pre - pare the feast to share;
Sing ho - san - na! Oh, hear the call! Come one, come all,
of such glo - ry. There we will go: what joy we'll know!



go, meet the bride - groom, who draws near.
and fol - low to the ban - quet hall.
There sweet de - light will ev - er flow.

(Please stand as you are able)

SEND

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN: FLING WIDE THE DOOR

#259



1 Fling wide the door, un - bar the gate; the King of glo - ry
2 He is the rock of our be - lief, the heart of mer - cy's
3 Oh, hap - py towns and bless - ed lands that live by their true
4 Come, Lord, our Sav - ior, Je - sus Christ; our hearts are o - pen



comes in state; the Lord of lords and King of kings, the
gen - tle self. His king - ly crown is ho - li - ness; his
king's com - mands. And bless - ed be the hearts he rules, the
wide in trust. Oh, show us now your love - ly grace, up -



Sav - ior of the world who brings his great sal - va - tion
scep - ter is his love - li - ness; he brings our sor - rows
hum - ble plac - es where he dwells. He is the right - ful
on our sor - rows shine your face, and let your Ho - ly



to the earth. So raise a shout of ho - ly mirth and
to an end. Now glad - ly praise our king and friend, and
Son of bliss who fills our lives and makes us his, cre -
Spir - it guide our jour - ney in your grace so wide. We



praise our God and Lord, Cre - a - tor, Spir - it, Word.
wor - ship him with song for sav - ing us from wrong.
a - tor of the world, our on - ly strength for good.
praise your ho - ly name, from age to age the same!

Text: Georg Weissel, 1590–1635; tr. Gracia Grindal, b. 1943
Music: MÄCHT HOCH DIE TÜR, J. A. Freylinghausen, *Geistreiches Gesangbuch*, 1704
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Christ is near.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE: FLING WIDE THE DOOR

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

In worship today we celebrate the baptism of Caroline Jane Murphy, daughter of Shaun and Janie Murphy.

Sympathy to Amy and Tim Basner on the death of Tim's mother.

The flowers in the Austin Sanctuary are given by Wayne and Judy Berger.

Important! Senior Pastor Candidate News

Meet and Greet Senior Pastor Candidate

December 4 | Austin Campus – Please sign up on our website or call the church office to attend one of three one-hour sessions listed below to learn about the candidate. Due to confidentiality, this person's name will not be released before this date.

11 a.m.-12 noon, 12:30 pm.-1:30 p.m., 2-3 p.m.

Congregation Meeting – members vote on Senior Pastor Candidate

December 5 | Far Hills Campus | Noon

Adopt-A-Family Online and In-person adoptions now open!

Our annual Adopt a Family Christmas gift program is taking place again this year. Please fill out the request form on our website, and we will identify a family who can benefit from your generous support, then email you with family gift information. You can also stop by the table in the Gathering Spaces to choose a family. Questions about this year's program can be sent to adoptafamily@epiphanydayton.org.

Great Giving Catalog

As you consider gifts for co-workers, family members, and friends this Christmas season, consider a gift in their name towards the Great Giving Christmas Catalog of Epiphany ministries. The gifts described in this catalog are opportunities to serve others in need and are a wonderful way to honor Jesus as well as the recipient. This program will run from December 28-January 6 (Advent through Epiphany of Our Lord.)

Thank You Faithful Stewards!

Thank you so much to all who have committed to join us in growing in SPIRIT, SERVICE, and ABUNDANCE. So far, 205 households have submitted a statement of intent with a total commitment of \$842,321. It's not too late to respond with your own commitment for 2022! Cards can be placed in the offering mailed to Epiphany, or you can complete an online Statement of Intent here:

<https://www.epiphanydayton.org/2022-giving-intent-form/>

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. Prayer requests can 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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