

# EPIPHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

*We Love Jesus by Serving Others*

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent**

**March 19, 2023, 10:30 AM**

Far Hills Campus Traditional Worship (Livestreamed)

gather

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## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PRELUDE

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who journeys with us these forty days, and sustains us with the gift of grace.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us acknowledge before God and one another our need for repentance and God's mercy.

*(silence for reflection and self-examination)*

P: Holy God,

**C: we confess to you our faults and failings.**

**Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word;**

**we take for ourselves instead of giving to others;**

**we spoil rather than steward your creation;**

**we cause hurt though you call us to heal;**

**we choose fear over compassion.**

**Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, as we seek to follow in your way of life. Amen.**

P: Hear the good news: God so loved the world that God gave God's only Son, so that all may receive life. This promise is for you! God embraces you with divine mercy, † forgives you in Christ's name, and revives you in the Spirit's power.

**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.**

*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 Praise the One who breaks the dark-ness with a lib - er - at - ing light;  
 2 Praise the One who blessed the chil - dren with a strong yet gen - tle word;  
 3 Praise the one true love in - car - nate: Christ, who suf - fered in our place;



praise the One who frees the pris - 'ners, turn - ing blind - ness in - to sight.  
 praise the One who drove out de - mons with a pierc - ing, two - edged sword.  
 Je - sus died and rose for man - y that we may know God by grace.



Praise the One who preached the gos - pel, heal - ing ev - 'ry dread dis - ease,  
 Praise the One who brings cool wa - ter to the des - ert's burn - ing sand;  
 Let us sing for joy and glad - ness, see - ing what our God has done.



calm - ing storms and feed - ing thou - sands with the ver - y bread of peace.  
 from this well comes liv - ing wa - ter quench - ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.  
 Praise the one re - deem - ing glo - ry; praise the One who makes us one.

Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955

Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813

Text © 1987 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

**APOSTOLIC GREETING**

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

**C:** **And also with you.**

# KYRIE

*Refrain*



Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, on our world and on our way.



Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, ev-'ry day.



1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the  
2 That we may live out your im-passioned re-sponse to the  
3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for  
4 For your Spir-it to guide; that you cen-ter our lives in the



u-ni-ty of all; for  
hun-gry and the poor; that  
friends and fam-i-ly; for  
wa-ter and the word; that you



this ho-ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,  
we may live out . . . . . truth and jus-tice and grace,  
life and for love, . . . . . for our work and our play,  
nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod-y and blood,

*Refrain*



let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

word \_\_\_\_\_

## WELCOMING THE CHILDREN

## FIRST READING: 1 SAMUEL 16:1-13

<sup>1</sup>The LORD said to Samuel, “How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.” <sup>2</sup>Samuel said, “How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me.” And the LORD said, “Take a heifer with you, and say, ‘I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.’” <sup>3</sup>Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you.” <sup>4</sup>Samuel did what the LORD commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, “Do you come peaceably?” <sup>5</sup>He said, “Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.” And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

<sup>6</sup>When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, “Surely the LORD’s anointed is now before the LORD.” <sup>7</sup>But the LORD said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart.” <sup>8</sup>Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, “Neither has the LORD chosen this one.” <sup>9</sup>Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, “Neither has the LORD chosen this one.” <sup>10</sup>Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, “The LORD has not chosen any of these.” <sup>11</sup>Samuel said to Jesse, “Are all your sons here?” And he said, “There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.” And Samuel said to Jesse, “Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here.” <sup>12</sup>He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The LORD said, “Rise and anoint him; for this is the one.” <sup>13</sup>Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

A: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## RESPONSIVE READING: PSALM 23

A: The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

C: **The Lord makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.**

A: You restore my soul, O Lord, and guide me along right pathways for your name’s sake.

C: **Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

A: You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

C: **Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,  
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.**

## SECOND READING: EPHESIANS 5:8-14

<sup>8</sup>Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light—<sup>9</sup>for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. <sup>10</sup>Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. <sup>11</sup>Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. <sup>12</sup>For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; <sup>13</sup>but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, <sup>14</sup>for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, “Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”

A: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Let your stead-fast love come to us, O Lord.



Let your stead-fast love come to us, O Lord.



Save us as you prom-ised; we will trust your word.



Let your stead-fast love come to us, O Lord.

P: The holy gospel according to St. John.

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

### GOSPEL READING: JOHN 9:1-41

<sup>1</sup>As [Jesus] walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. <sup>2</sup>His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” <sup>3</sup>Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. <sup>4</sup>We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. <sup>5</sup>As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” <sup>6</sup>When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, <sup>7</sup>saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. <sup>8</sup>The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” <sup>9</sup>Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am the man.” <sup>10</sup>But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” <sup>11</sup>He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ Then I went and washed and received my sight.” <sup>12</sup>They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.”

<sup>13</sup>They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. <sup>14</sup>Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. <sup>15</sup>Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, “He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.” <sup>16</sup>Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?” And they were divided. <sup>17</sup>So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.” He said, “He is a prophet.”

<sup>18</sup>The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight <sup>19</sup>and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?”

<sup>20</sup>His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; <sup>21</sup>but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." <sup>22</sup>His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. <sup>23</sup>Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him." <sup>24</sup>So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." <sup>25</sup>He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." <sup>26</sup>They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" <sup>27</sup>He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" <sup>28</sup>Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. <sup>29</sup>We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." <sup>30</sup>The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. <sup>31</sup>We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. <sup>32</sup>Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. <sup>33</sup>If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." <sup>34</sup>They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

<sup>35</sup>Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" <sup>36</sup>He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." <sup>37</sup>Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." <sup>38</sup>He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. <sup>39</sup>Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind." <sup>40</sup>Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" <sup>41</sup>Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains."

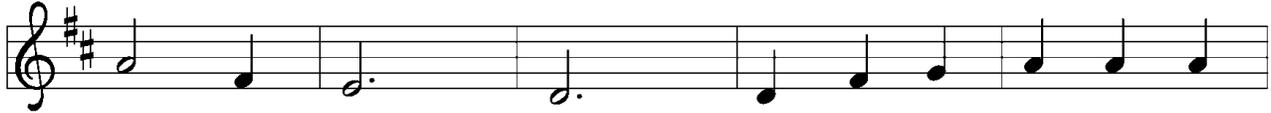
**P:** The gospel of the Lord.

**C:** Praise to you, O Christ.

## **SERMON**



1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to  
 2 I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God. I want to  
 3 I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ. I want to



fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give  
 look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ - teous-ness,  
 be with Je - sus. When we have run . . . with



light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.  
 shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.  
 pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

*Refrain*



In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the



day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the



cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Text: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934  
 Music: HOUSTON, Kathleen Thomerson  
 Text and music © 1970, 1975 Celebration

## **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.**

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

A: Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

meal

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**OFFERING:** *BESIDE STILL WATERS* (Joseph Martin)

*Epiphany Chorale*

*Please prayerfully consider giving by text or online: [www.epiphanydayton.org/giveserve](http://www.epiphanydayton.org/giveserve). You can also access GIVE+ Text instructions from the same drop-down menu or simply text the dollar amount of your contribution to 833-941-1494.*



Come to the ta - ble of mer - cy, pre - pared with the wine and the bread.



All who are hun - gry and thirst - y, come, and your souls will be fed.



Come at the Lord's in - vi - ta - tion; re - ceive from his nail - scarred hand.



Eat of the bread of sal - va - tion; drink of the blood of the Lamb.

Text: Claire Cloninger, b. 1942

Music: COME TO THE TABLE, Martin J. Nystrom, b. 1956

Text and music © 1991 Integrity's Hosanna! Music; Juniper Landing Music, admin. Word Music; and Word Music.  
Used by permission.

## OFFERING PRAYER

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

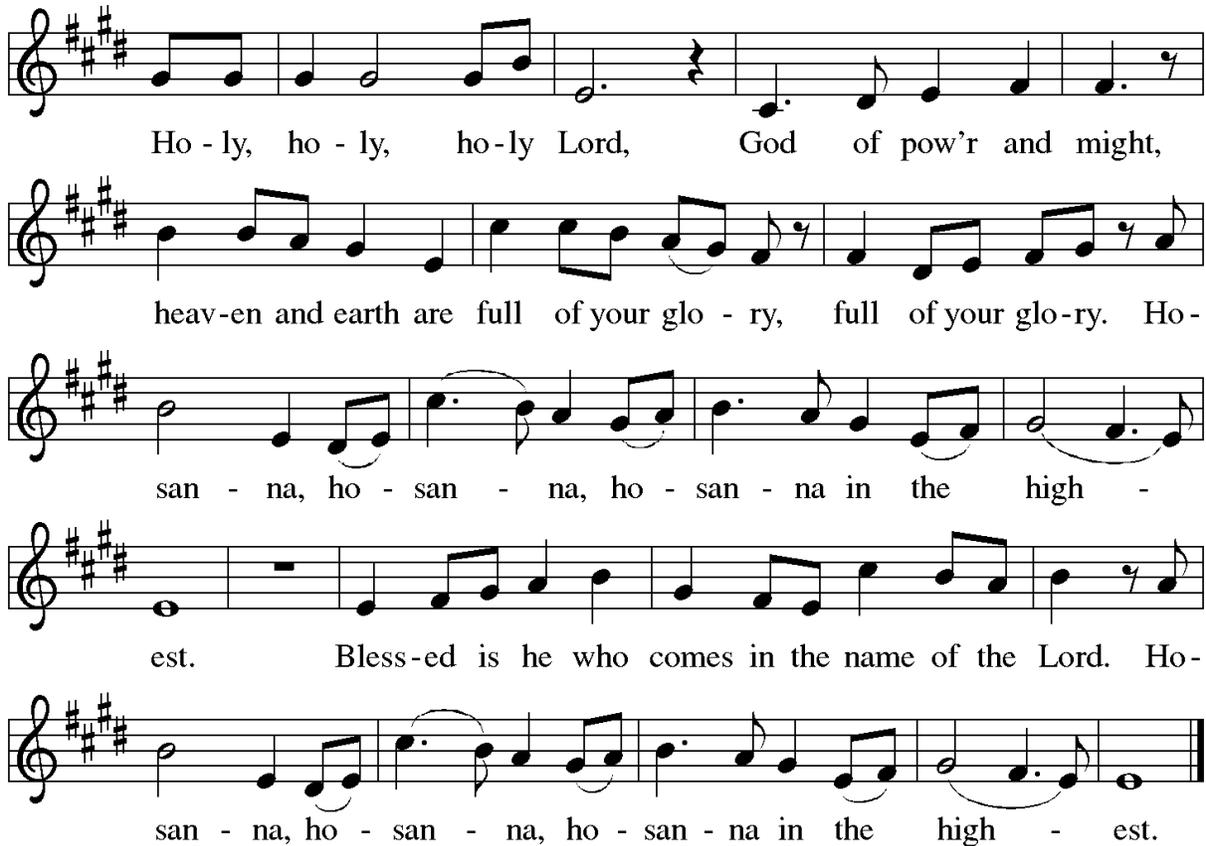
**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

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:

## SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -  
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -  
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## 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.**

### DISTRIBUTION OF 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: GOD, BE THE LOVE TO SEARCH AND KEEP ME**



1 God, be the love to search and keep me; God, be the prayer to  
2 Bind to my-self the name of Ho-ly, great cloud of wit-ness-  
3 Bright-ness of sun and glow of moon-light, flash-ing of light-ning,  
4 Walk-ing be-hind to hem my jour-ney, go-ing a-head to  
5 Christ in the eyes of all who see me, Christ in the ears that



move my voice; God, be the strength to now up-hold me:  
es en-fold; proph-ets, a-pos-tles, an-gels wit-ness:  
strength of wind, depth of the sea to soil of plan-et:  
light my way, and from be-neath, a-bove, and all ways:  
hear my voice, Christ in the hearts of all who know me:



O Christ, sur-round me; O Christ, sur-round me.

Text: Richard Bruxvoort Colligan, b. 1967  
Music: GREEN TYLER, Richard Bruxvoort Colligan  
Text and music © 2004 This Here Music, admin. Augsburg Fortress

**POST-COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER**

send

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**BENEDICTION**



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;  
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;  
 3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise,  
 4 Light of my soul, af - ter vic - to - ry won,



naught be all else to me, save that thou art:  
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord.  
 thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:  
 may I reach heav - en's joys, O heav - en's Sun!



thou my best thought both by day and by night,  
 Thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tow'r,  
 thou and thou on - ly, the first in my heart,  
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.  
 raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.  
 great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.  
 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Text: Irish, 8th cent.; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1860–1935, alt.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880–1931  
 Music: SLANE, Irish traditional

**DISMISSAL**

**A:** Go in peace. Serve in love.

**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.*

Scripture readings for the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent, March 26, 2023:  
 Ezekiel 37:1-14, Psalm 130, Romans 8:6-11, John 11:1-45

## Serving in Worship

Presiding Minister:	Pastor Julie Reuning-Scherer
Assisting Minister:	Bob Hess
Organist:	John Benjamin
Sound:	Ted Meyer
Stream Team:	Anthony Brown, Alex Wasser
Ushers:	Lon & Therese Molnar
Communion Servers:	Wendy Beavers, Cindy Hess, Kim Knechtly, Ann Painter, Kathleen Wilson

## Parish Notes

**The roses** on the altars are placed in celebration of the birth of William Isaac Beam, grandchild of Kelly Lenz, and born to Meredith and Brandon Beam.

**The flowers** at the Far Hills Campus are given by Heidi and Al Alesi and Sarina Alesi in memory of Heidi's mother, Waltraud Limberg, who passed away on Sunday, March 12 at the age of 101.

**Sympathy** to Heidi Alesi on the death of her mother, and to the families of Bryan Hucke and John McEvoy on their deaths.

### **Community Conversation | TODAY | Far Hills Sanctuary**

Please join us as we discuss the associate pastor call, the Sheetz proposal beside the Far Hills property, strategic planning, and finances and giving.

### **"Meeting Jesus at the Table"**

#### **Lenten Wednesdays in March | 6-7:30 PM | Far Hills Celebration Center**

Join us for soup supper, stories about Jesus and meals, and Holy Communion. Bring a soup, salad, bread, or dessert to share as you are able; sign-ups are online and in the Narthex just outside the worship space at Far Hills. Programming is inclusive of children of all ages.

### **Natalie Heimann Appreciation**

In gratitude to God for Natalie and the gifts she has shared among us, we invite you to join us in celebration of her ministry!

- Today, March 19, 10 a.m. at the Austin Campus
- March 26, 10 a.m. in the Far Hills Gathering Space

If you would like to make a contribution in Natalie's honor, she has designated the Haitian Timoun Foundation (HTF), specifically the Haitian Education and Leadership (HELP) program, which provides a college education to some of Haiti's brightest young adults who would not be able to attend without this program. To make a gift, please give online under "Haiti - HELP" or make your gift by cash or check to Epiphany Lutheran Church with "Natalie Heimann appreciation" in the memo.

### **Congregation-Wide Service Project: Pantry Care Packages**

Each week during Lent, we will collect different personal care and cleaning items. The following items can be donated at any time: laundry detergent (no pods), toothbrushes and toothpaste, deodorant, shampoo and toilet paper. Monetary donations are accepted online or by check with "Lent Project" in the check memo; each care package costs about **\$25**.

### **Easter Flower Orders**

Help us decorate the altars this Easter by ordering Easter flowers. Proceeds will benefit the Bible fund. Order online or pick up an order form at this Sunday's services. Please include the name of the person ordering and the name of the person being honored/remembered.

## EPIPHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

### Far Hills Campus

6430 Far Hills Ave.  
Dayton, OH 45459  
(937) 433-1449

9:00 AM Praise Worship  
(Sanctuary)  
10:30 AM Traditional Worship  
(Sanctuary)

### Austin Campus

10551 Sheehan Rd.  
Dayton, OH 45458  
(937) 886-9885

9:00 AM Traditional Worship  
10:30 AM Praise Worship

[www.epiphanydayton.org](http://www.epiphanydayton.org)

10:30 AM Livestream

(Broadcast alternates weekly between Far Hills and Austin)

### Let Us Pray for You

We want to know when you're hospitalized and when you have a major life event, such as a birth, marriage, death in the family, etc. If you have a prayer request, please contact Pastor Julie (860-371-4030, [jreuning-scherer@epiphanydayton.org](mailto:jreuning-scherer@epiphanydayton.org)).

### Welcome Guests!

We want to get to know you! If you are a first-time or returning guest, please fill out a Connection Card located at the usher table as you enter the Sanctuary. Please either return it to an usher or place it in the offering plate. There is also space for prayer requests.

Next steps: Become a part of the Epiphany family by attending regularly, and get involved by coming to one of our events or by helping one of our many ministries. We invite you to see where *loving Jesus by serving others* might lead you. Our pastors and staff are always available to help you find ways to get connected in service and fellowship.

For more info or questions, please ask our campus coordinators, Jennifer Henderson (Far Hills) or Brittany Albert (Austin), or contact Natalie Heimann, director of member engagement ([nheimann@epiphanydayton.org](mailto:nheimann@epiphanydayton.org) or ext. 100). Thanks again for joining us today!

*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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