

EPIPHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

We Love Jesus by Serving Others
15th Sunday after Pentecost
September 10, 2023, 10:30 AM
Far Hills Campus Traditional Worship (Livestreamed)

Gather

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINISTRY MOMENT: MUSIC PROGRAMS

John Benjamin

PRELUDE: LA FOLIA (*Arcangelo Corelli*)

Charlotte Richard, violin

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be God, the one who forms us, † Jesus who bears the cross, the Spirit who makes our joy complete.

C: Amen.

P: Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

(silence for reflection)

P: Steadfast and faithful God,

C: you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you.

We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering.

We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others.

For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us.

For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us.

For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us.

Lead us back to you and set us on the right path;

in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

P: Beloved in Christ, God's justice stretches beyond all understanding.

God's compassion is beyond compare. In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us.

In † Christ, you are already and always forgiven.

C: Amen.

SHARING THE PEACE

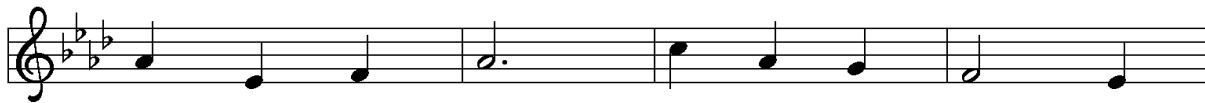
P: We have been forgiven and reconciled to God through Christ our Savior.

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.

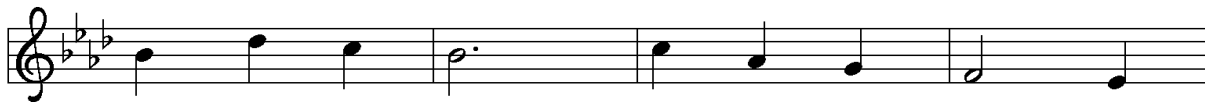
Please take this time to say hello and share the peace in the comment section of the YouTube channel livestream or in the Facebook feed comment section. Take a selfie and let us know you are worshipping with us!



1 Earth and all stars! Loud rush - ing plan - ets!
 2 Trum - pet and pipes! Loud clash - ing cym - bals!
 3 En - gines and steel! Loud pound - ing ham - mers!
 4 Class-rooms and labs! Loud boil - ing test tubes!
 5 Knowl-edge and truth! Loud sound - ing wis - dom!



Sing to the Lord a new song!
 Sing to the Lord a new song!
 Sing to the Lord a new song!
 Sing to the Lord a new song!
 Sing to the Lord a new song!

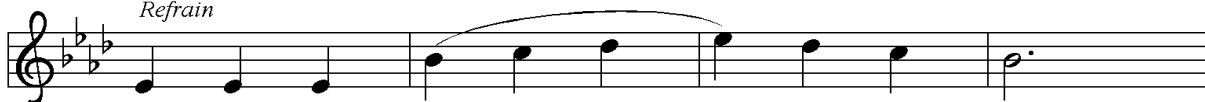


Hail, wind, and rain! Loud blow - ing snow - storm!
 Harp, lute, and lyre! Loud hum - ming cel - los!
 Lime - stone and beams! Loud build - ing work - ers!
 Ath - lete and band! Loud cheer - ing peo - ple!
 Daugh - ter and son! Loud pray - ing mem - bers!



Sing to the Lord a new song!
 Sing to the Lord a new song!
 Sing to the Lord a new song!
 Sing to the Lord a new song!
 Sing to the Lord a new song!

Refrain



God has done mar - vel - ous things.



I too sing prais - es with a new song!

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

WELCOMING THE CHILDREN

FIRST READING: EZEKIEL 33:7-11

⁷So you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸If I say to the wicked, “O wicked ones, you shall surely die,” and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. ⁹But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways, and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.

¹⁰Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel, Thus you have said: “Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?” ¹¹Say to them, As I live, says the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways; for why will you die, O house of Israel?

A: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING: ROMANS 13:8-14

⁸Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet”; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, “Love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

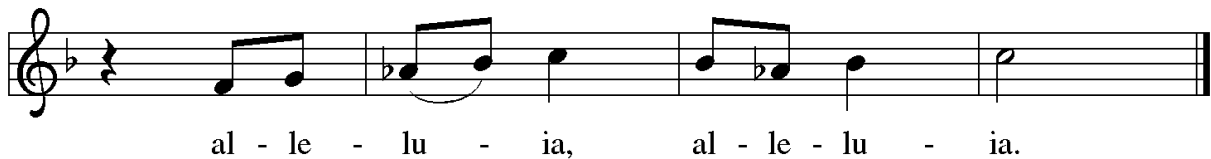
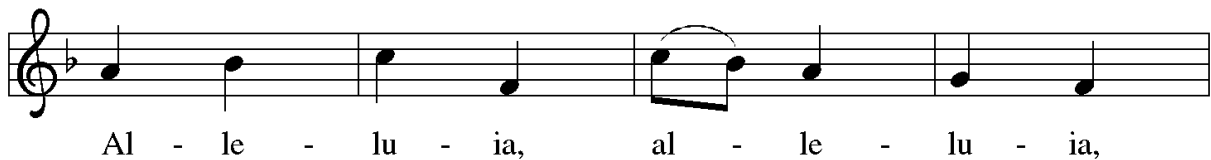
¹¹Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹²the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy.

¹⁴Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

A: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Repeat alleluia



Choir: Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

P: The holy gospel according to St. Matthew.

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

GOSPEL READING: MATTHEW 18:15-20

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁵“If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. ¹⁶But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. ²⁰For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

P: The gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: GOD, WHEN HUMAN BONDS ARE BROKEN

#603



1 God, when hu - man bonds are bro - ken and we lack the
2 Through that still - ness, with your Spir - it come in - to our
3 You in us are bruised and bro - ken: hear us as we
4 Send us, God of new be - gin - nings, hum - bly hope - ful
5 Give us faith to be more faith - ful, give us hope to



love or skill to re - store the hope of heal - ing,
world of stress, for the sake of Christ for - giv - ing
seek re - lease from the pain of ear - lier liv - ing;
in - to life. Use us as a means of bless - ing:
be more true, give us love to go on learn - ing:



give us grace and make us still.
all the fail - ures we con - fess.
set us free and grant us peace.
make us stron - ger, give us faith.
God, en - cour - age and re - new!

Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929

Music: MERTON, William H. Monk, 1823–1889

Text © 1989 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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.

M e a l

OFFERING: *SING OUT A SONG*

Epiphany Chorale

Sing out a song unto the Lord!

Let the people rejoice, lift up your voice, let joyful anthems resound.

Sing out a song unto the Lord, our God!

Let all nations be glad this day, and give thanks to God for all his love.

Let all people arise and say: "He is marvelous, he is wonderful.

He is ruler of earth and heaven above!"

Text and Music by Nancy Price and Don Besig © 1989 GlorySound.

Please prayerfully consider giving by text or online: 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.



2 As you, Lord, have lived for oth - ers, so may we for oth - ers live.



Free - ly have your gifts been grant-ed; free - ly may your ser - vants give.



Yours the gold and yours the sil - ver, yours the wealth of land and sea;



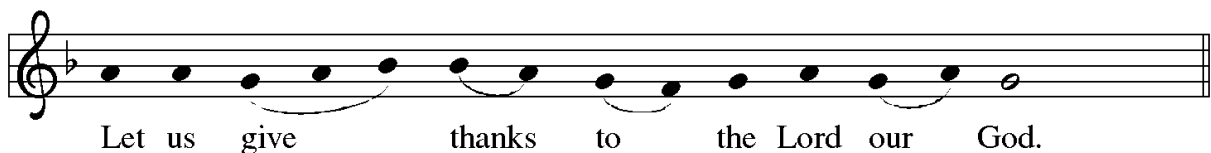
we but stew - ards of your boun - ty held in sol - emn trust will be.

Text: Somerset C. Lowry, 1855–1932

Music: IN BABILONE, *Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse Boerenlities en Contradansen*, 1710

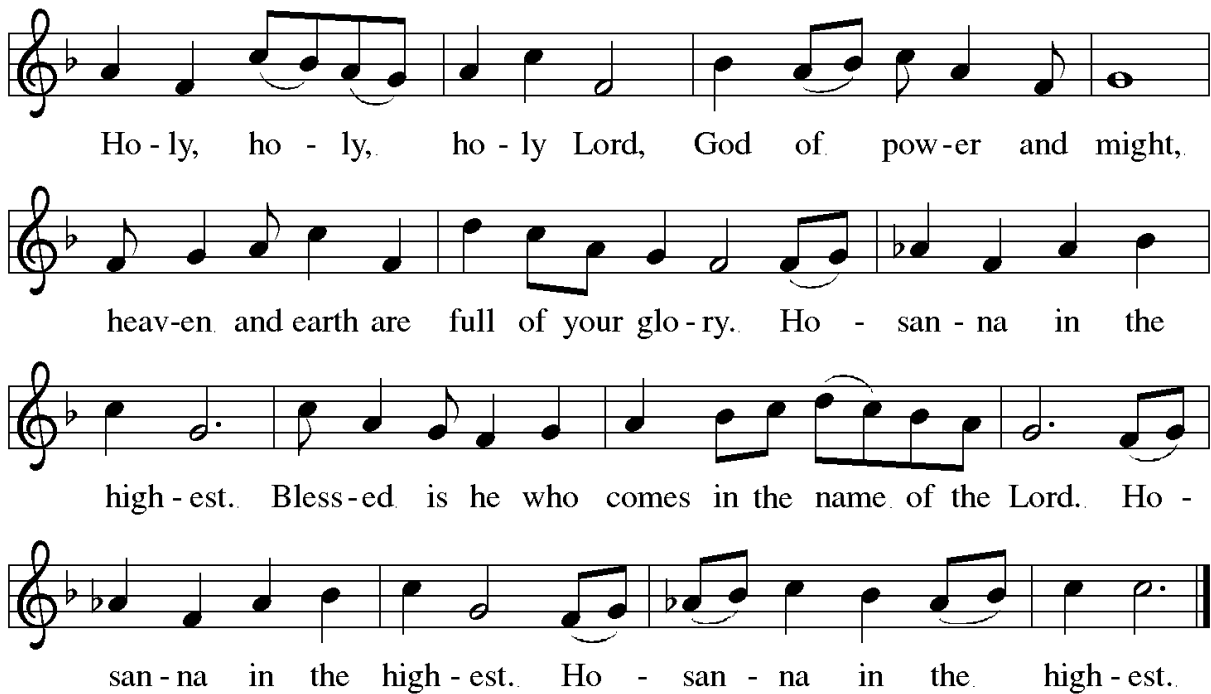
OFFERING PRAYER

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



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 - er and might,
heav - en 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. 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: *BIND US TOGETHER, LORD*



Bind us to - geth - er, Lord, bind us to - geth - er with cords that

can - not be bro - ken. Bind us to - geth - er, Lord,

bind us to - geth - er, Lord; bind us to - geth - er in love.

1 There . . is on - ly one God. There . . is on - ly one King.
 2 You are the fam-'ly of God. You are the prom-ise di - vine.

There . . is on - ly one Bod-y; that . . is why we can sing;
 You are God's cho-sen de - sire, you are the glo-rious new wine.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER

Send

BENEDICTION



1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.
 2 "Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
 3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, clos - er to me.



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.
 Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
 Grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.



In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er.
 Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.
 Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here my ten - der com - fort stilled you.



Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own."
 Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure."
 Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, joy - ful and free."

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919, alt.
 Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional
 Text © 1983 Concordia Publishing House

DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. God is at work in you.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Scripture readings for the 16th Sunday after Pentecost, September 17, 2023:
 Genesis 50:15-21, Psalm 103:1-13, Romans 14:1-12, Matthew 18:21-35

Serving in Worship

Presiding Minister:	Pastor Julie Reuning-Scherer
Assisting Minister:	Melonie June Warren
Organist:	John Benjamin
Sound:	Ed Wasser
Stream Team:	Landon Henderson, Alex Wasser
Ushers:	David Huber, John Venis
Communion Servers:	Debbie & Paul Gresham, Kim Knechtly, Charlotte & Sam Richard

Parish Notes

Birth: The white rose on the altar is in celebration of the birth of Tia Marie Beck, Carlin & Natalie Heimann's granddaughter.

Recently hospitalized: Ted Larson, Claudette Malloy, Doug Shaw.

Hospice care: Fred Dietrich.

Sympathy to Lana Biermann on the death of her mother, Arlene Lightsey.

Altar flowers in the Far Hills Sanctuary are placed by Phil & Karen Nardi in honor of their 45th wedding anniversary.

Pantry immediate need: Clean, gently used coats, all sizes, children and adults.

Community Conversation to Address Strategic Planning and Sheetz Sunday, September 17, 12 Noon, Far Hills Sanctuary

All interested parishioners are invited to join Pastor Julie and Epiphany's leadership for a Community Conversation. We will introduce the Strategic Planning process and working team that was appointed by the Congregation Council at their August meeting, as well as lay out next steps in the appeal process on the proposed Sheetz development next door at the current Elsa's site. Come bring your questions and learn what you can do to support Epiphany's ministry.

Celebrate Kathy Whited's 10th Anniversary on Staff

This month we celebrate ten years with Kathy Whited as a dedicated staff member of Epiphany! In considering what ministry to highlight in celebration of her work anniversary, Kathy said, "I picked Family Promise (formerly IHN) in honor of our son Stewart, who died in 2020 and had transitioned in and out of homelessness for several years. The homeless and hungry are close to my heart." To make a donation to Family Promise in honor of Kathy's service to Epiphany, give cash/check with "Kathy Appreciation" in the memo to the office or in the offering plate, or via our website under the Give/Serve tab.

Sunday Morning Adult Education with Dr. Larry Welborn Sundays, 9 AM, September 17-October 15, Far Hills Room 13

Professor Larry Welborn is returning to Epiphany to teach the course *Paul's Last and Greatest Letter: The Epistle to the Romans*. The course will be offered via Zoom and/or in person (when he is in Dayton). All adults and teens are welcome. Sign up on our website under the Events tab.

Women's Bible Study returns September 20 with the book *Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World*, by Joanna Weaver. This Bible study presumes no prior experience and is co-led by Pastor Julie and group participants. Join us on the first and third Wednesdays either at 7 AM via Zoom or at 10 AM in the Far Hills Conference Room. Sign up under the Gather/Bible Studies tab on our website.

Auditions for our Children's Christmas Musical, *A Christmas Yarn*, are Saturday, September 23 and are open ALL 1st through 8th graders. Performances are December 9-10. Learn more and sign up under the Events tab on our website.

Bible Sunday is October 1 at All Worship Services Ages 3, 3rd Grade, and 6th Grade: Sign up by Friday, September 22

We want to help parents and caregivers fulfill their baptismal promise to foster their children's faith formation by placing the scriptures in their children's hands. Children age three will receive a picture story Bible, third graders will receive an NRSV Spark Bible, and sixth graders will receive a Youth Bible. Sign up under the Events tab on our website.

The next monthly **Church Council meeting** is Tuesday, September 26, 7 PM in the Far Hills Conference Room. All church members are welcome to attend.

Silent Loss Seminar and Service: Save the dates! A seminar on silent loss will take place on Wednesday, September 27, 7 PM at the Austin Campus, open to the community. This class focuses on the unique grief of death due to stillbirth, miscarriage, SIDS, failed adoption, and infertility. A silent loss service will be held on Wednesday, October 11, 7 PM at the Austin Campus.



A **Welcome Lunch** will take place on Sunday, September 24, at Noon at the Far Hills Campus for anyone wanting to learn more about Epiphany, is thinking of becoming a member, or is looking for connection. Scan the QR code for more info and to RSVP for the lunch, or sign up on our website under the Events tab.

Sunday School returns to the Far Hills Campus on October 1 for children ages 3 through 5th grade. More details coming soon.

Family Promise Week of Service: Sign up by October 4

Epiphany's next week of service to prepare meals for Family Promise (formerly IHN) is October 8-14. Please consider preparing a meal for homeless families in transition. This is an excellent opportunity for small groups to serve together. For more info and to sign up, go to the Events tab on our website.

ELCA Youth Gathering Registration Deadline October 1

The 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering will be held in New Orleans on July 14-21. Students entering grades 8-12 this fall are eligible to attend. Scan the QR code to find info about preparation, fundraising, transportation plans, and more!



Join the Jubilate Bells – Beginners Welcome!

Rehearsals start September 12: Tuesdays, 7:30 PM, Far Hills Sanctuary

Jubilate Bells will ring in a worship service about once a month. All skill levels are welcome, including newbies – we'll teach as we go. We are looking for ringers ages high school through adult who can count and have a sense of rhythm, no musical experience necessary. The season runs from September through mid-May. For questions, contact Jill Byers (jillebyers@yahoo.com).

Epiphany Chorale has resumed weekly rehearsals on Thursdays, 7 PM in the Far Hills Sanctuary in preparation for singing during the 10:30 AM service starting next Sunday. This friendly group of singers welcomes people of all backgrounds and abilities, from 6th grade to “more experienced.” Please see a current Chorale member or John Benjamin for more details.

The **Associate Pastor Call Committee** has been meeting weekly. While they cannot provide specifics due to the confidential nature of the process, they will be sharing information regularly. We invite you to support the process with your prayers for the Call Committee, the Southern Ohio Synod, and Pastor Julie.

Outdoor Service: The Far Hills 9 AM service continues outdoors through September 24. Worship returns to the indoor sanctuary on October 1.

Parish Notes and other communications requests may be submitted to Sarah Richter, Communications Coordinator (srichter@epiphanydayton.org).

Let Us Pray for You

We want to know when you're hospitalized and when you have a life event, such as a birth, marriage, death in the family, etc. If you have a prayer request, please scan the QR code to reach our online prayer request form or contact the church office (937-433-1449) or prayer@epiphanydayton.org.



EPIPHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Far Hills Campus

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

9:00 AM Praise Worship
(Outdoor Chapel)
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

10:30 AM Livestream

(Broadcast alternates weekly between Far Hills and Austin)

Welcome Guests!

We want to get to know you! If you are a first-time or returning guest, please scan the QR code to reach our online Connection Card or fill out a card located at the usher table as you enter the Sanctuary.

Next steps: Become a part of the Epiphany family by attending regularly, and get involved by coming to one of our events or 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 the church office. 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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