

# EPIPHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

*We Love Jesus by Serving Others*

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

**March 10, 2024, 10:30 AM**

Far Hills Campus Traditional Worship (Livestreamed)

## Gather

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### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**PRELUDE:** *THERE IN GOD'S GARDEN* (arr. Robert Hobby)

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,  
who writes the law on our hearts, who draws all people together through Jesus.

**C: Amen.**

P: Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.  
(silence for reflection)

P: Holy God,

**C: we confess that we are caught in snares of sin  
and cannot break free.**

**We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold.**

**We speak in ways that silence others.**

**We are silent when we should speak up.**

**We keep score in our hearts.**

**We let hurt grow into hatred.**

**For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord.**

**Amen.**

P: Here is a flood of grace: Out of love for the whole world,  
God draws near to us, breaks every snare of sin, washes away our wrongs,  
and restores the promise of life through ☩ Jesus Christ.

**C: Amen.**

### SHARING THE PEACE

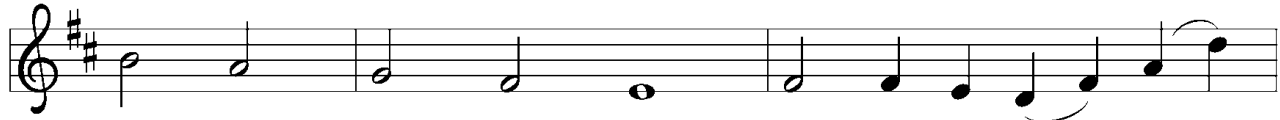
P: We have been forgiven and reconciled to God through Christ our Savior.  
Therefore, let us be reconciled to each other and share the peace of the Lord.  
The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**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 worshiping with us!*



1 Give to our God im - mor - tal praise! Mer - cy and  
 2 He sent his Son with pow'r to save from guilt and  
 3 Give to the Lord of lords re - nown; the King of



truth are all his ways. Won - ders of grace to  
 dark - ness and the grave. Won - ders of grace to  
 kings with glo - ry crown. His mer - cies ev - er



God be - long; re - peat his mer - cies in your song.  
 God be - long; re - peat his mer - cies in your song.  
 shall en - dure when lords and kings are known no more!

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748

Music: DUKE STREET, attr. John Hatton, d. 1793

## 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.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

## Word

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## WELCOMING THE CHILDREN

### FIRST READING: NUMBERS 21:4-9

<sup>4</sup>From Mount Hor [the Israelites] set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. <sup>5</sup>The people spoke against God and against Moses, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food.” <sup>6</sup>Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. <sup>7</sup>The people came to Moses and said, “We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. <sup>8</sup>And the LORD said to Moses, “Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live.” <sup>9</sup>So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

**A:** The word of the Lord.

**C:** Thanks be to God.

**RESPONSIVE READING: FROM PSALM 107**

A: Give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good;

**C: God's mercy endures forever.**

A: Let the redeemed of the Lord proclaim that God redeemed them from the hand of the foe.

**C: God gathered them in from the lands.**

A: Some were fools and took rebellious paths;

**C: through their sins they were afflicted.**

A: Then in their trouble they cried to the Lord;

**C: you delivered them from their distress.**

A: You sent forth your word and healed them,

**C: you rescued them from the grave.**

A: Let them give thanks to you, Lord, for your steadfast love.

**C: Let them offer sacrifices of thanksgiving and tell of your deeds with shouts of joy.**

**SECOND READING: EPHESIANS 2:1-10**

<sup>1</sup>You were dead through the trespasses and sins <sup>2</sup>in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient.

<sup>3</sup>All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. <sup>4</sup>But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us <sup>5</sup>even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—<sup>6</sup>and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, <sup>7</sup>so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. <sup>8</sup>For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—<sup>9</sup>not the result of works, so that no one may boast. <sup>10</sup>For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

A: The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (sing twice)**

Cong. Re - turn to God with all your heart, the  
Source of grace and mer - cy; Come, seek the ten - der faith - ful-ness of  
God. Re - God.

P: The holy gospel according to St. John.

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

**GOSPEL READING:** JOHN 3:14-21

[Jesus said:] <sup>14</sup>“Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up,  
<sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup>“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. <sup>18</sup>Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. <sup>19</sup>And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. <sup>20</sup>For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. <sup>21</sup>But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”

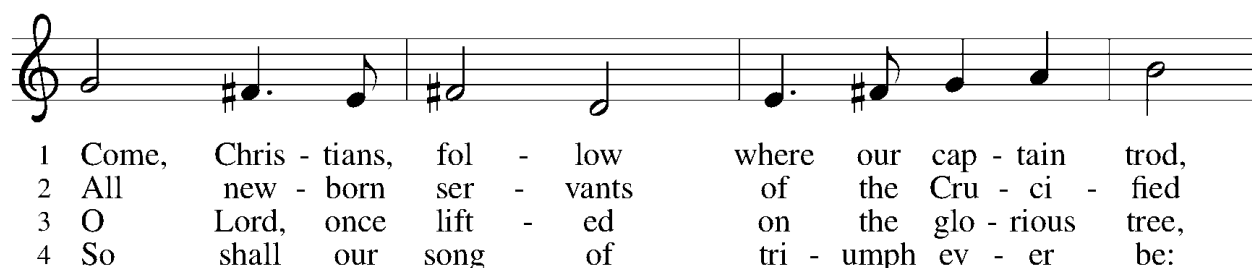
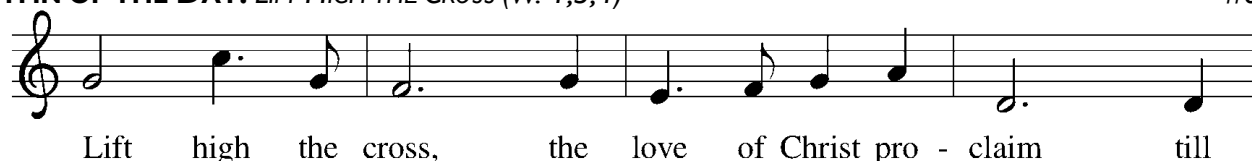
P: The gospel of the Lord.

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

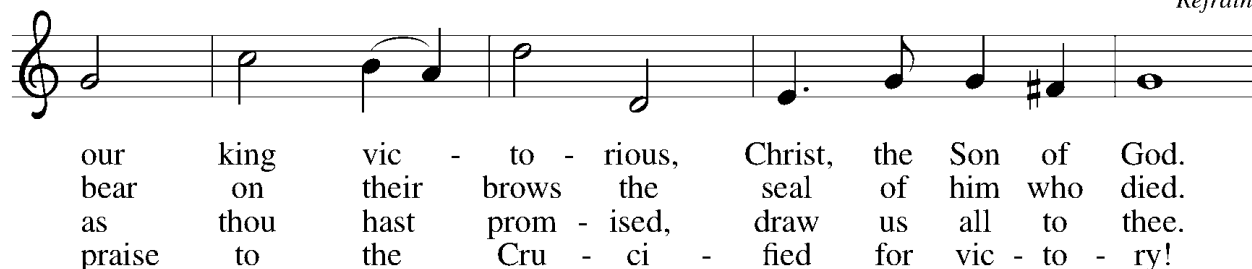
**SERMON**

**HYMN OF THE DAY:** LIFT HIGH THE CROSS (vv. 1,3,4)

#660



*Refrain*



Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827–1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874–1956

Music: CRUCIFER, Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875–1947

Text and music © 1974 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

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*Please prayerfully consider giving by text or online: [www.epiphanydayton.org/giveserve](http://www.epiphanydayton.org/giveserve).*

## OFFERING: NONE OTHER LAMB

*Epiphany Chorale*

*None other Lamb, none other Name,  
None other hope in Heaven or earth or sea,  
None other hiding place from guilt and shame,  
None beside Thee!*

*My faith burns low, my hope burns low;  
Only my heart's desire cries out in me  
By the deep thunder of its want and woe,  
Cries out to Thee.*

*Lord, Thou art Life, though I be dead;  
Love's fire Thou art, however cold I be:  
Nor Heaven have I, nor place to lay my head,  
Nor home but Thee.*

Text: Christina G. Rossetti (1830-1894). Music by Craig Courtney © 1987 Beckenborst Press, Inc. All rights reserved.

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right  
 spir-it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take  
 not your Ho-ly Spir-it from me. Re-store to me the joy of  
 your sal-va-tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir-it.

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923  
 Music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

**OFFERING PRAYER**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*Presider:*                      *Congregation:*

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

*Presider:*                      *Congregation:*

you. Lift up your hearts. We

*Presider:*

lift them to the Lord. Let us give

*Congregation:*

thanks to the Lord our God. It is

right to give God thanks and praise.

P: It is our duty and delight that we should everywhere and always offer thanks and praise to you, O God, through Jesus Christ; who by his death on the cross and glorious resurrection broke the bonds of sin and death and gave life to all creation. And so with the church on earth, all creation and the host of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## SANCTUS

#191

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and  
might; heav - en and earth are filled with your  
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is the one who comes in your name. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: *Now the Feast and Celebration*, Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. [www.giamusic.com](http://www.giamusic.com). 800.442.3358.

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## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

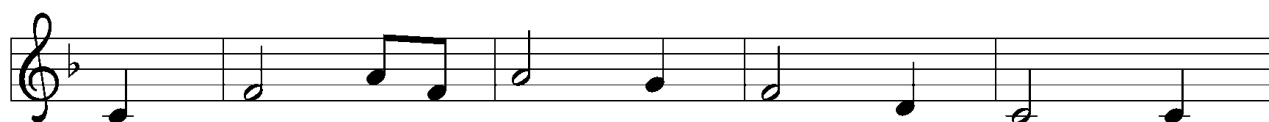
### THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

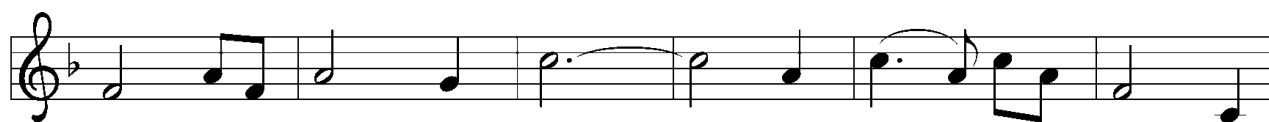
### DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

*If you are unable to attend worship due to health concerns, please contact the church office to be included on the homebound list.*





1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that  
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and  
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I  
 4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his  
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but  
 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that  
 have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me  
 word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and  
 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to



now am found; was blind, but now I see.  
 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!  
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.  
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.  
 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt., sts. 1–4; anonymous, st. 5  
 Music: NEW BRITAIN, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

## POST-COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER

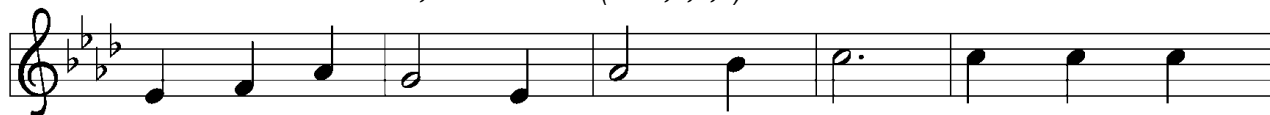
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## BENEDICTION

**CLOSING HYMN: O GOD OF MERCY, GOD OF LIGHT (vv. 1,3,5,6)**

#714



1 O God of mer - cy, God of light, in love and  
2 You sent your Son to die for all, that our lost  
3 Teach us the les - son Je - sus taught: to feel for  
4 For all are kin - dred, far and wide, since Je - sus



mer - cy in - fi - nite, teach us, as ev - er  
world might hear your call; oh, hear us lest we  
those his blood has bought, that ev - 'ry deed and  
Christ for all has died; grant us the will, and



in your sight, to live our lives in you.  
stray and fall! We rest our hope in you.  
word and thought may work a work for you.  
grace pro - vide, to love them all in you.

5 In sickness, sorrow, want, or care,  
may we each other's burdens share;  
may we, where help is needed, there  
give help as though to you.

6 And may your Holy Spirit move  
all those who live to live in love,  
till you receive in heav'n above  
all those who live in you.

Text: Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, alt.  
Music: JUST AS I AM, Joseph Barnby, 1838–1896

**SENDING**

**A:** Go in peace. Share your bread.

**C:** **Thanks be to God.**

*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 17, 2024:  
Jeremiah 31:31-34, Psalm 51:1-12, Hebrews 5:5-10, John 12:20-33

## Serving in Worship

Presiding Minister:	Pastor Julie Reuning-Scherer
Assisting Minister:	Judith Clark
Organist:	John Benjamin
Sound:	Melonie June Warren
Stream Team:	Drew Simon, Alex Wasser
Ushers:	Steve Knapp, John Venis
Communion Servers:	Wendy Beavers, Felicity Glass, Debbie & Paul Gresham, Dorothy Sisken

## Parish Notes

**Receiving hospice care:** Joyce Evans (palliative), David Handlir, Brian Peltomaa.

**Pantry immediate need:** Kids' spring jackets, especially size 10-12.

### **Strategic Planning + Community Conversation**

**TODAY, Sunday, March 10, Noon, Far Hills Celebration Center**

You're invited to work in small groups or by yourself to generate ideas for specific ministry initiatives. It doesn't matter how old or young you are, your voice is important and needs to be heard for the future direction of our congregation!

### **Wednesdays in Lent: Soup, Singing & Saints**

**6:00-7:30 PM, Far Hills Celebration Center**

Soup supper followed at 6:45 p.m. by Holden Evening Prayer. This week's theme is *Striving for Justice: Joseph, earthly father of Jesus, and Oscar Romero*; and worshiper Mark Chilson is scheduled to speak. Find details and sign up by scanning the QR code.



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

Personal care and cleaning items collected each week for care packages assembled March 20. This week is toilet paper. Complete info on our Lenten activities is in your weekly e-newsletter.

### **Community Blood Drive**

**Saturday, March 16, 8 AM-12 Noon, Far Hills Lower Level**

To schedule an appointment, go to [www.donortime.com](http://www.donortime.com) and enter Code 46. Drop off cookies in the Far Hills Kitchen by Friday, March 15.

### **Mid-Lent Mardi Gras Dinner Auction**

**Saturday, March 16, 6:30 PM, Far Hills Celebration Center**

Enjoy a scrumptious dinner featuring classic New Orleans-inspired dishes, and have a chance to bid on some amazing items in our silent and live auctions at the Mid-Lent Mardi Gras Dinner Auction! Funds raised at this event will help support our 30 youth and 7 adults headed to New Orleans, Louisiana next summer for the 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering. Find ticket info and register online TODAY, March 10.

### **Holy Week Children's Event**

**Sunday, March 17, 11:45 AM-12:30 PM, Austin Campus**

Families will engage in multisensory activities that will help us grow in our understanding of Holy Week and the Easter story. Online signups are encouraged but not required. Contact: Caitlin Krueger-Meyer ([ckrueger-meyer@epiphanydayton.org](mailto:ckrueger-meyer@epiphanydayton.org)).



The next monthly **Church Council** meeting is Tuesday, March 19, 7 p.m. at the Austin Campus. All church members are welcome to attend.

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



# EPIPHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

## Far Hills Campus

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

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

## 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)

## 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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