

# EPIPHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Celebrating Our 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

October 20, 2024, 10:30 AM

Far Hills Campus

## Gather

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### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**MINISTRY MOMENT:** *GENEROSITY APPEAL – Grow in Faith*

*George Downs*

**PRELUDE:** *WESTMINSTER ABBEY (Robert Powell)*

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.

*(silence for reflection)*

P: Gracious God,

**C: have mercy on us.**

**We confess that we have honored you with our lips,  
but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues.**

**The cravings at war within us cause conflicts and disputes.**

**In our desire to be first, we make distinctions among ourselves.**

**We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last.**

**In your great mercy, forgive us our sins.**

**Draw near to us with grace in time of need,**

**and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

P: God promises to forgive our iniquity and to remember our sin no more.

By grace you have been saved.

In the name of † Jesus Christ, the source of eternal healing, your sins are forgiven.

**C: Amen.**

### SHARING THE PEACE

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

**C: And also with you.**

**OPENING SONG:** *FIRM FOUNDATION (HE WON'T)*

**Verse 1:** Christ is my firm foundation, the rock on which I stand  
When everything around me is shaken, I've never been more glad  
That I put my faith in Jesus, 'cause he's never let me down  
He's faithful through generations, so why would he fail now

He won't, he won't

**Verse 2:** I've still got joy in chaos, I've got peace that makes no sense  
So I won't be going under, I'm not held by my own strength  
'Cause I've built my life on Jesus, he's never let me down  
He's faithful in every season, so why would he fail now

He won't, he won't, he won't fail, he won't fail (**Verse 1, Chorus**)

**Bridge:** Rain came and wind blew, my house was built on you  
I'm safe with you, I'm gonna make it through (*Repeat*)  
(**Verse 1**)

He won't, he won't, he won't fail, he won't fail, he won't (*Repeat*)

Words and Music by Cody Carnes, Austin Davis, and Chandler Moore © 2021 For Humans Publishing | Maverick City Publishing | A.L.K.D. Music | Capitol CMG Paragon | Writer's Roof Publishing.

## **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**

W o r d

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## **WELCOMING THE CHILDREN**

### **FIRST READING: 1 KINGS 8:22-30**

*<sup>22</sup>Then Solomon stood before the altar of the LORD in the presence of all the assembly of Israel, and spread out his hands to heaven. <sup>23</sup>He said, "O LORD, God of Israel, there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth beneath, keeping covenant and steadfast love for your servants who walk before you with all their heart, <sup>24</sup>the covenant that you kept for your servant my father David as you declared to him; you promised with your mouth and have this day fulfilled with your hand. <sup>25</sup>Therefore, O LORD, God of Israel, keep for your servant my father David that which you promised him, saying, 'There shall never fail you a successor before me to sit on the throne of Israel, if only your children look to their way, to walk before me as you have walked before me.' <sup>26</sup>Therefore, O God of Israel, let your word be confirmed, which you promised to your servant my father David.*

*<sup>27</sup>But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Even heaven and the highest heaven cannot contain you, much less this house that I have built! <sup>28</sup>Regard your servant's prayer and his plea, O LORD my God, heeding the cry and the prayer that your servant prays to you today; <sup>29</sup>that your eyes may be open night and day toward this house, the place of which you said, 'My name shall be there,' that you may heed the prayer that your servant prays toward this place. <sup>30</sup>Hear the plea of your servant and of your people Israel when they pray toward this place; O hear in heaven your dwelling place; heed and forgive.*

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

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

**RESPONSIVE READING: PSALM 84**

A: How dear to me is your dwelling, O Lord of hosts!

**C: My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the Lord;**

A: my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.

**C: O Lord of hosts, my king and my God.**

A: Happy are they who dwell in your house!

**C: They will always be praising you.**

A: Happy are the people whose strength is in you,

**C: happy are those whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.**

A: Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer;

**C: look upon the face of your anointed.**

A: For one day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.

**C: I would rather stand at the threshold of the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.**

A: For the Lord God is both sun and shield, bestowing grace and glory;

**C: O Lord of hosts, happy are they who put their trust in you!**

**SECOND READING: 1 PETER 2:1-9**

*<sup>1</sup>Rid yourselves, therefore, of all malice, and all guile, insincerity, envy, and all slander. <sup>2</sup>Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation — <sup>3</sup>if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.*

*<sup>4</sup>Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and <sup>5</sup>like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.*

*<sup>6</sup>For it stands in scripture: "See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame." <sup>7</sup>To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe, "The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner," <sup>8</sup>and "A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall." They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. <sup>9</sup>But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.*

A: The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**



God's word is our great her - i - tage and shall be ours for - ev - er;



to spread its light from age to age shall be our chief en - deav - or.



Through life it guides our way; in death it is our stay. Lord, grant while



time shall last your church may hold it fast through-out all gen - er - a - tions.

Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783–1872; tr. Ole G. Belsheim, 1861–1925, alt.  
 Music: EIN FESTE BURG, Martin Luther, 1483–1546

**P:** The holy gospel according to St. John.

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

**GOSPEL READING: JOHN 10:22-30**

<sup>22</sup>At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, <sup>23</sup>and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. <sup>24</sup>So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." <sup>25</sup>Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; <sup>26</sup>but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. <sup>27</sup>My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. <sup>28</sup>I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. <sup>29</sup>What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. <sup>30</sup>The Father and I are one."

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

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

**SERMON**

**HYMN OF THE DAY:** *WITHIN A GROVE OF APPLE TREES*

Composed October 2019 to the Glory of God for the  
60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Epiphany Lutheran Church

*♩=92*

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The tempo is marked as quarter note = 92. The score consists of five staves of music with lyrics underneath. Chord symbols are placed above the notes. The lyrics are as follows:

With-in a grove of ap - ple trees                      some six - ty years a -  
It of-fered Christ's com - mu - nion,                      His grace through bread and  
In dress-es, books, and mu - si - cals,                      by prayers and bikes and

go - .                      A seed of faith was blessed by God and it                      be - gan to -  
wine - .                      God's fam' ly thrived and wel - comed all in Je - sus' name di -  
bands - ;                      With part - ners here and 'round the world, God works through its hearts and -

grow                      It spread Good News of Je - sus                      to those both near and  
vine.                      Its lea - ders felt a Call from God,                      some lay and some or -  
hands.                      Its blos - soms spread in ser - vice                      where-e'er the Spi - rit

far                      and blos-somed with the love of Christ, the bright and mor - ning  
dained                      As sea - sons passed and pro - jects changed, the Mes - sage stayed - the  
leads                      And love for Je - sus it re - flects through all its mi - ni -

Star.                      The bud be - came E - pi - pha-ny;                      its roots grew deep and  
same.                      It clothed the poor, the hun - gry fed                      the home - less it gave  
stries.                      Two sites, one church, E - pi - pha-ny,                      its doors thrown wide to

G D B A B B Em Am<sup>7</sup>

strong - room - all - ; Its peo - ple ga - thered faith - ful - ly for - Wa - ter, Word and All a - ges taught and ta - lents shared; the - flow'r be - gan - to Goes forth with peace, faith, hope, and love in - an - swer to - Christ's

D C D B<sup>7</sup> Em

song. O bless - ed church E - pi - pha - ny how won - der - f'ly you grow - ! bloom! O bless - ed church E - pi - pha - ny how won - der - f'ly you grow - ! call. Now ce - le - brate to - geth - er to praise what God has done - .

C D GD Em C Am<sup>7</sup> D<sup>7</sup> 1,2 GC 3. G<sup>7</sup>

All praise and ho - nor be to God whose - good - ness o - ver - flows. All praise and ho - nor be to God whose good - ness o - ver - flows. From one small seed, E - pi - pha - ny a - gar - den has be - - come.

C D GB<sup>7</sup> Em G<sup>7</sup> Am<sup>7</sup> D G

All praise to God! E - pi - pha - ny a gar - den has be - come!

Lyrics by Martha Armstrong-Benjamin. Addl. lyrics: Leesa Galloway and Jane Lane. Music: John Benjamin © 2019.

**WELCOME OF NEW MEMBERS**

- P: Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for these people, one with us in the body of Christ, whom we welcome as new members into the life and ministry of this congregation.
- A: The following people have come to our congregation and desire to join with us in our mission to love Jesus by serving others.

Janice and Joe Codispoti  
 Vicki Hurd  
 Anita, Adelaide and Jo Schmaltz  
 Owen Smith

Jonathan Hein  
 Kathy and Tom Rush  
 Lanae and Roger Scott

## 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.**

P: People of God, do you promise to support and pray for these new members in their life in Christ?

**C: We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.**

P: Let us welcome these sisters and brothers in Christ to this community of faith.

**C: We welcome you in living out the covenant of your baptism among God's people in  
this place. We rejoice with you in the life of baptism. Together we will give thanks  
and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world.**

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

A: Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

## Meal

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### OFFERING: FOR THE BEAUTY OF THE EARTH

*Epiphany Chorale*

*For the beauty of the earth, for the beauty of the skies,  
For the love which from our birth over and around us lies,  
Lord of all to thee we raise this our joyful hymn of praise.*

*For the beauty of each hour of the day and of the night,  
Hill and vale and tree and flower, sun and moon and stars of light.  
Lord of all to thee we raise this our joyful hymn of praise.*

*For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child,  
Friends on earth and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild.  
Lord of all to thee we raise this our joyful hymn of praise.*

*For each perfect gift of thine, to our race so freely given,  
Graces human and divine, flowers of earth and buds of heaven.  
Lord of all to thee we raise this our joyful hymn of praise.*

Words by F. S. Pierpoint (1835-1917). Music by John Rutter © 1980 Oxford University Press.

**OFFERTORY: BLESSED BE YOUR NAME**

Blessed be your name in the land that is plentiful  
Where your streams of abundance flow  
Blessed be your name

Blessed be your name when I'm found in the desert place  
Though I walk through the wilderness  
Blessed be your name

**Pre-Chorus:** Every blessing you pour out I'll turn back to praise  
When the darkness closes in Lord still I will say

**Chorus:** Blessed be the name of the Lord  
Blessed be your name  
Blessed be the name of the Lord  
Blessed be your glorious name

Words and Music by Matt Redman and Beth Redman © 2002 Thankyou Music

**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: ELW I**

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. Blessed is he who comes in the  
name of the Lord. 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.*

*Christ welcomes you to the meal of grace! All who desire to receive Christ's nourishment and grace may join us at the Lord's Table. Please come to the table by the diagonal aisle and return to your seat by the center or a front aisle. Communion is by intinction; dip the wafer in the red wine or white grape juice. Gluten free wafers are available at the front of the center aisle.*

### COMMUNION SONG: GOOD, GOOD FATHER

I've heard a thousand stories of what they think you're like  
But I've heard the tender whisper of love in the dead of night  
You tell me that you're pleased and that I'm never alone

**Chorus:** You're a good good Father  
It's who you are, it's who you are, it's who you are  
And I'm loved by you  
It's who I am, it's who I am, it's who I am

I've seen many searching for answers far and wide  
But I know we're all searching for answers only you provide  
Because you know just what we need before we say a word (**Chorus**)

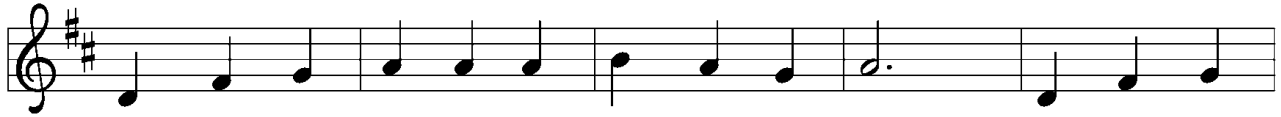
**Bridge:** You are perfect in all of your ways  
You are perfect in all of your ways  
You are perfect in all of your ways to us (*Repeat*)

Oh this love so undeniable I, I can hardly speak  
Peace so unexplainable I, I can hardly think  
As you call me deeper still, as you call me deeper still  
As you call me deeper still into love, love, love (**Chorus 2X**)

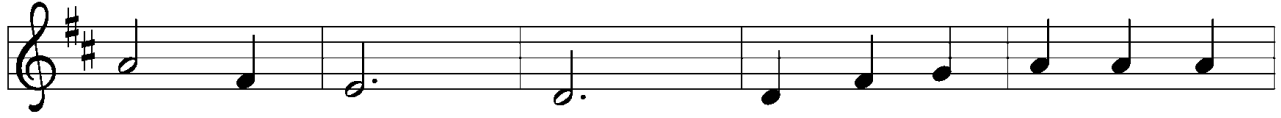
Words and Music by Anthony Brown and Pat Barrett © 2014 © Pat Barrett Music (Admin. by Joseph Barrett). Remaining portion is unaffiliated.

COMMUNION HYMN: I WANT TO WALK AS A CHILD OF THE LIGHT

#815



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

**POST-COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER**

Send

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**BENEDICTION**

*Refrain*



Shine, Je - sus, shine, fill this land with the Fa - ther's glo - ry;



blaze, Spir - it, blaze, set our hearts on fire.



Flow, riv - er, flow, flood the na - tions with grace and mer - cy;



send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light!

*To stanzas*    *End*



1 Lord, the light of your love is shin - ing, in the midst of the



2 As we gaze on your king - ly bright - ness, so our fac - es dis -



dark - ness, shin - ing; Je - sus, light of the world, shine up - on us,  
play your like - ness, ev - er chang - ing from glo - ry to glo - ry,



set us free by the truth you now bring us.  
mir - rored here, may our lives tell your sto - ry.

*Refrain*



Shine on me, shine on me:



Shine on me, shine on me:

Text: Graham Kendrick, b. 1950

Music: Graham Kendrick

Text and music © 1987 Make Way Music, admin. Music Services in the Western Hemisphere

SHINE, JESUS, SHINE  
99 10 10 33 and refrain

## SENDING

L: Go forth in peace and hope, that we may grow in faith, build thriving community, and transform lives through Christ's love.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Scripture readings for Reformation, October 27, 2024:  
Jeremiah 31:31-34, Psalm 46, Romans 3:19-28, John 8:31-36

## Serving in Worship

Presiding Minister:	Pastor Julie Reuning-Scherer
Preaching Minister:	Pastor Emeritus Larry Hoffsis
Assisting Minister:	Sandy Houpt
Organist:	John Benjamin
Praise Team:	Gabe Ferraiuolo, Craig Hoerig, Dick Lane, Mary Miller, Thom Reitz, Anastasia Rodgers, Scott Watamaniuk
A/V:	Roland Hogendoorn, Felicity Glass
Stream Team:	Anthony Brown, Melonie June Warren
Ushers:	John Dietrich, Troy Stoller
Communion Servers:	Erich Biermann, Kim Knechtly, Candy Norman, Kelly Stoller, RoseAnn Venis