

Shining the light of Christ
in the heart of the pines

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WELCOME TO EPIPHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH!

“How lovely is Your dwelling place, O LORD of hosts!” (Psalm 84:1) We are thankful that God has brought you here with us this evening to hear His Word and receive His gifts! You’ll find everything you need for the worship service in this bulletin and in *Lutheran Service Book*, our hymnal. If you have any questions about our worship service, our congregation, or what we believe, please ask our pastor or any of our members.

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A MEMBER?

The first step to becoming a member of our congregation is to speak with our pastor.

We believe, teach, and confess that we are all broken sinners in need of God’s salvation, which He freely gives through His Word and Sacrament. Church is not a club for the sinless– it’s a hospital for sinners!

You may become a member of Epiphany Lutheran Church by transferring your membership from a sister congregation of The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod (LCMS) or you may receive instruction from the pastor and become a communicant member of Epiphany and the LCMS through Adult Instruction Class or through a profession of faith.

SERVANTS DURING WORSHIP THIS EVENING:

Pastor – Rev. E. B. Holschuh
Musician – Mark McClain

Midweek of Lent 5:

Vindication

As We Gather

In Psalm 41:7–8, David lamented, “All who hate me whisper together about me; they imagine the worst for me. They say, ‘A deadly thing is poured out on him; he will not rise again from where he lies.’” These words pointed forward to our Lord Jesus Christ, who rose again in defiance of His enemies. Do you have enemies who whisper and scheme against you? Have you been brought low—perhaps so low that you despair of ever rising again? Jesus was vindicated in His resurrection, and you shall be too. You can have certainty in your resurrection and vindication because Jesus Christ is risen.

Hymn

“Drawn to the Cross, Which Thou Hast Blessed”

LSB 560

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Opening Sentences

Psalm 9:1-2, 9-10

P I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart;

C **I will recount all of Your wonderful deeds.**

P I will be glad and exult in You;

C **I will sing praise to Your name, O Most High.**

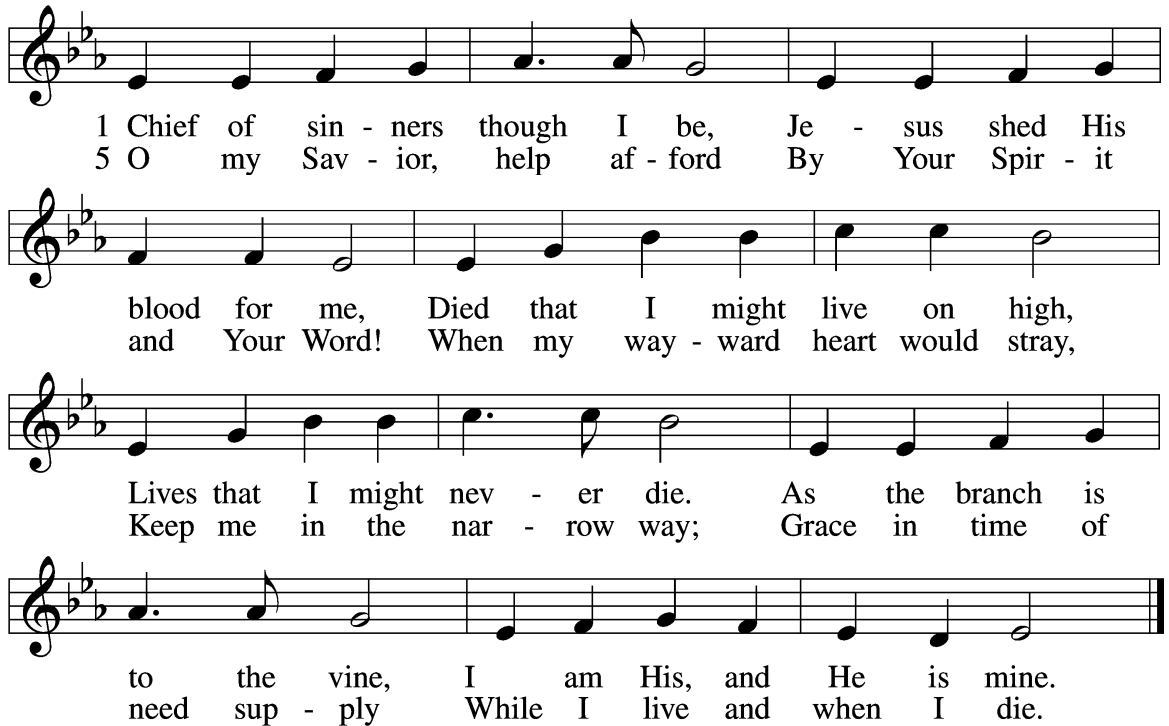
P The Lord is a stronghold for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble.

C **And those who know Your name put their trust in You, for You, O Lord, have not forsaken those who seek You.**

Call to Confession

P Let us make our confession to our God, seeking His grace and forgiveness.





1 Chief of sin - ners though I be, Je - sus shed His
5 O my Sav - ior, help af - ford By Your Spir - it

blood for me, Died that I might live on high,
and Your Word! When my way - ward heart would stray,

Lives that I might nev - er die. As the branch is
Keep me in the nar - row way; Grace in time of

to the vine, I am His, and He is mine.
need sup - ply While I live and when I die.

Absolution

- P** The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins.
- C** Amen.

Salutation

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And also with you.

Collect of the Day

- P** Let us pray.
- O God who gives strength to the weak and light to those who are in darkness, grant us to grow in grace and in the knowledge of Your Son, Jesus Christ, that through Him we may know You more completely. Assure us that all things are made to work for our good through our Savior, Jesus Christ, so that we may

with hopeful hearts await the glory of His kingdom of eternal grace. With boldness and confidence, we ask this through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Hymn

“O Sacred Head, Now Wounded”

LSB 450 sts. 1, 7



1 O sa - cred Head, now wound - ed, With grief and shame weighed down,
7 Be Thou my con - so - la - tion, My shield, when I must die;



Now scorn - ful - ly sur - round - ed With thorns, Thine on - ly crown.
Re - mind me of Thy pas - sion When my last hour draws nigh.



O sa - cred Head, what glo - ry, What bliss, till now was Thine!
Mine eyes shall then be - hold Thee, Up - on Thy cross shall dwell,



Yet, though de - spised and gor - y, I joy to call Thee mine.
My heart by faith en - fold Thee. Who di - eth thus dies well.

Old Testament Reading

Jeremiah 9:12-16

¹²Who is the man so wise that he can understand this? To whom has the mouth of the LORD spoken, that he may declare it? Why is the land ruined and laid waste like a wilderness, so that no one passes through? ¹³And the LORD says: “Because they have forsaken My law that I set before them, and have not obeyed My voice or walked in accord with it, ¹⁴but have stubbornly followed their own hearts and have gone after the Baals, as their fathers taught them. ¹⁵Therefore thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Behold, I will feed this people with bitter food, and give them poisonous water to drink. ¹⁶I will scatter them among the nations whom neither they nor their fathers have known, and I will send the sword after them, until I have consumed them.”

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Series Psalm

Psalm 41:6-8

P May God be gracious to us and bless us
and make His face to shine upon us.

C **May God be gracious to us and bless us
and make His face to shine upon us.**

P And when one comes to see me, he utters empty words,
while his heart gathers iniquity;
when he goes out, he tells it abroad.
All who hate me whisper together about me;
they imagine the worst for me.
They say, "A deadly thing is poured out on him;
he will not rise again from where he lies."

C **May God be gracious to us and bless us
and make His face to shine upon us.**

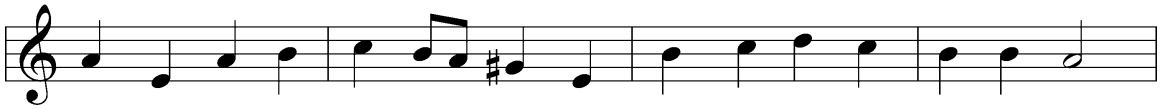
Epistle Reading

2 Timothy 3:1-9

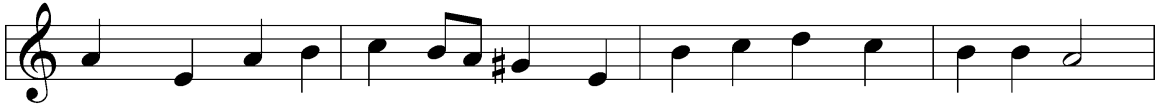
¹But understand this, that in the last days there will come times of difficulty.
²For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, proud, arrogant, abusive,
disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, ³heartless, unappeasable,
slandrous, without self-control, brutal, not loving good, ⁴treacherous, reckless,
swollen with conceit, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, ⁵having the
appearance of godliness, but denying its power. Avoid such people. ⁶For among
them are those who creep into households and capture weak women, burdened
with sins and led astray by various passions, ⁷always learning and never able to
arrive at a knowledge of the truth. ⁸Just as Jannes and Jambres opposed Moses, so
these men also oppose the truth, men corrupted in mind and disqualified regarding
the faith. ⁹But they will not get very far, for their folly will be plain to all, as was
that of those two men.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**



On my heart im - print Your im - age, Bless - ed Je - sus, King of grace,



That life's rich-es, cares, and plea-sures Nev - er may Your work e-raise;



Let the clear in - scrip-tion be: Je - sus, cru - ci - fied for me,



Is my life, my hope's foun - da - tion, And my glo - ry and sal - va - tion!

Holy Gospel

Matthew 26:1-5

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-sixth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹When Jesus had finished all these sayings, He said to His disciples, ²**"You know that after two days the Passover is coming, and the Son of Man will be delivered up to be crucified."**

³Then the chief priests and the elders of the people gathered in the palace of the high priest, whose name was Caiaphas, ⁴and plotted together in order to arrest Jesus by stealth and kill Him. ⁵But they said, "Not during the feast, lest there be an uproar among the people."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Hymn

"Cross of Jesus, Cross of Sorrow"

LSB 428

Sermon

Psalms 41:7-8

Hymn

“Grant Peace, We Pray, in Mercy, Lord”

LSB 777



Grant peace, we pray, in mer - cy, Lord; Peace
in our time, O send us! For there is
none on earth but You, None oth - er
to de - fend us. You on - ly,
Lord, can fight for us. A - men.

Offering

Usher

Please sign the attendance books as they are passed.

Offertory



C 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 Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it



from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
 tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

The Litany

- P** O Lord,
C have mercy.
P O Christ,
C have mercy.
P O Lord,
C have mercy.
P O Christ,
C hear us.
P God the Father in heaven,
C have mercy.
P God the Son, Redeemer of the world,
C have mercy.
P God the Holy Spirit,
C have mercy.
P Be gracious to us.
C Spare us, good Lord.
P Be gracious to us.
C Help us, good Lord.
- P** From all sin, from all error, from all evil;
 From the crafts and assaults of the devil; from sudden and evil death;
 From pestilence and famine; from war and bloodshed; from sedition and from
 rebellion;
 From lightning and tempest; from all calamity by fire and water; and from
 everlasting death:
C Good Lord, deliver us.
P By the mystery of Your holy incarnation; by Your holy nativity;
 By Your baptism, fasting, and temptation; by Your agony and bloody sweat;

by Your cross and passion; by Your precious death and burial;
By Your glorious resurrection and ascension; and by the coming of the Holy Spirit, the Comforter:

C Help us, good Lord.

P In all time of our tribulation; in all time of our prosperity; in the hour of death; and in the day of judgment:

C Help us, good Lord.

P We poor sinners implore You

C to hear us, O Lord.

P To rule and govern Your holy Christian Church; to preserve all pastors and ministers of Your Church in the true knowledge and understanding of Your wholesome Word and to sustain them in holy living;

To put an end to all schisms and causes of offense; to bring into the way of truth all who have erred and are deceived;

To beat down Satan under our feet; to send faithful laborers into Your harvest; and to accompany Your Word with Your grace and Spirit:

C We implore You to hear us, good Lord.

P To raise those who fall and to strengthen those who stand; and to comfort and help the weakhearted and the distressed:

C We implore You to hear us, good Lord.

P To give to all peoples concord and peace; to preserve our land from discord and strife; to give our country Your protection in every time of need; To direct and defend our president and all in authority; to bless and protect our magistrates and all our people;

To watch over and help all who are in danger, necessity, and tribulation; to protect and guide all who travel;

To grant all women with child, and all mothers with infant children, increasing happiness in their blessings; to defend all orphans and widows and provide for them;

To strengthen and keep all sick persons and young children; to free those in bondage; and to have mercy on us all:

C We implore You to hear us, good Lord.

P To forgive our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers and to turn their hearts; to give and preserve for our use the kindly fruits of the earth; and graciously to hear our prayers:

C We implore You to hear us, good Lord.

P Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,

C We implore You to hear us, good Lord.

P Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

C have mercy.

P Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

C have mercy.

P Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

C grant us Your peace.

P O Christ,

C hear us.

P O Lord,

C have mercy.

P O Christ,

C have mercy.

P O Lord,

C have mercy. Amen.

Lord's Prayer

C 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.

Hymn Introduction

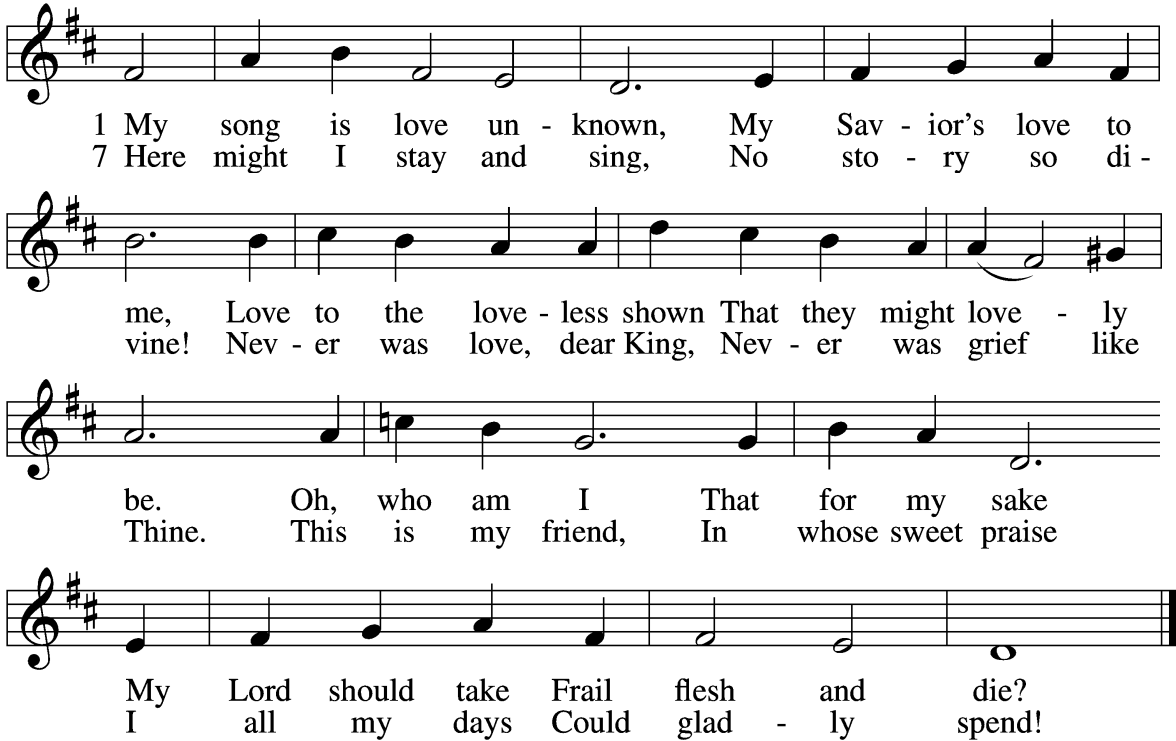
P In the closing stanza of “My Song Is Love Unknown,” Samuel Crossman uses a special term for Jesus, whose ministry and suffering and sacrifice have been described in the preceding stanzas. “This is my friend,” the author states confidently. In speaking with the disciples in the Upper Room on the night in which He was betrayed, Jesus said, “Greater love has no one than this, that someone lays down his life for his friends. You are My friends if you do what I

command you” (John 15:13–14). Jesus commanded His disciples to love one another, reflecting the deep and amazing love that He was showing them then and would be fully demonstrating in the next hours of His Passion. Jesus is our friend for time and eternity, whose “sweet praise” we now sing.

Hymn

“My Song Is Love Unknown”

LSB 430 sts. 1, 7



1 My song is love un - known, My Sav - ior's love to
7 Here might I stay and sing, No sto - ry so di -
me, Love to the love - less shown That they might love - ly
vine! Nev - er was love, dear King, Nev - er was grief like
be. Oh, who am I That for my sake
Thine. This is my friend, In whose sweet praise
My Lord should take Frail flesh and die?
I all my days Could glad - ly spend!

Luther's Evening Prayer

P Let us pray.

C I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Benediction

P The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✝ Son, and the Holy Spirit,
bless and preserve you.

C Amen.

Hymn

“Not All the Blood of Beasts”

LSB 431

Please join us here for our Holy Week services:

Maundy Thursday, March 28 – 7:00pm (with Communion)

Good Friday, March 29 – 7:00pm

On Easter morning, please join us to celebrate Christ's resurrection!

10:00am – Potluck Brunch

11:30am – Worship Service

Initial and ongoing funding for Epiphany Lutheran Church has been received through a grant made possible by the Roy D. and Ingaborg G. Randolph Memorial Endowment Fund.

