

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.

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## **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.

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## **SERVANTS DURING WORSHIP THIS EVENING:**

Pastor – Rev. E. B. Holschuh  
Musician – Gina Sanders

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# Good Friday:

# Be Gracious to Me!

## As We Gather

Nothing could be more natural than seeking revenge against one who has wronged you. Even the youngest child's untrained sense of fairness demands payback. God's children, however, are not to submit to human thinking but to the Word of God. What do the Scriptures say about our desire for revenge? When King David's enemies rose against him, the Holy Spirit inspired him to pray in Psalm 41:10, "But You, O Lord, be gracious to me, and raise me up, that I may repay them!" David prays for vengeance, and God ordains vengeance. Yet the Scriptures also tell us not to "resist the one who is evil" (Matthew 5:39). What are we to make of this paradox? As with all matters of the faith, we must look to our Lord's crucifixion for the answer. For only by the cross is God gracious to you; only at the cross does He demand payment for every injustice.

### + PREPARATION +

*The lighting is subdued in the worship space; the pastor enters in silence.*

### Prayer

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty God, graciously behold this Your family for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed and delivered into the hands of sinful men to suffer death upon the cross; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

### Hymn

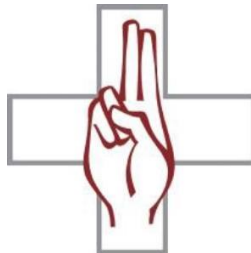
*"Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted"*

LSB 451

### Invocation

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

**C** Amen.



## Opening Sentences

*Philippians 2:8-9;  
Hebrews 9:12a, c, 15a, adapted*

- P** Christ Jesus humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.
- C** **Therefore God has highly exalted Him and bestowed on Him the name that is above every name.**
- P** Christ entered once for all into the holy places, by means of His own blood,
- C** **thus securing an eternal redemption.**
- P** Therefore He is the mediator of a new covenant,
- C** **so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance.**

## Confession and Absolution

- P** Confident of His redeeming love, let us confess our sins to our gracious God.
- C** **Almighty God, we confess that we are sinful by nature and through our words, thoughts, and deeds. Have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**
- P** God be merciful to you and strengthen your faith. As you believe, so let it be. By the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I, a called and ordained servant of the Word, forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**

+ WORD +

## Salutation

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

## Collect of the Day

- P** Let us pray.  
Almighty God, You spared not Your only-begotten Son but gave Him unto death on the cross. Grant that in the midst of our failures and weaknesses, we may be delivered from all evil. Bring to our remembrance all that our Savior has done for us. Strengthen us to carry our burdens and to endure our sufferings as we, in faith, follow His holy example, always giving thanks to

You for Your graciousness to us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

## Reproaches

**P** Thus says the Lord: What have I done to you, O My people, and wherein have I offended you? Answer Me. For I have raised you up out of the prison house of sin and death, and you have delivered up your Redeemer to be scourged. For I have redeemed you from the house of bondage, and you have nailed your Savior to the cross. O My people.

**C Holy Lord God, holy and mighty God, holy and most merciful Redeemer; God eternal, leave us not to bitter death. O Lord, have mercy.**

**P** Thus says the Lord: What have I done to you, O My people, and wherein have I offended you? Answer Me. For I have conquered all your foes, and you have given Me over and delivered Me to those who persecute Me. For I have fed you with My Word and refreshed you with living water, and you have given Me gall and vinegar to drink. O My people.

**C Holy Lord God, holy and mighty God, holy and most merciful Redeemer; God eternal, allow us not to lose hope in the face of death and hell. O Lord, have mercy.**

**P** Thus says the Lord: What have I done to you, O My people, and wherein have I offended you? Answer Me. What more could have been done for My vineyard than I have done for it? When I looked for good grapes, why did it yield only bad? My people, is this how you thank your God? O My people.

**C Holy Lord God, holy and mighty God, holy and most merciful Redeemer; God eternal, keep us steadfast in the true faith. O Lord, have mercy.**

Hymn

*“O Sacred Head, Now Wounded”*

LSB 449

## Nicene Creed

**C I believe in one God,  
the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth  
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,**

**begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father,  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary  
and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.  
He suffered and was buried.  
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures  
and ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of the Father.  
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and  
the dead,  
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and  
glorified,  
who spoke by the prophets.  
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.**

### **Prayer of the Church**

- P** Let us pray for the whole Christian Church, that in all times and in all places, it would be defended against all the assaults and temptations of the adversary and keep God's faithful people perpetually on the true foundation, Jesus Christ. Gracious Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** We pray for all the minsters of the Word, for all vocations in the Church, for all the people of God here and everywhere, and for our catechumens, that they be mindful of their Baptism and evermore be found in Christ Jesus. Gracious Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** We pray for all those who are in authority that we may lead quiet and peaceable lives in all godliness and honesty, and we pray that the world would be delivered from all error, disease, famine, and all disruptive forces so that peace may abound among us. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** We pray for all people in our land and in every nation, including for our enemies and for all those who are outside of the Church, that there be a true love of concord and that all that is evil be turned into that which is good and salutary. Gracious Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** We pray for continuing blessing upon the fruits of the earth and on all who share the bounties of God so abundantly given to us, asking that we receive every divine gift with thanksgiving and respond to the blessings of God we are given with humble hearts and dedicated lives. Gracious Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Finally, we pray that we may continue living in faith all our days, ever looking to Jesus, who has won our salvation. Grant that our worship and devotion be blessed with concord, love, and peace. Gracious Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer. Amen.**

At Calvary

*Sung by Richard Giro*

Margaret K. Draper/  
Mari Lu Williams

**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.**

+TENEBRAE+

**Office Hymn** “Oh Dearest Jesus, What Law Hast Thou Broken” LSB 439 sts.  
1, 12-15

**First Word** Luke 23:34a

<sup>34</sup>Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.”

**Hymn** “Jesus, in Your Dying Woes” LSB 447 sts. 1-3

*The first candle is extinguished.*

**Second Word** Luke 23:43

<sup>43</sup>[Jesus] said to him, “Truly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise.”

**Hymn** “Jesus, in Your Dying Woes” LSB 447 sts. 4-6

**Third Word** John 19:25-27

<sup>25</sup>Standing by the cross of Jesus were His mother and His mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. <sup>26</sup>When Jesus saw His mother and the disciple whom He loved standing nearby, He said to His mother, “Woman, behold, your son!” <sup>27</sup>Then He said to the disciple, “Behold, your mother!” And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home.

**Hymn** “Jesus, in Your Dying Woes” LSB 447 sts. 7-9

**Fourth Word** Matthew 27:46

<sup>46</sup>And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, “Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?” that is, “My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?”

**Hymn** “Jesus, in Your Dying Woes” LSB 447 sts. 10-12

*The second candle is extinguished.*



## Fifth Word

John 19:28

<sup>28</sup>After this, Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said (to fulfill the Scripture), **“I thirst.”**

### Hymn

*“Jesus, in Your Dying Woes”*

LSB 447 sts. 13-15

## Sixth Word

John 19:30

<sup>30</sup>When Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, **“It is finished,”** and He bowed His head and gave up His spirit.

### Hymn

*“Jesus, in Your Dying Woes”*

LSB 447 sts. 16-18

## Seventh Word

Luke 23:46

<sup>46</sup>Then Jesus, calling out with a loud voice, said, **“Father, into Your hands I commit My spirit!”** And having said this He breathed His last.

### Hymn

*“Jesus, in Your Dying Woes”*

LSB 447 sts. 19-21

## Collect

**P** Let us pray.

Merciful and everlasting God, You did not spare Your only Son but delivered Him up for us all to bear our sins on the cross. Grant that our hearts may be so fixed with steadfast faith in Him that we fear not the power of sin, death, and the devil; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** Amen.

### Hymn

*“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”*

LSB 425

## Collect

**P** Let us pray.

Gracious Jesus, our Lord and our God, You have taken our sins in Your own body on the tree of the cross so that we, being dead to sin, might live unto righteousness. Have mercy upon us now and at the hour of our death, and grant to us, Your servants, with all others who devoutly remember Your blessed passion, a holy and peaceful life in this world and through Your grace eternal glory in the life to come.

**C Amen.**

*The strepitus (loud sound) is heard, evoking the sound of the earthquake that followed Christ's death or the rolling of the stone to seal the tomb, symbolizing the completeness of Christ's sacrifice.*

*The congregation departs in reverent silence.*



