

Sunday, July 28<sup>th</sup> 2024

The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost



**Mailing Address:**

**Epiphany Lutheran Church  
489 Agnes  
Suite 112, Box 117  
Bastrop, TX 78602**

**Physical Address:**

**Epiphany Lutheran Church  
(on the SDA campus)  
3300 TX-21  
Bastrop, TX 78602**

**Rev. E. B. Holschuh – Pastor  
(737) 332-1896 (Voicemail/Text)  
[pastor@epiphanybastrop.org](mailto:pastor@epiphanybastrop.org)**

**Church Phone – (512) 907-0717  
[church@epiphanybastrop.org](mailto:church@epiphanybastrop.org)  
[epiphanybastrop.org/](http://epiphanybastrop.org/)  
[facebook.com/epiphanybastrop](https://facebook.com/epiphanybastrop)**

## **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 morning 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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### **OUR COMMUNION POLICY:**

The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod believes the biblical teaching that in communion we receive the true body and blood of Jesus Christ with the bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins. If you are a baptized Christian who has been instructed in the biblical teaching of communion, and if you agree with our confession of faith, please feel free to commune with us. If you have any questions, please speak with our pastor.

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### **SERVANTS DURING WORSHIP THIS MORNING:**

Pastor – Rev. E. B. Holschuh

Musician – Leann McClain

Lay Reader – Richard Giro

*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.*

## AS WE PREPARE FOR WORSHIP THIS MORNING:

### ***Creation Is Redeemed and Sanctified by the Word of Christ Jesus***

Having spared faithful Noah and his family from the flood, the Lord established His covenant with them, “*and with every living creature,*” that never again would there be “*a flood to destroy the earth*” (Gen. 9:9–11). He signed and sealed this everlasting covenant with His rainbow in the clouds, by which He sees and remembers His promise that “*the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh*” (Gen. 9:13–16). Although creation suffers under the curse of sin, the Lord preserves and orders creation for the benefit of His Church. In particular, all of creation is redeemed and sanctified by the incarnate Son of God. “*Take heart,*” and “*do not be afraid,*” for He is with you on the sea. He is not a ghost, but He has come in the flesh to save you. He has gotten “*into the boat*” with you, and the wind that was against you has ceased (Mark 6:45–51). For He is the Word and promise of the Father, and His own flesh and blood are the covenant by which you are “*strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being*” (Eph. 3:16–17).

### DIVINE SERVICE SETTING FOUR

**Prelude**

Selected Music

**Welcome and Greeting**

Pastor

**Announcements**

**Opening Hymn**

*“Entrust Your Days and Burdens”*

LSB 754

*(stand)*

### CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

*The sign of the cross ✠ may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

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

**C** Amen.

*Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]*

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C** who made heaven and earth.

*Psalms 124:8*

**P** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

**C** **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.** *Ps. 130:3-4*

**P** Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

*[Luke 18:13]*

**C** **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

**P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen.**

*[John 20:19-23]*

## **SERVICE OF THE WORD**

### **Introit**

Psalm 145:1-3, 6-7

**P** I will extol you, my God and King,  
and bless your name forever and ever.

**C** **Every day I will bless you  
and praise your name forever and ever.**

**P** Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised,  
and his greatness is unsearchable.

**C** **They shall speak of the might of your awesome deeds,  
and I will declare your greatness.**

**P** They shall pour forth the fame of your abundant goodness  
and shall sing aloud of your righteousness.

**C** ***Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.***

# Kyrie

Mark 10:47



**C** Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

# Gloria in Excelsis

Luke 2:14; John 1:29



**C** 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;  
2 To You, O sole - be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;  
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!  
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.  
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shipped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,  
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.  
Where You in pow'r are seat - ed At God's right hand on high—  
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

*2 Timothy 4:22*

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful God, the protector of all who trust in You, strengthen our faith and give us courage to believe that in Your love You will rescue us from all adversities; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

*(sit)*

## Old Testament Reading

Genesis 9:8-17

<sup>8</sup>God said to Noah and to his sons with him, <sup>9</sup>“Behold, I establish my covenant with you and your offspring after you, <sup>10</sup>and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the livestock, and every beast of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark; it is for every beast of the earth. <sup>11</sup>I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of the flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.” <sup>12</sup>And God said, “This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: <sup>13</sup>I have set my bow in the cloud, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. <sup>14</sup>When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, <sup>15</sup>I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh. And the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. <sup>16</sup>When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.” <sup>17</sup>God said to Noah, “This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.”

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

<sup>14</sup>For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, <sup>15</sup>from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, <sup>16</sup>that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, <sup>17</sup>so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, <sup>18</sup>may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, <sup>19</sup>and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

<sup>20</sup>Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, <sup>21</sup>to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*(stand)*

**Alleluia and Verse**



**C** Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



**C** These things are writ - ten that you may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

*John 20:31*



**C** Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the sixth chapter.

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

<sup>45</sup>Immediately [Jesus] made his disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, to Bethsaida, while he dismissed the crowd. <sup>46</sup>And after he had taken leave of them, he went up on the mountain to pray. <sup>47</sup>And when evening came, the boat was out on the sea, and he was alone on the land. <sup>48</sup>And he saw that they were making headway painfully, for the wind was against them. And about the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. He meant to pass by them, <sup>49</sup>but when they saw him walking on the sea they thought it was a ghost, and cried out, <sup>50</sup>for they all saw him and were terrified. But immediately he spoke to them and said, **“Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid.”** <sup>51</sup>And he got into the boat with them, and the wind ceased. And they were utterly astounded, <sup>52</sup>for they did not understand about the loaves, but their hearts were hardened.

<sup>53</sup>When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored to the shore. <sup>54</sup>And when they got out of the boat, the people immediately recognized him <sup>55</sup>and ran about the whole region and began to bring the sick people on their beds to wherever they heard he was. <sup>56</sup>And wherever he came, in villages, cities, or countryside, they laid the sick in the marketplaces and implored him that they might touch even the fringe of his garment. And as many as touched it were made well.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

*(sit)*

**Hymn of the Day**                      *“Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness”*                      LSB 849

**Sermon**                                      *“Does God need a reminder?”*                                      Genesis 9:8-17

*(stand)*

## Nicene Creed

**☩ 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.**

## Passing of the Peace

*When Jesus himself appeared to the disciples after his resurrection, he greeted them by saying, "Peace be with you" (Luke 24:36; John 20:19, 26) – and so we do likewise.*

*(sit)*

## Prayer of the Church

**P** Lord, in Your mercy

**C** hear our prayer.

## Offering

Usher

*Please sign the attendance books as they are passed.*

*If you would like to transition to making your regular tithe or offering online, you may do so at <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZKYH/home>*



## SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

*For those unfamiliar with our congregation's practice regarding the Lord's Supper, please refer to "Our Communion Policy" located at the beginning of the bulletin.*

*(stand)*

## Preface

**P** The Lord be with you.

*2 Timothy 4:22*

**C** And also with you.

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** We lift them to the Lord.

*[Colossians 3:1]*

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

*[Psalm 136]*

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

## Sanctus

*Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9*



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

**P** Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

For Christ, our Passover Lamb, has been sacrificed. By His death, He has redeemed us from bondage to sin and death, and by His resurrection, He has delivered us into new life in Him.

Grant us to keep the Feast in sincerity and truth, faithfully eating His body given into death and drinking His life's blood poured out for our salvation until we pass through death to the promised land of life eternal.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

**☩ 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.**

**The Words of Our Lord**

*Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24  
Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25*

- P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."
- P** In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

**Pax Domini**

*John 20:19*

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**☩ Amen.**

# Agnus Dei

John 1:29



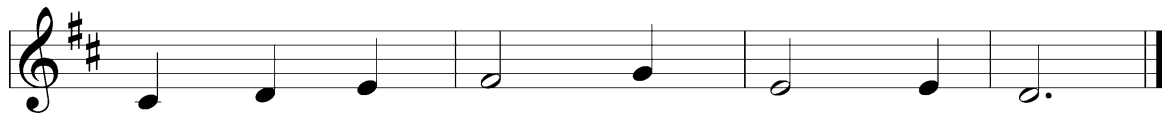
1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,



You take the sin of the world a - way;  
You take the sin of the world a - way;



O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,



Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.  
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

*(sit)*

## Distribution Hymn

*"Be Still, My Soul"*

LSB 752

*(stand)*

## Nunc Dimittis

Luke 2:29-32



1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -  
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All



part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the  
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the

glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:  
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;

A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -  
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is

to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your  
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -

peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.  
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

## Post-Communion Collect

**P** Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## Benedicamus and Benediction

**P** Let us bless the Lord.

[Psalm 103:1]

**C** Thanks be to God.

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

Numbers 6:24-26

**C** Amen.

(sit)

## Closing Hymn

*“Eternal Father, Strong to Save”*

LSB 717



1 E - ter - nal Fa - ther, strong to save, Whose arm hath bound the  
2 O Christ, whose voice the wa - ters heard And hushed their rag - ing  
3 Most Ho - ly Spir - it, who didst brood Up - on the cha - os  
4 O Trin - i - ty of love and pow'r, Our peo - ple shield in



rest - less wave, Who bidd'st the might - y o - cean deep Its  
at Thy word, Who walk - edst on the foam - ing deep And  
dark and rude, And bid its an - gry tu - mult cease, And  
dan - ger's hour; From rock and tem - pest, fire and foe, Pro -



own ap - point - ed lim - its keep: O hear us when we  
calm a - mid its rage didst sleep: O hear us when we  
give, for wild con - fu - sion, peace: O hear us when we  
tect them where - so - e'er they go; Thus ev - er - more shall



cry to Thee For those in per - il on the sea.  
cry to Thee For those in per - il on the sea.  
cry to Thee For those in per - il on the sea.  
rise to Thee Glad praise from air and land and sea.

**P** Go in Peace!

**C** Serve the Lord!

**Postlude**

Selected Music

## SERMON NOTES

### Genesis 9:8–17 | *Does God need a reminder?*

1. God makes a \_\_\_\_\_ to include not only humanity but the whole of creation...a divine \_\_\_\_\_ to be accompanied by a sign—a divine \_\_\_\_\_ not to forget.
  2. [And God said,] “When I bring clouds over the earth and the \_\_\_\_\_ is seen in the clouds, I will \_\_\_\_\_ my \_\_\_\_\_ that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh.” (Genesis 9:14-15)
  3. God tells \_\_\_\_\_ that the seasons will continue and He will not \_\_\_\_\_ all flesh as long as the \_\_\_\_\_ remains.
  4. Just as God destroyed the world through the \_\_\_\_\_, and the only ones saved were those in the \_\_\_\_\_, so He will yet destroy the world through fire and only those who are in \_\_\_\_\_ will be saved.
  5. The \_\_\_\_\_ does possess a significance that lies deep in the memory of the human race; it still stands for God’s covenant with \_\_\_\_\_ and with all \_\_\_\_\_.
  6. The rainbow is a \_\_\_\_\_ not only to \_\_\_\_\_, but to us, as well, of Jesus’ \_\_\_\_\_ in John 3:16-17.
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## PRAYERS AT EPIPHANY

**PRAYER REQUESTS:** Please share any prayer request on the Prayer Requests sheet as you enter on Sunday. You may also email a prayer request, as well as a request to become a part of Epiphany’s prayer chain, to [secretary@epiphanybastrop.org](mailto:secretary@epiphanybastrop.org).

Please continue to pray for...

- Rev. J. P. and Aimee Cima and their 3 children, Celeste, Bella, and Isaac – missionaries in Cambodia

## 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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Epiphany Lutheran Church has a podcast! Our ***Peace Be With You*** podcast is still very much a work in progress that we hope will help us reach those in our community and beyond with the Gospel message of hope and salvation in Christ. In the coming days it should be available on popular podcast apps, but you can always find it at [peacebewithyou.podbean.com](http://peacebewithyou.podbean.com) (or just scan the QR code).



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### THIS WEEK AT EPIPHANY:

#### Sunday, July 28<sup>th</sup>

- 10:00am – Children's Sunday School (Fellowship Area)
- 10:00am – Adult Sunday School (Sanctuary)
- 11:00am – Fellowship / Coffee Time
- 11:30am – Worship Service with Communion

#### Sunday, August 4<sup>th</sup>

- 10:00am – Children's Sunday School (Fellowship Area)
- 10:00am – Adult Sunday School (Sanctuary)
- 11:00am – Fellowship / Coffee Time
- 11:30am – Worship Service with Communion

**Adult Sunday School:** Join us at 10am for *Isaiah: A 12-Week Study* (started on June 23)... Isaiah's prophecy, which alternates between promises of judgment and restoration, reminds God's people of the magnitude of humanity's sin, the judgment that we all deserve, and how God displays his glory by saving sinners.

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**Thursday 6pm Zoom Study:** Ever wondered if there was just a bit more to some of those lessons you learned in Sunday school? Join us online for *Stuff They Didn't Teach Me in Sunday School*, through August 29. Registration: [bit.ly/ELC-Stuff](http://bit.ly/ELC-Stuff)

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**Lutheran Hour:** Next Sunday, August 4<sup>th</sup> – “Jesus’ Resurrection: God’s Public Guarantee” – Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz. Archives August: A crucified Savior, A resurrected, living Lord: the public guarantee of God, at work in the world for you. (1 Corinthians 15:17-19)

Hear The Lutheran Hour each Sunday on station KBUK-FM 104.9 at 7:00 a.m. or on station KANJ-FM 91.5 at 12:30 p.m. or go to [lhm.org](http://lhm.org) for a link to listen to the Lutheran Hour live.

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**CHRIST FOR YOU this week on KFUE.org:** Finish studying Zechariah and begin studying Malachi on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT), continue studying the Gospel of Luke on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT), and hear stories from across the LCMS on The Coffee Hour (weekdays at 9:30 a.m. CT). Find your favorite programs on demand at [kfu.org](http://kfu.org) or the KFUE Radio app!

Answers to Sermon Notes:

1. God makes a **pledge** to include not only humanity but the whole of creation...a divine **covenant** to be accompanied by a sign—a divine **promise** not to forget. [And God said,] “When I bring clouds over the earth and the **bow** is seen in the clouds, I will **remember** my **covenant** that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh.” (Genesis 9:14-15)
2. God tells **Noah** that the seasons will continue and He will not **destroy** all flesh as long as the **earth** remains.
3. Just as God destroyed the world through the **food**, and the only ones saved were those in the **Ark**, so He will yet destroy the world through fire and only those who are in **Christ** will be saved.
4. The **rainbow** does possess a significance that lies deep in the memory of the human race; it still stands for God's covenant with **Noah** and with all **creation**.
5. The rainbow is a **reminder** not only to **God**, but to us, as well, of Jesus' **words** in John 3:16-17.

3-minute



Seminary

## Noah the Evangelist

Just as most people today do not believe Jesus is coming back at all, let alone soon, the people of Noah's day did not know when the Flood was going to happen. However, they were informed that there was indeed going to be a Flood—not only from the obvious fact that Noah was actually building an Ark, but quite likely from the words of Noah himself.

In 2 Peter 2:5, Noah is described as a “preacher of righteousness.” In what way was he a preacher? The Greek word *kerux* refers to a herald, or “one who announces.” Even when he wasn't saying anything, his labor on the Ark would have been his witness. However, some Jewish scholars maintain that Noah did indeed leave some words, too. An 8<sup>th</sup>-century *Midrash* (an exposition of Hebrew Scripture) known as *Chapters of Rabbi Eliezer* quotes Noah according to Jewish tradition: “Be ye turned from your evil ways and works, lest the waters of the flood come upon you, and cut off all the seed of the children of men.”

The tradition shows Noah giving both a warning and a means of salvation. If this extrabiblical source has any truth in it, then Noah is asking for people to repent, which would certainly fit with his own source of salvation through Christ. Noah was not saved because of his righteousness—at least not in a worldly sense. Hebrews 11 tells us from where Noah's righteousness came. The Greek word is *dikaiosisune*, which refers to a form of righteousness that is unattainable by law or by merit.

Hebrews 11:7 says, “By faith Noah, being divinely warned of things not yet seen, moved with godly fear, prepared an ark for the saving of his household, by which he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.”

This sort of righteousness is found only by faith. The Apostle Paul says elsewhere, “For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast” (Ephesians 2:8–9, NKJV).

This is exactly how Noah was saved. His righteousness was unattainable; so it could only come by God's grace, through faith. Genesis 6:8 tells us that “Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord” (NKJV). Noah's salvation, like ours, was by grace. He could not do anything to attain righteousness for himself.

When the door to the Ark was shut, there was room for many more people. All they had to do was repent and turn to God. In the same way, salvation is available to “whoever calls on the name of the Lord” (Romans 10:13, NKJV). Notice that the eight occupants of the Ark entered by a door—and there was only one door—which was not closed by Noah, but by God—“the Lord shut him in” (Genesis 7:16, NKJV). Jesus said, “I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved” (John 10:9, NKJV).

Noah's Flood teaches us two things about the attitude of God towards us: 1) He is angry with sin and will punish it one day, and 2) He loves us and sends us a way of salvation, if we will only repent and turn to Him.

Jesus is our Ark of Salvation today. Just as Noah was saved by grace through faith from the destruction of the Flood, we are saved by grace through faith in Jesus.

[From *Noah the Evangelist* by Paul F. Taylor posted to [answersingenesis.org](http://answersingenesis.org)]