

Sunday, November 3rd 2024

All Saints' Day (Observed)



Mailing Address:

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

Physical Address:

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(on the SDA campus)
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Bastrop, TX 78602**

**Rev. E. B. Holschuh – Pastor
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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 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.

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.

SERVANTS DURING WORSHIP THIS MORNING:

Pastor – Rev. E. B. Holschuh
Musician – Susan Michael
Lay Reader – Dave Layland
Assisting Elder – Dave Layland

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:

Saints Are Blessed in the Eternal Presence of Christ

“A great multitude ... from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages,” cry out, *“Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne”* (Rev. 7:9–17). Faith-filled saints from every place and time, with unified voices, eternally magnify the Lamb of God. As His beloved children, we, too, *“shall see him as he is”* (1 John 3:1–3). Joined with the throng of angels and myriad saints, we shall *“serve him day and night in his temple”* (Rev. 7:9–17). In our earthly tension vacillating between saint and sinner, faith and doubt, sacred and profane, we earnestly seek Jesus to calm our fears, comfort our spirits and forgive our sins. The Holy Spirit through faith in Christ propels us forward, fortifying us in Word and Sacrament, to our eternal home. In the midst of our constant struggle as believers, we need to be blessed. And so we are. The poor in spirit, the meek, the hungry, the thirsty, the merciful, the pure and the persecuted are all blessed, and we will most certainly inherit the kingdom of heaven (Matt. 5:1–12).

DIVINE SERVICE SETTING FOUR

Prelude		Selected Music
Welcome and Greeting		Pastor
Announcements		
Opening Hymn	<i>“For All the Saints”</i>	LSB 677
<i>(stand)</i>		

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.

Psalm 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 31:1,3,5

P In you, O Lord, do I take refuge; let me never be put to shame; in your righteousness deliver me.

C **For you are my rock and my fortress;
and for your name's sake you lead me and guide me.**

P Into your hand I commit my spirit;
you have redeemed me, O Lord, faithful God.

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 everlasting God, You knit together Your faithful people of all times and places into one holy communion, the mystical body of Your Son, Jesus Christ. Grant us so to follow Your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living that, together with them, we may come to the unspeakable joys You have prepared for those who love You; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

(sit)

First Reading

Revelation 7:9-17

⁹After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, ¹⁰and crying out with a loud voice, “Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!” ¹¹And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹²saying, “Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”

¹³Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?” ¹⁴I said to him, “Sir, you know.” And he said to me, “These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

¹⁵“Therefore they are before the throne of God,
and serve him day and night in his temple;
and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence.

¹⁶They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore;
the sun shall not strike them,
nor any scorching heat.

¹⁷For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of living water,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading

1 John 3:1-3

¹See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ²Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. ³And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.

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. Matthew, the fifth chapter.

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

¹Seeing the crowds, [Jesus] went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him.

²And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying:

³**Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

⁴**Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.**

⁵**Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.**

⁶**Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.**

⁷**Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.**

⁸**Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.**

⁹**Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.**

¹⁰**Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

¹¹**Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹²Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you."**

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

(sit)

Hymn of the Day *"Behold a Host, Arrayed in White"*

LSB 676

Sermon

Our Fate is Sealed!

Revelation 7:9-17

(stand)

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.**

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.
C And also with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

- 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. 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:

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.

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.
C Amen.

Agnus Dei

John 1:29



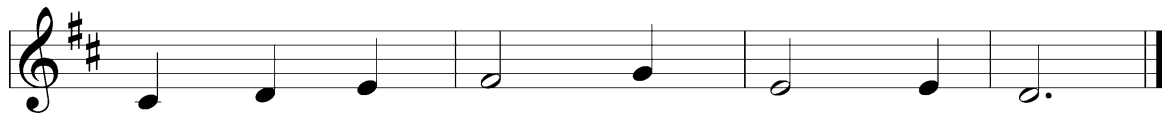
1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,



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

“Praise the Almighty”

LSB 797

(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

“Sing with All the Saints in Glory”

LSB 671

P Go in Peace!

C Serve the Lord!

Postlude

Selected Music

SERMON NOTES

Revelation 7:9-17: *Our Fate is Sealed!*

1. If viewed in light of its true purpose and function as words of _____ and _____ from _____ to his suffering servants, Revelation in its entirety has a lot to offer, even for a 21st century Christian.
 2. The _____ of _____—that is our corporate worship—therefore includes both those still living on earth and those who have died in the _____ and are now living in heaven.
 3. The book of _____ is the culmination of the entire story of _____ contained in the _____.
 4. The sealed _____ are those upon whom _____ places a _____ in the name of Christ by the means of his Grace, his Word, and his Sacraments, through which forgiveness and salvation are received.
 5. While Satan and his forces of sin and evil have a place in God's _____, he's not the central _____ of Revelation, _____ is.
 6. The Holy Spirit, through _____ in Christ propels us forward, fortifying us in _____ and _____, to our eternal home.
-

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.

Please continue to pray for...

- Matt and Dee Dee Wasmund and their 2 daughters, Lily and Olivia – missionaries in Seoul, South Korea
- Russell Layland

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.



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 (or just scan the QR code).



THIS WEEK AT EPIPHANY:

Sunday, November 3rd

- 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

Tuesday, November 5th

- 3:00pm – Devotional at Argent Court

Sunday, November 10th

- 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

Advent video study on Zoom coming next month: *Because Of Bethlehem* (Thursday 6pm 11/21-12/19, no session 11/28).

Make Every Day Count devotional gathering at Argent Court Assisted Living in Bastrop will meet each Tuesday in November at 3pm on Thursday except November 12.

Join us for adult Sunday school next Sunday at 10am for **“Your church baptizes babies? But why?”** During this four-week study we’ll look at why Lutherans baptize infants and other Christian denominations don’t (or won’t)...and what the Bible says about baptism.

New video study on Zoom begins this month! Join us for a four-session Advent Bible study, Max Lucado's ***Because Of Bethlehem***, Thursdays 6pm 11/21-12/19 (no session Thanksgiving week). Register: <https://bit.ly/ELC-Bethlehem>

Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service on November 27 - Pastor E.B. will be leading worship on Thanksgiving Eve, 7pm, at St. Michael's Lutheran Church in Winchester (700 Frio St.).

Lutheran Hour: Next Sunday, November 10th – “My Name Is Now Yours” – Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Daniel Paavola. God comes to renew us with His forgiving love, rename us in Baptism, and remain with us through His Word. (Genesis 35:10-11)

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 for a link to listen to the Lutheran Hour live. You can also listen to The Lutheran Hour on the local Austin station KLBJ (590 AM or 99.7 FM) at 7:00am on Sunday.

Answers to Sermon Notes:

1. If viewed in light of its true purpose and function as words of *hope* and *encouragement* from *Jesus* to his suffering servants, Revelation in its entirety has a lot to offer, even for a 21st century Christian.
2. The *communion of saints*—that is our corporate worship—therefore includes both those still living on earth and those who have died in the *faith* and are now living in heaven.
3. The book of *Revelation* is the culmination of the entire story of *salvation* contained in the *Bible*.
4. The sealed *servants* are those upon whom *God* places a *seal* in the name of Christ by the means of his Grace, his Word, and his Sacraments, through which forgiveness and salvation are received.
5. While Satan and his forces of sin and evil will have a place in God's *plan*, he's not the central *character* of Revelation, *Christ*.
6. The Holy Spirit, through *faith* in Christ propels us forward, fortifying us in *Word* and *Sacrament* to our eternal home.

KFUO Radio, the broadcast voice of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod, shares Christ for you anytime, anywhere on **KFUO.org** via worship services, Bible and theology studies, practical talk programs, and sacred music. Find programs on demand at kfuo.org and wherever you get your podcasts! Find us on social: **@KFUOradio** on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#).

CHRIST FOR YOU this week on AM850 & KFUE.org: We continue our study of Numbers on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT), and begin a new study of the Gospel of John on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT). Tune into the Coffee Hour (weekdays at 9:00 a.m. CT) to hear the November edition of Searching Scripture from the Lutheran Witness, and learn about how a registered service organization of the LCMS is serving indigenous communities. Find your favorite programs on demand at kfuo.org or on the KFUE Radio app!

RightNow Media: We're excited to share that Epiphany Lutheran Church now has unlimited access to **RightNow Media**—the world's largest streaming library of video Bible study resources. This extensive library has **more than 20,000 videos** that can be used as part of a group study or for personal devotions, and many series include **free discussion guides and handouts**. In addition to series on books of the Bible, RightNow Media has videos for everyone in the family on a variety of topics like marriage, parenting, personal finances, mental health, and more. There's even a **library just for kids with over 2,000 safe, entertaining videos**. RightNow Media has a free app that's available on all major streaming devices so you and your family can access content anywhere, anytime. For FREE access to RightNow Media, visit app.rightnowmedia.org/join/elcb or scan the QR code.



3-minute



Seminary

Exile

In the Bible, exile is the deportation of population groups of a defeated nation to a place designated by the conquering nation.

Several deportations into exile are referred to in the Old Testament. People from the northern kingdom of Israel were exiled by the Assyrians to various places in Mesopotamia after the fall of the capital Samaria in 722 BC. People from the southern kingdom of Judah were exiled by the Babylonians to Babylonia after the surrender of King Jehoiachin of Judah in 598 BC, and again after the fall and destruction of Jerusalem in 587 BC.

“The Exile” normally refers to this exile of Judeans in Babylonia, and to the period between the fall of Jerusalem (587 BC) and the conquest of Babylon by Cyrus of Persia in 539 BC, when Jews began to be permitted to return home, according to Ezra 1. The Israelites deported by the Assyrians are not heard of again, thus the legend of the “Ten Lost Tribes of Israel.”

God created Adam and Eve, placed them in the Garden of Eden, and called them to trust him. When they rebelled, God exiled them from the garden and his presence (Genesis 3:23). The story is repeated with Israel. God created them, placed them in the land of Canaan, and called them to trust him. If they did, they would dwell with God (Leviticus 26:3-13). If they rebelled, they would be exiled from the land and his presence (Leviticus 26:33, Deuteronomy 28:36-41). Mirroring the story of Eden, they rebelled and were exiled.

The prophets promise a day when all of God’s people, Israel as well as the nations, will return to his presence. This will happen because of Jesus, who succeeded where Adam, Israel, and all humanity failed. Although he is the only one who deserves to remain with his Father, he was cast away and cried out, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” (Matthew 27:46). He took the ultimate exile so that we don’t have to; he was exiled so that we could return. As we are restored to his presence through faith, we now await the day when we’ll live with him forever in a new and better Eden (Revelation 21:1-22:5).