

Sunday, June 22<sup>nd</sup> 2025

The Second 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  
(512) 798-3682 (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:

Our presence at the Lord’s Supper is to be a sign of our unity in Christ. Lutherans believe Scripture clearly teaches this sacrament is for those who trust that Jesus Christ is their Savior, are repentant for their sins, desire to lead a God pleasing life, and confess that, in, with, and under the bread and wine, Jesus Christ is truly physically present for the forgiveness of sins. And since 1 Corinthians warns that we can take the Sacrament to our condemnation if ill-prepared, we kindly ask any guests desiring to commune with us to speak with our pastor or one of our Elders before the service.

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## SERVANTS DURING WORSHIP THIS MORNING:

Pastor – Rev. E. B. Holschuh  
Musician – Leann McClain  
Lay Reader – Alison Parker  
Assisting Elder – Dave Layland  
Usher – Alex Monroe  
Acolyte – E.J. Clontz

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## AS WE PREPARE FOR WORSHIP THIS MORNING:

### ***Jesus Brings Release from the Bonds of Sin, Death and the Devil***

The Lord finds those who did not seek Him or ask for Him. He spreads out His hands “to a rebellious people” (Is. 65:2) and calls them to be His people and to dwell in peace upon His holy mountain (Is. 65:9). For wherever Jesus Christ enters in, Satan is cast out. Those who were enslaved and driven mad by the assaults and accusations of the devil are set free by the Word of Christ. He drowns and destroys the old Adam in us with the waters of Holy Baptism and thereby brings us out of death into life. No longer naked in our shame, living “among the tombs” (Luke 8:27), we are brought into the Lord’s house, fully clothed by Christ; He has come in “the fullness of time” (Gal. 4:4) to fulfill the Law on our behalf and to redeem us from its every accusation. Therefore, having been justified by His grace through faith in His Gospel, “you are no longer a slave, but a son” (Gal. 4:7).

**DIVINE SERVICE  
SETTING FOUR**

**Prelude**

Selected Music

**Welcome and Greeting**

Pastor

**Announcements**

**Opening Hymn**

*“Rise, Shine, You People”*

LSB 825

*(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.**

*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 71:20-24

- P** You who have made me see many troubles and calamities will revive me again;  
from the depths of the earth you will bring me up again.
- C** **You will increase my greatness and comfort me again.**
- P** I will also praise you with the harp for your faithfulness, O my God;  
I will sing praises to you with the lyre, O Holy One of Israel.
- C** **My lips will shout for joy, when I sing praises to you; my soul also, which you have redeemed.**
- P** And my tongue will talk of your righteous help all the day long,  
for they have been put to shame and disappointed who sought to do me hurt.
- 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-shiped 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.

O God, You have prepared for those who love You such good things as surpass our understanding. Cast out all sins and evil desires from us, and pour into our hearts Your Holy Spirit to guide us into all blessedness; 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)*

<sup>1</sup>I was ready to be sought by those who did not ask for me;  
I was ready to be found by those who did not seek me.  
I said, “Here am I, here am I,”  
to a nation that was not called by my name.  
<sup>2</sup>I spread out my hands all the day  
to a rebellious people,  
who walk in a way that is not good,  
following their own devices;  
<sup>3</sup>a people who provoke me  
to my face continually,  
sacrificing in gardens  
and making offerings on bricks;  
<sup>4</sup>who sit in tombs,  
and spend the night in secret places;  
who eat pig’s flesh,  
and broth of tainted meat is in their vessels;  
<sup>5</sup>who say, “Keep to yourself,  
do not come near me, for I am too holy for you.”  
These are a smoke in my nostrils,  
a fire that burns all the day.  
<sup>6</sup>Behold, it is written before me:  
“I will not keep silent, but I will repay;  
I will indeed repay into their bosom  
<sup>7</sup>both your iniquities and your fathers’ iniquities together,  
says the Lord;  
because they made offerings on the mountains  
and insulted me on the hills,  
I will measure into their bosom  
payment for their former deeds.”  
<sup>8</sup>Thus says the Lord:  
“As the new wine is found in the cluster,  
and they say, ‘Do not destroy it,  
for there is a blessing in it,’  
so I will do for my servants’ sake,  
and not destroy them all.  
<sup>9</sup>I will bring forth offspring from Jacob,  
and from Judah possessors of my mountains;

my chosen shall possess it,  
and my servants shall dwell there.”

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

### Epistle Reading

Galatians 3:23-4:7

<sup>23</sup>Now before faith came, we were held captive under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed. <sup>24</sup>So then, the law was our guardian until Christ came, in order that we might be justified by faith. <sup>25</sup>But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian, <sup>26</sup>for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. <sup>27</sup>For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. <sup>28</sup>There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. <sup>29</sup>And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise.

<sup>1</sup>I mean that the heir, as long as he is a child, is no different from a slave, though he is the owner of everything, <sup>2</sup>but he is under guardians and managers until the date set by his father. <sup>3</sup>In the same way we also, when we were children, were enslaved to the elementary principles of the world. <sup>4</sup>But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, <sup>5</sup>to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. <sup>6</sup>And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” <sup>7</sup>So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

**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.

## Holy Gospel Reading

Luke 8:26-39

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the eighth chapter.

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

<sup>26</sup>Then they sailed to the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. <sup>27</sup>When Jesus had stepped out on land, there met him a man from the city who had demons. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he had not lived in a house but among the tombs. <sup>28</sup>When he saw Jesus, he cried out and fell down before him and said with a loud voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me." <sup>29</sup>For he had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many a time it had seized him. He was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the desert.) <sup>30</sup>Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Legion," for many demons had entered him. <sup>31</sup>And they begged him not to command them to depart into the abyss. <sup>32</sup>Now a large herd of pigs was feeding there on the hillside, and they

begged him to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. <sup>33</sup>Then the demons came out of the man and entered the pigs, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and were drowned.

<sup>34</sup>When the herdsmen saw what had happened, they fled and told it in the city and in the country. <sup>35</sup>Then people went out to see what had happened, and they came to Jesus and found the man from whom the demons had gone, sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind, and they were afraid. <sup>36</sup>And those who had seen it told them how the demon-possessed man had been healed. <sup>37</sup>Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked him to depart from them, for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. <sup>38</sup>The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him, but Jesus sent him away, saying, <sup>39</sup>**“Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you.”** And he went away, proclaiming throughout the whole city how much Jesus had done for him.

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

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

*(sit)*

**Hymn of the Day**      *“All Who Believe and Are Baptized”*      LSB 601

**Sermon**      *Our ‘Forever Home’*      Galatians 3:23-4:7

*(stand)*

**Apostles’ Creed**

**C** I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.

**And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.  
The third day He rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.**

**From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life † everlasting. Amen.**

## **Passing of the Peace**

*(sit)*

## **Prayer of the Church**

**P** Lord, in Your mercy  
**C** hear our prayer.

## **Offering**

Usher

*(stand)*

## **SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT**

### **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, having created all things, took on human flesh and was born of the virgin Mary. For our sake He died on the cross and rose from the dead to put an end to death, thus fulfilling Your will and gaining for You a holy people. 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



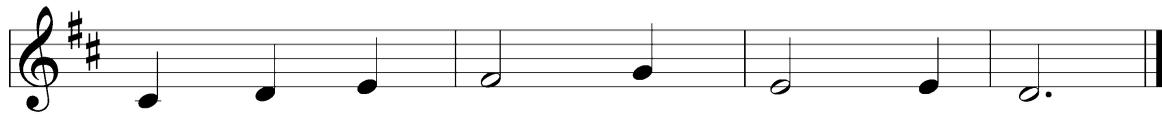
1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,



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

*"God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It"*

LSB 594

*(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**

*“Your Hand, O Lord, in Days of Old”*

LSB 846

**P** Go in Peace!

**C** Serve the Lord!

**Postlude**

Selected Music

*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.*

**CATECHISM CORNER | *Bite-sized teachings from Martin Luther's Small Catechism***

Written in 1529 in question-and-answer format, Luther's Small Catechism explores the Six Chief Parts of Christian Doctrine: the Ten Commandments, the Apostles' Creed, the Lord's Prayer, the Sacrament of Holy Baptism, Confession, and the Sacrament of the Altar.

The Fifth Commandment: You shall not kill.

What does this mean? We should fear and love God, so that we do no bodily harm to our neighbor, but help and befriend him in every need.

**SERMON NOTES: Galatians 3:23-4:7**

***Our 'Forever Home'***

1. \_\_\_\_\_ refers to all who are baptized into \_\_\_\_\_ as “\_\_\_\_\_.”
2. Paul uses the phrase “\_\_\_\_\_” to mean, quite literally, those brought into the family of God as full members.
3. God's people were never to rely on their observance of the \_\_\_\_\_ as the basis of their \_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_.
4. As people stand before God in Christ, there is no difference among them in terms of \_\_\_\_\_ origin, social and economic \_\_\_\_\_, or \_\_\_\_\_.
5. It's God's \_\_\_\_\_ to Abraham alone which was fulfilled in \_\_\_\_\_ that makes us \_\_\_\_\_.
6. All who belong to God's Son, whether Jew or Greek, slave or free, male or female, have inherited an \_\_\_\_\_ place in God's \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ forever!

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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...

- Michael and Nancy Jane Morizio - missionaries in the Eurasia Region
- Carol Holschuh
- Sharon Pruitt – Rosie's Neighbor

## 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 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).



**Epiphany Events Calendar:** Our congregation calendar is on our website ([epiphanybastrop.org](http://epiphanybastrop.org)); to add an event, please email [secretary@epiphanybastrop.org](mailto:secretary@epiphanybastrop.org).

**Offering:** Should you wish to make your regular tithe or offering online, you may do so at <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZKYH/home> or scan this QR code.



**SISTERS OF THE LIGHT:** *Olé! Olé! Olé!* Join us for **Taco Tuesday on June 24th at 6pm** (SDA campus)! All ladies are invited for an evening of sharing faith, food, and fellowship. RSVP to Carole, (817) 614-3916.

***Make Every Day Count*** devotional gathering at Argent Court Assisted Living in Bastrop meets twice a month at 3pm on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays.

**Adult Sunday School:** Join us at 10am for Drive Thru History as we explore the lives of the very first Christians in ***Acts to Revelation***.

**New Flash Study on Zoom:** Does modern science validate what the Bible says about gender, sex, and marriage? Does living under the Bible's idea on these topics make an impact on our lives? Our marriages? Our children? In the next one-hour, one-time FLASH STUDY on Zoom on Monday, July 7, at 6pm, ***The Bible and Science on Gender, Sex, and Marriage***, we'll explore God's blueprint for gender, sex, and marriage, how God designed men and women differently. Register now: [bit.ly/ELC-BibleGender](http://bit.ly/ELC-BibleGender)

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**Giants. Talking Snakes. Nephilim. Lake of Fire. Plagues.** On the surface, it appears that the Old Testament is filled with some weird stuff, but what if you were told that the point isn't the "weird"? Join us in June for a new Thursday 6pm Zoom video study! ***Weird Stuff: Old Testament***, a six-session series hosted by Dr. Jeff Voth and Hebrew scholar, Dr. Nathan French. Began 6/12. Register: [bit.ly/ELC-WeirdOT1](http://bit.ly/ELC-WeirdOT1)

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**Looking for a unique volunteer/fellowship opportunity? Lutheran Braille Workers Ministry Production Center 163** is located at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Giddings. They currently have 8 teams of 7-8 members that meet at various days and times, once a month for 1-2 hours (there are teams that meet in the mornings usually at 9-11am or 9:30-11:30am on Mondays, Tuesdays, or Thursdays, and two evening groups that meet at 5-7pm or 6-8pm). They're always in need of workers and no Braille skills are needed. If you're interested in volunteering, call Shirley Alexander at (979) 540-6800 or speak with Rosie.

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***The First Annual Epiphany Lutheran Church Spend the Year in Scripture Challenge*** reading schedule through next Sunday:

- Day 174 - Mon 6/23: Psalms 51-57
- Day 175 - Tue 6/24: Psalms 58-65
- Day 176 - Wed 6/25: Psalms 66-69
- Day 177 - Thu 6/26: Psalms 70-73
- Day 178 - Fri 6/27: Psalms 74-77
- Day 179 - Sat 6/28: Psalms 78-79
- Day 180 - Sun 6/29: Psalms 80-85



**Lutheran Radio:** 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. You can also listen to The Lutheran Hour on the local Austin station KLBK (590 AM or 99.7 FM) at 7am on Sunday.

**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 [kfu.org](http://kfu.org) and wherever you get your podcasts! Find us on social: [@KFUOradio](https://twitter.com/KFUOradio) on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/KFUOradio), [Twitter](https://twitter.com/KFUOradio), and [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/KFUOradio).

**RightNow Media:** Every person in our Epiphany family has (and can share) free access to over 25,000 biblical video series for adults, youth, and kids—**RightNow Media** has a free app that’s available on all major streaming devices so you and your family can access content anywhere, anytime. Visit [app.rightnowmedia.org/join/elcb](http://app.rightnowmedia.org/join/elcb) or scan the QR code.



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## THIS WEEK AT EPIPHANY:

### Sunday, June 22<sup>nd</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

### Thursday, June 26<sup>th</sup>

- 6:00pm – Zoom Video Study – Weird Stuff: *Old Testament*

### Sunday, June 29<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

Answers to Sermon Notes:  
1. Paul refers to all who are baptized into Christ as “heirs.”  
2. Paul uses the phrase “adoption as sons” to mean, quite literally, those brought into the family of God as full members.  
3. God’s people were never to rely on their observance of the Law as the basis of their relationship with Him.  
4. As people stand before God in Christ, there is no difference among them in terms of ethnic origin, social and economic status, or gender.  
5. It’s God’s promise to Abraham alone which was fulfilled in Christ that makes us heirs.  
6. All who belong to God’s Son, whether Jew or Greek, slave or free, male or female, have inherited an equal place in God’s family and home forever!



## What does the Bible say about ghosts?

Are there such things as ghosts? The answer to this question depends on what precisely is meant by the term "ghosts." If the term means "spirit beings," the answer is a qualified "yes." If the term means "spirits of people who have died," the answer is "no."

The Bible makes it abundantly clear that there are spirit beings, both good and evil. But the Bible negates the idea that the spirits of deceased human beings can remain on earth and "haunt" the living.

Hebrews 9:27 declares, "Man is destined to die once, and after that to face judgment." That is what happens to a person's soul-spirit after death—judgment. The result of this judgment is heaven for the believer (2 Corinthians 5:6-8; Philippians 1:23) and hell for the unbeliever (Matthew 25:46; Luke 16:22-24). There is no in-between. There is no possibility of remaining on earth in spirit form as a "ghost." If there are such things as ghosts, according to the Bible, they absolutely cannot be the disembodied spirits of deceased human beings.

The Bible teaches very clearly that there are indeed spirit beings who can connect with and appear in our physical world. The Bible identifies these beings as angels and demons. Angels are spirit beings who are faithful in serving God. Angels are righteous, good, and holy. Demons are fallen angels, angels who rebelled against God. Demons are evil, deceptive, and destructive. According to 2 Corinthians 11:14-15, demons masquerade as "angels of light" and as "servants of righteousness." Appearing as a "ghost" and impersonating a deceased human being definitely seem to be within the power and abilities that demons possess.

The closest biblical example of a "haunting" is found in Mark 5:1-20. A legion of demons possessed a man and used the man to haunt a graveyard. There were no ghosts involved. It was a case of a normal person being controlled by demons to terrorize the people of that area. Demons only seek to "kill, steal, and destroy" (John 10:10). They will do anything within their power to deceive people, to lead people away from God. This is very likely the explanation of "ghostly" activity today. Whether it is called a ghost, a ghoul, or a poltergeist, if there is genuine evil spiritual activity occurring, it is the work of demons.

What about instances in which “ghosts” act in “positive” ways? What about psychics who claim to summon the deceased and gain true and useful information from them? Again, it is crucial to remember that the goal of demons is to deceive. If the result is that people trust in a psychic instead of God, a demon will be more than willing to reveal true information. Even good and true information, if from a source with evil motives, can be used to mislead, corrupt, and destroy.

Interest in the paranormal has become increasingly common—there are individuals and businesses that claim to be “ghost-hunters,” who for a price will rid your home of ghosts. Psychics, séances, tarot cards, and mediums are increasingly considered normal. Human beings are innately aware of the spiritual world. Sadly, instead of seeking the truth about the spirit world by communing with God and studying His Word, many people allow themselves to be led astray by the spirit world. The demons surely laugh at the spiritual mass-deception that exists in the world today.



### **Share the Gift of Love**

Faith Lutheran High School has a unique role in combining knowledge and God's love in a student's high school experience. We are partnering with families at the intersection of education and faith development. If you would like to support our ministry through a one-time or enduring gift, Thrivent Action Grant or volunteer your time and talents, please contact Mrs. Nikki Kueck.

\*\* FLHS now has ACH payment options available. You can set up monthly, quarterly, or even yearly payments to FLHS without the hassle of remembering to write a check. Please contact us to learn more.

### **Be a Falcon!**

As we prepare for the 2025-2026 academic year, we look forward to greeting many new students on campus! We offer an awesome high school experience with our caring faculty, safe Christian atmosphere, strong academics and numerous activities and athletics. If you know of a family with a high school student that would thrive in this environment, please reach out to them and us! We would love to share more about Faith! Contact us by calling (979) 242-2889 or visiting our website at [www.flhstx.org](http://www.flhstx.org).

**\*Any newly enrolled student at FLHS will receive \$1,000 off of their first semester tuition - Please reach out to Mrs. Kueck for more information about this.**

### **Amazon Wish List**

FLHS has created a wish list on Amazon, for needed materials for the upcoming school year. The easiest way to find it is by clicking on the link on the FLHS Facebook page or website. Thank you for your generous support!!

### **Thrivent Action Team Grants**

If you are a Thrivent member willing to submit an application for a \$250 grant to be used on projects at Faith, please contact Nikki Kueck by calling (979) 242-2889. Help us to be able to take advantage of these funds for the good of our school. \*We are currently looking to utilize Action Grants for some summer projects!



### **Save the Date!**

FLHS's annual Oktoberfest will be Saturday, October 25th. **The Battle of the Vines and Brew**, our home brew competitions are back, so start planning your brews now, in addition to our newest competition, **Sapientia Infiniti** (see description below). Our traditional German meal, domino tournament, auction, cornhole tournament, live music, kids games, fellowship, and lots of fun are sure to be had. Make plans to attend this wonderful event! More details and information coming soon!

### **Sapientia Infiniti (infinite wisdom)**

Spend this year preparing an infinity bottle\* of whiskey for yourself at home. Please submit a pint or half-pint of this bottle for judging. Submissions will be judged, by our judges and the attendees, in separate categories.\* Infinity Bottle rules: start with a clean, empty bottle. Throughout the year, add a pour of any size from the whiskeys you've enjoyed this year. **KEEP NO RECORD!** The infinity bottle is intended to be unique to you and unrepeatable.



**Sermon Illustration**