

Sunday, July 20th 2025

The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost



Mailing Address:

**Epiphany Lutheran Church
489 Agnes
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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:

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.

SERVANTS DURING WORSHIP THIS MORNING:

Pastor – Rev. E. B. Holschuh
Musician – Gina Sanders
Lay Reader – Jeremy Clifton
Assisting Elder – Dave Sager
Usher – Alex Monroe
Acolyte – E.J. Clontz

AS WE PREPARE FOR WORSHIP THIS MORNING:

The Word of Christ Is the One Thing Needed

“The LORD appeared to [Abraham] by the oaks of Mamre” (Gen. 18:1) and received his hospitality. But Abraham received the gracious promise of a son. Though Abraham and Sarah were very old, nothing is *“too hard for the LORD”* (Gen. 18:14). His Word appointed the time and fulfilled the promise. In the same way, the Lord Jesus *“entered a village”* and received Martha’s hospitality (Luke 10:38). *“Martha was distracted with much serving”* because she was *“anxious and troubled about many things”* (Luke 10:40–41), but her sister, Mary, *“sat at the Lord’s feet and listened to his teaching”* (Luke 10:39). The service of love is no sin, but *“one thing is necessary”* for both faith and love – the Word of Christ (Luke 10:42). Thus, the ministers of Christ are sent *“to make the word of God fully known, the mystery hidden for ages and generations but now revealed to his saints”* (Col. 1:25–26).

**DIVINE SERVICE
SETTING FOUR**

Prelude

Selected Music

Welcome and Greeting

Pastor

Announcements

Opening Hymn

“Praise Be to Christ”

LSB 538

(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 119:57-60, 64

- P** The LORD is my portion;
I promise to keep your words.
- C** **I entreat your favor with all my heart;
be gracious to me according to your promise.**
- P** When I think on my ways,
I turn my feet to your testimonies;
- C** **I hasten and do not delay
to keep your commandments.**
- P** The earth, O LORD, is full of your steadfast love;
teach me your statutes!
- 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 Lord, grant us the Spirit to hear Your Word and know the one thing needful that by Your Word and Spirit we may live according to Your will; 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)

¹The Lord appeared to [Abraham] by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the door of his tent in the heat of the day. ²He lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, three men were standing in front of him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent door to meet them and bowed himself to the earth ³and said, “O Lord, if I have found favor in your sight, do not pass by your servant. ⁴Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree, ⁵while I bring a morsel of bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant.” So they said, “Do as you have said.” ⁶And Abraham went quickly into the tent to Sarah and said, “Quick! Three seahs of fine flour! Knead it, and make cakes.” ⁷And Abraham ran to the herd and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to a young man, who prepared it quickly. ⁸Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them. And he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

⁹They said to him, “Where is Sarah your wife?” And he said, “She is in the tent.” ¹⁰The Lord said, “I will surely return to you about this time next year, and Sarah your wife shall have a son.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle Reading

Colossians 1:21-29

²¹You, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, ²²he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him, ²³if indeed you continue in the faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and of which I, Paul, became a minister.

²⁴Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am filling up what is lacking in Christ’s afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church, ²⁵of which I became a minister according to the stewardship from God that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, ²⁶the mystery hidden for ages and generations but now revealed to his saints. ²⁷To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. ²⁸Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ. ²⁹For this I toil, struggling with all his energy that he powerfully works within me.

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 10:38-42

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

³⁸Now as they went on their way, Jesus entered a village. And a woman named Martha welcomed him into her house. ³⁹And she had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to his teaching. ⁴⁰But Martha was distracted with much serving. And she went up to him and said, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to help me." ⁴¹But the Lord answered her, "**Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many**

things, ⁴²but one thing is necessary. Mary has chosen the good portion, which will not be taken away from her.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

(sit)

Hymn of the Day

“One Thing’s Needful”

LSB 536

Sermon

Sit down, listen, and learn...

Luke 10:38-42

(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



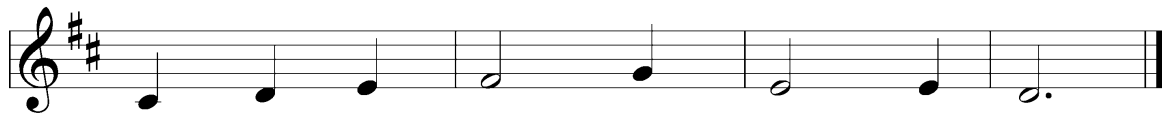
1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,



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 Hymns

“Oh, Blest the House”
“For All the Faithful Women”

LSB 862
LSB 855 sts. 1,9,3,4

(stand)

Nunc Dimittis

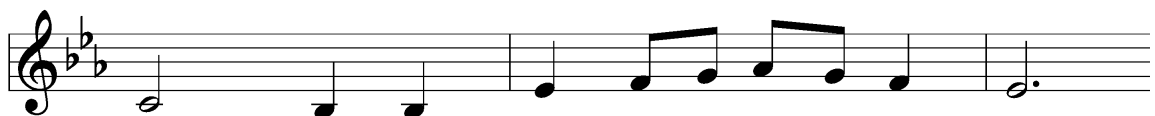
Luke 2:29-32



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

“Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me”

LSB 683

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 Ninth Commandment: You shall not commit adultery.

What does this mean? We should fear and love God, so that we do not craftily seek to gain our neighbor's inheritance or home, nor get it by a show of right, but help and serve him in keeping it.

SERMON NOTES: Luke 10:38-42

Sit down, listen, and learn...

1. The teaching of _____ by Jesus is particularly _____, considering the Jewish _____ of his day.
2. _____ takes the traditional _____ role of "sitting at the feet" or studying with the _____.
3. Mary was attent _____, _____ was attend _____...
4. To _____ our Lord's _____ with a docile _____ is better than any work, labor, sacrifice, or suffering.
5. Mary was living God's words spoken by Moses in Deuteronomy 8:3 "that man does not live by _____ alone, but man lives by every _____ that comes from the _____ of the Lord."
6. The concern to _____, even if it were to _____ God himself, can only come second; we must first understand that the Lord pays attention to _____, that he came to serve and not to be served.

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...

- Rev. Gustavo and Ruth Maita and their 3 children, Mikhaela, Isaiah, and Ivanna – missionaries in Puerto Rico

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 (or just scan the QR code).



Epiphany Events Calendar: Our congregation calendar is on our website (epiphanybastrop.org); to add an event, please email 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.



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***.

Thursday 6pm Zoom Video Study: Join us for ***Weird Stuff: Old Testament***, a six-session series hosted by Dr. Jeff Voth and Hebrew scholar, Dr. Nathan French. Register: bit.ly/ELC-WeirdOT1

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.

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 or scan the QR code.



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 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 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 kfuo.org and wherever you get your podcasts! Find us on social: **@KFUOradio** on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#).

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

- Day 202 - Mon 7/21: Proverbs 24-26
- Day 203 - Tue 7/22: Proverbs 27-29
- Day 204 - Wed 7/23: Proverbs 30-31
- Day 205 - Thu 7/24: Ecclesiastes 1-4
- Day 206 - Fri 7/25: Ecclesiastes 5-8
- Day 207 - Sat 7/26: Ecclesiastes 9-12
- Day 208 - Sun 7/27: Song of Songs 1-8



THIS WEEK AT EPIPHANY:

Sunday, July 20th

- 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, July 24th

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

Sunday, July 27th

- 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. The teaching of **women** by Jesus is particularly **significant** considering the Jewish **customs** of his day.

2. **Mary** takes the traditional **male** role of “sitting at the feet” or studying with the **rabbi**.

3. Mary was attentive. **Martha** was attending.

4. To **receive** our Lord’s **teaching** with a docile **heart** is better than any work, labor, sacrifice, or suffering.

5. Mary was living God’s words spoken by Moses in Deuteronomy 8:3 “that man does not live by **bread** alone, but man lives by every **word** that comes from the

mouth of the Lord.”

6. The concern to **serve**, even if it were to **serve** God himself, can only come second; we must first understand that the Lord pays attention to **us**, that He came to serve



Mary and Martha: Who's Serving Whom?

When Jesus visited the home of Martha and Mary, each sister welcomed Him in her own way. Martha expressed her love and devotion through active service, preparing the meal and making sure everything was in order. Mary, on the other hand, sat quietly at Jesus' feet, listening to His every word. Both kinds of hospitality had their place, but Jesus pointed out that Mary had chosen "the good portion," the one thing truly necessary.

This story illustrates a tension familiar to every believer: the pull between doing for Jesus and simply being with Him. Martha's service was good and important—after all, Jesus was a weary traveler with no place to lay His head. Yet in her busyness, Martha became anxious and frustrated. Her worry led her to try to enlist Jesus in her complaint about Mary. She thought she was the host and Jesus the guest, but in truth, Jesus had come to serve them both with His teaching and presence.

Luke wants us to see that the most important form of hospitality is not in the preparation of bread and drink but in the reception of the Bread of Life Himself. When Jesus comes near, the first and highest calling is to hear the Word of the Kingdom. Mary's posture—sitting, listening, receiving—shows what faith looks like. It is a faith that is humble enough to stop striving and let Jesus give His gifts.

The story also invites us to reflect on the nature of worship. True worship begins not with our activity but with God's. We often imagine that we must prove ourselves by doing something impressive for God, but the Gospel flips this around: God serves us first. He comes with forgiveness and life in His Word. He comes to heal, to teach, and to give rest. Just as Peter's mother-in-law first received healing before she rose to serve (Luke 4:38–39), so we, too, must first be served by Christ before we serve in His name.

This is why faith is called the highest worship. It is the posture of trust that sits still and believes the promise. From this reception of grace flows every good work, but if we reverse the order—*trying to serve before we are served*—we end up like Martha, worried and troubled about many things. Only one thing is needful: to hear and hold fast to Jesus' Word, which will never be taken away.

Today, consider where you find yourself in this story. Are you burdened by many concerns? Are you trying to serve without first receiving? Jesus invites you to lay aside your distractions and sit at His feet. In the quietness of His Word, He will feed your heart, strengthen your faith, and prepare you for every good work. Rest first in His love, and then rise to serve others with joy.

