EPIPHANY
LUTHERAN CHURCH BASTROP

Connect. Grow. Multiply.

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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 Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation by baptized believers in the confession and glad confidence that, as he says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but his very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with him and with one another. Our Lord invites to his table those who trust his words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as he forgives and loves us, that they may show forth his death until he comes.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor.

For further study, see Matthew 5:23; 10:32; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; 1 Corinthians 11:17-34.

SERVANTS DURING WORSHIP THIS MORNING:

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

AS WE PREPARE FOR WORSHIP THIS MORNING:

God Manifests His Glory in the Body of Christ Jesus, Transfigured for Us by His Cross

The Transfiguration confirms *"the prophetic word … to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place"* (2 Peter 1:19). The divine glory of Jesus is manifested in the word of His apostles, who were *"eyewitnesses of his majesty"* (2 Peter 1:16). *"He was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun"* (Matt. 17:2). Moses and Elijah witnessed the fulfillment of the Old Testament in this Lord Jesus, and the Father testified concerning Him: *"This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased"* (Matt. 17:5). By His own blood, shed on the cross, Jesus makes and seals the new covenant with us. Hence, *"the appearance of the glory of the LORD"* is no longer *"like a devouring fire"* (Ex. 24:17), but it is graciously revealed in His own body. As *"Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel"* went up the mountain with Moses and *"beheld God, and ate and drank"* (Ex. 24:9, 11), we also behold the Lord our God in Christ Jesus, and we abide with Him as we eat and drink His body and blood at the altar.

DIVINE SERVICE
SETTING FOUR

Prelude Selected Music

Welcome and Greeting Pastor

Announcements

Opening Hymn *"'Tis Good, Lord, to Be Here"* LSB 414

(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 99:1-5

P The LORD reigns; let the peoples tremble!
He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake!

C **The LORD is great in Zion;**
he is exalted over all the peoples.

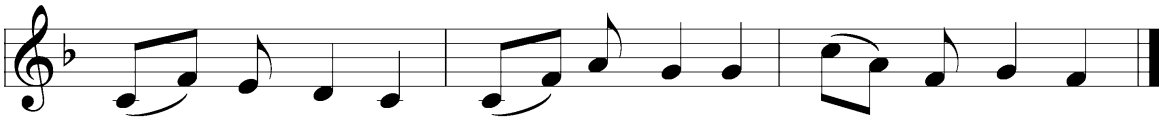
P Let them praise your great and awesome name!
Holy is he!

C **The King in his might loves justice.**
You have established equity; you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.

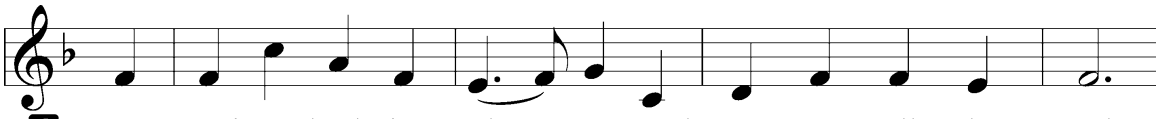
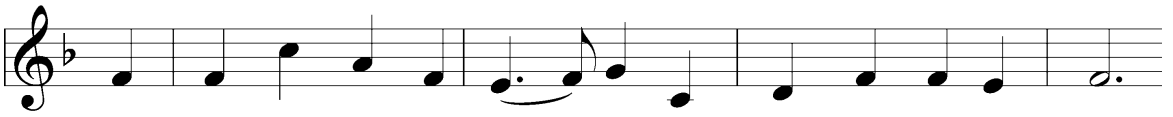
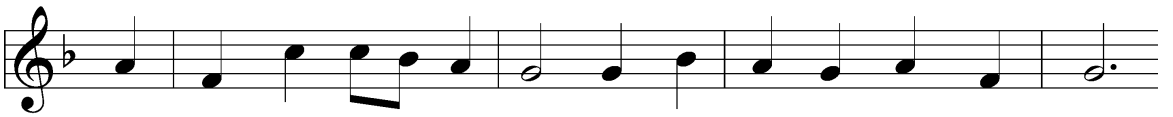
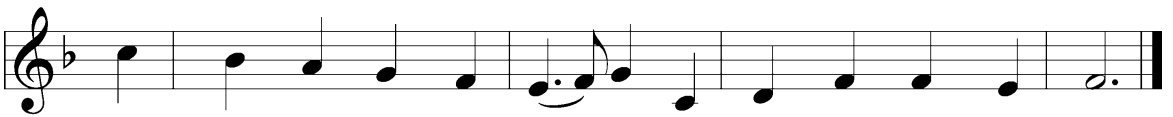
P Exalt the LORD our God; worship at his footstool!
Holy is he!

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, in the glorious transfiguration of Your beloved Son You confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the testimony of Moses and Elijah. In the voice that came from the bright cloud You wonderfully foreshowed our adoption by grace. Mercifully make us co-heirs with the King in His glory and bring us to the fullness of our inheritance in heaven; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

(sit)

Old Testament Reading

Exodus 24:8-18

8 And Moses took the blood and threw it on the people and said, "Behold
the blood of the covenant that the LORD has made with you in accordance with all
these words."
9 Then Moses and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of
Israel went up, 10 and they saw the God of Israel. There was under his feet as it
were a pavement of sapphire stone, like the very heaven for clearness. 11 And he
did not lay his hand on the chief men of the people of Israel; they beheld God,
and ate and drank.
12 The LORD said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain and wait
there, that I may give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the
commandment, which I have written for their instruction." 13 So Moses rose with
his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. 14 And he said
to the elders, "Wait here for us until we return to you. And behold, Aaron and
Hur are with you. Whoever has a dispute, let him go to them."
15 Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the
mountain. 16 The glory of the LORD dwelt on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it
six days. And on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the midst of the
cloud. 17 Now the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a devouring fire on
the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. 18 Moses entered the
cloud and went up on the mountain. And Moses was on the mountain forty days
and forty nights.

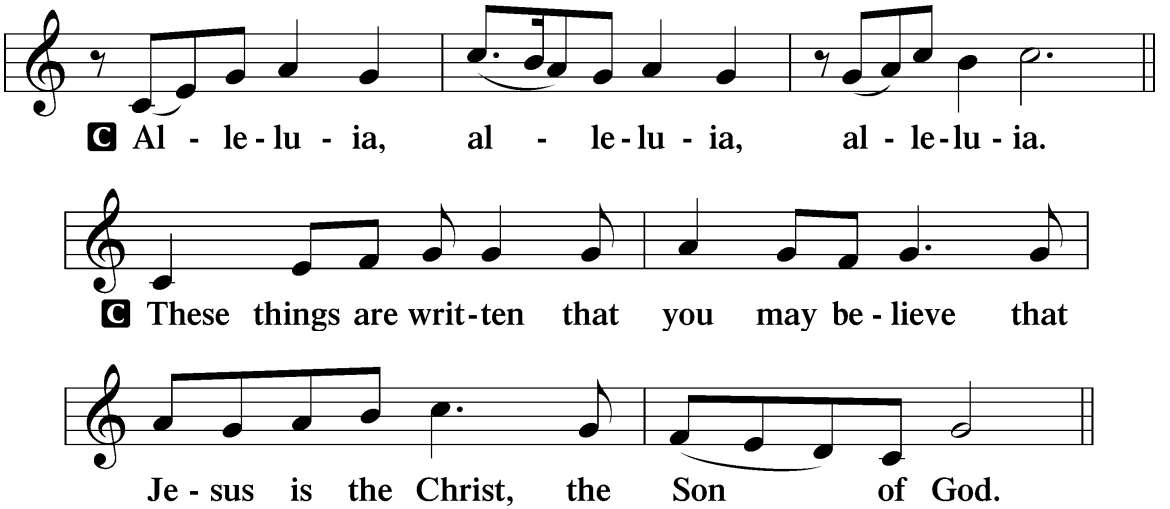
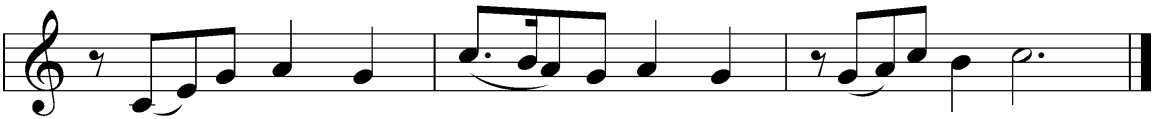
A This is the Word of the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading 2 Peter 1:16-21

16For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to
you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of
his majesty. 17For when he received honor and glory from God the Father, and the
voice was borne to him by the Majestic Glory, "This is my beloved Son, with
whom I am well pleased," 18we ourselves heard this very voice borne from heaven,
for we were with him on the holy mountain. 19And we have something more sure,
the prophetic word, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp
shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your
hearts, 20knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from
someone's own interpretation. 21For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of
man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

A This is the Word of the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

(stand)

Alleluia and Verse

John 20:31

Holy Gospel Reading Matthew 17:1-9

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the seventeenth chapter.
C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

1After six days Jesus took with him Peter and James, and John his brother,
and led them up a high mountain by themselves. 2And he was transfigured before
them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became white as light. 3And
behold, there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. 4And Peter
said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three
tents here, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah." 5He was still
speaking when, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the
cloud said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to
him." 6When the disciples heard this, they fell on their faces and were
terrified. 7But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Rise, and have no
fear." 8And when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only.
9And as they were coming down the mountain, Jesus commanded them,
"Tell no one the vision, until the Son of Man is raised from the dead."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

(sit)

Hymn of the Day *"O Wondrous Type! O Vision Fair"* LSB 413

Sermon *What really happened up there?* Matthew 17:1-9

(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)

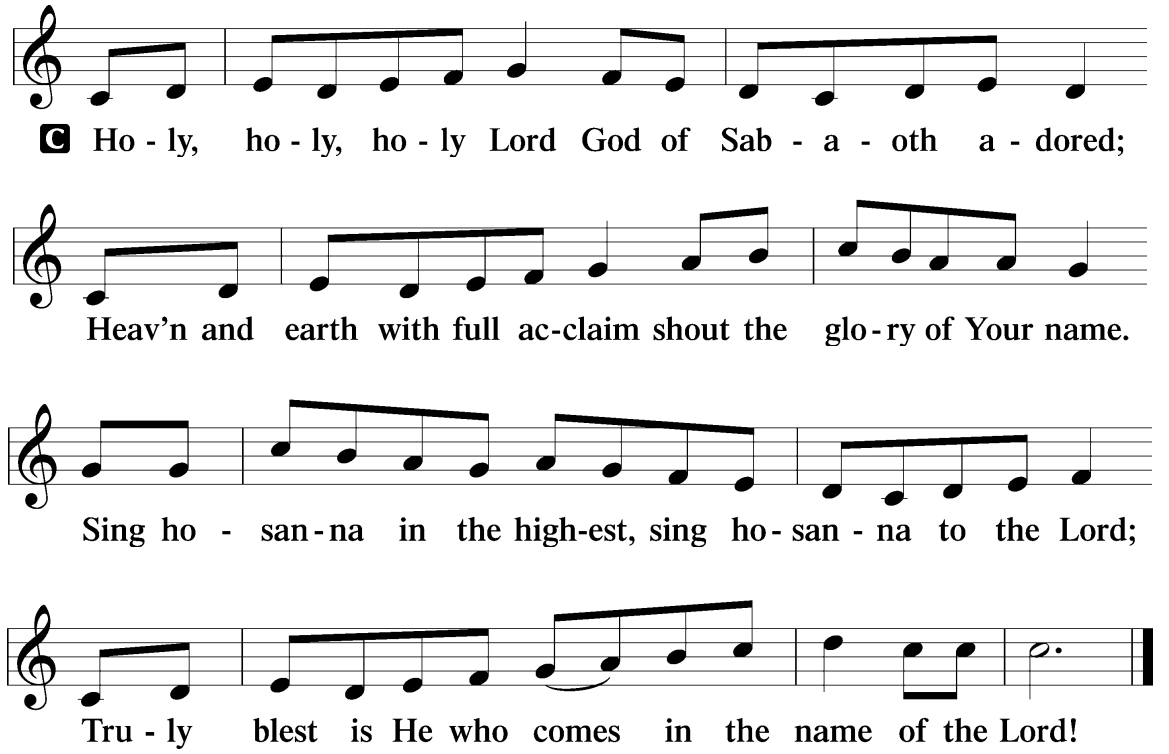
SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

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]*

℗ It is truly meet, 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 at His transfiguration revealed His glory to His disciples that they might be strengthened to proclaim His cross and resurrection and with all the faithful look forward to the glory of life everlasting. 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*



Prayer of Thanksgiving

℗ 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:

Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9-13

**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 covenant 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."

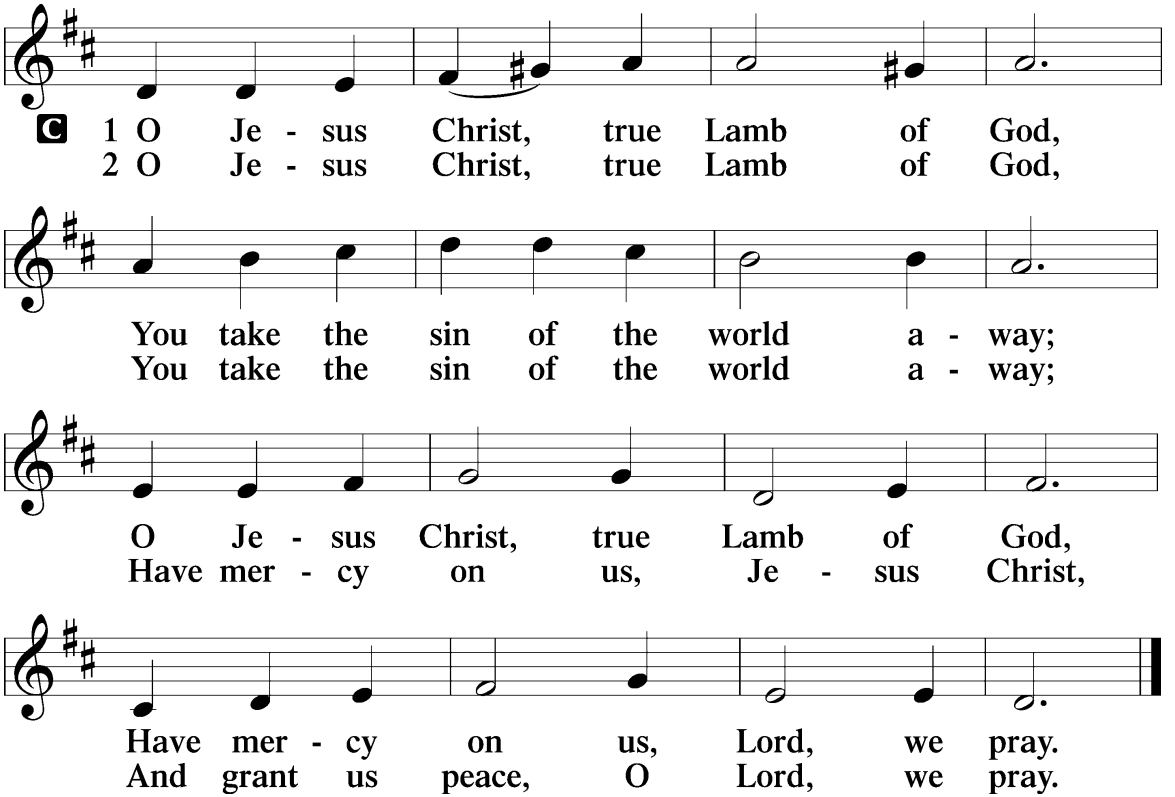
Pax Domini

John 20:19

℗ The peace of the Lord be with you always.
℃ Amen.

Agnus Dei

John 1:29



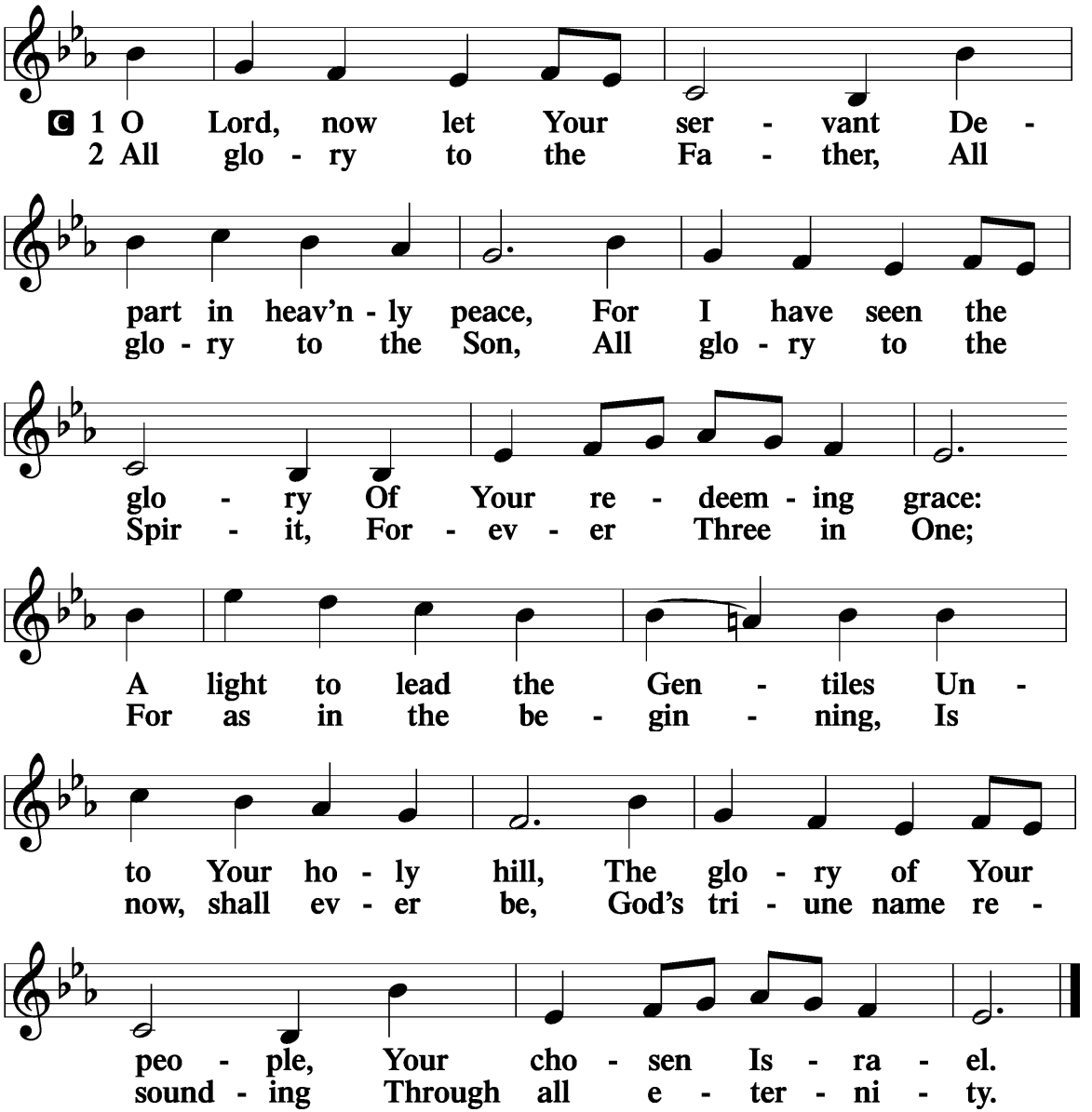
(sit)

Distribution Hymns

"Jesus on the Mountain Peak" LSB 415
"Swiftly Pass the Clouds of Glory" LSB 416

(stand)

Nunc Dimittis

Luke 2:29-32

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 *"Alleluia, Song of Gladness"* LSB 417

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 Luther's Small Catechism*

Written in 1529 in Q&A format, the 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.

TABLE OF DUTIES

What the Hearers Owe to Their Pastors

Obey those who have the rule over you, and submit yourselves, for they watch out for your souls, as those who must give account. Let them do it with joy and not with grief, for that would be unprofitable for you (Hebrews 13:17). Eat and drink such things as they give, for the laborer is worthy of his wages (Luke 10:7). The Lord has commanded that those who preach the gospel should live from the gospel (1 Corinthians 9:14). Let him who is taught the word share in all good things with him who teaches. Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap (Galatians 6:6-7). Let the elders who rule well be counted worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in the word and doctrine. For the Scripture says, "You shall not muzzle an ox while it treads out the grain," and "The laborer is worthy of his wages." (1 Timothy 5:17-18).

SERMON NOTES: Matthew 17:1-9

What really happened up there?

1. _____, _____, and _____ had a special place among Jesus' disciples—they were his inner circle and so often got to see and hear things the others did not.
2. In the Bible high _____ are often places where _____ meet with _____.
3. On a high mountain _____ and _____, along with the three _____, see God perfectly in Christ.
4. The light radiated outwardly from within _____, providing a glimpse of what the _____ bodies of _____ believers might look like.
5. A _____ overshadowed them, and _____ spoke: "This is My Son Whom I love, with Whom I am well pleased. _____ to Him."
6. What really happened during the Transfiguration will remain a _____ until we _____ undergo a _____ of our own on the Last Day.

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 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.

10am Adult Sunday School: Since God never sent us a specific list of what to include, who exactly decided the Bible should contain the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, but not the Gospels of Judas, Thomas, and Mary? Join us as we continue with the third session of our video study, *Lost Books?,* next Sunday!

Ash Wednesday Worship and Wednesday Midweek Gatherings during Lent will be held at Three Oaks location. Ash Wednesday service on 2/18 at 7pm; midweek gatherings at 6:30pm (light supper, video study) on 2/25, 3/4, 3/11, 3/18 and 3/25.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED to help with the dedication service on Saturday, May 2. Contact Linda Hanson or Terri Rosser.

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.

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.

ChristianBook Giveback Program: Did you know that your purchases at Christianbook can help fund our congregation? Just visit christianbook.com/apps/giveback and enter the Giveback ID for Epiphany Lutheran Church: JQWHTN. After this one-time signup, we'll be eligible to receive 4% cashback on your purchases.

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).

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…

- Rev. Daniel and Kathy Conrad and their daughter Ana (now enrolled in college) - missionaries in the Dominican Republic
- Shannon Kasper
- Carl and Sandy Sneck

THIS WEEK AT EPIPHANY:

Sunday, February 15th

- 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, February 17th

- 3:00pm – Devotional at Argent Court

Wednesday, February 18th

- 7:00pm – Ash Wednesday Service

Sunday, March 1st

- 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. ***Peter, James,*** and ***John*** had a special place among Jesus' disciples—they were his inner circle and so often got to see and hear things the others did not.
2. In the Bible high ***mountains*** are often places where ***people*** meet with ***God.***
3. On a high mountain ***Moses*** and ***Elijah,*** along with the three ***disciples,*** see God perfectly in Christ.
4. The light radiated outwardly from within ***Jesus,*** providing a glimpse of what the ***glorified*** bodies of ***resurrected*** believers might look like.
5. A ***cloud*** overshadowed them, and ***God*** spoke: "This is My Son Whom I love, with Whom I am well pleased. ***Listen*** to Him."
6. What really happened during the Transfiguration will remain a ***mystery*** until we ***believers*** undergo a ***transfiguration*** of our own on the Last Day.

Theophany on the Mountain

A *theophany* is a visible manifestation of God—an unveiling of divine glory in time and space. Throughout the Scriptures, the Lord who is invisible makes Himself known in ways that human eyes and ears can bear.

Think of the burning bush before Moses (Exodus 3), where holy ground blazed with unconsumed fire. Think of the thunder and cloud on Mount Sinai, where the Lord descended in power (Exodus 19). Think of the still, small voice heard by Elijah (1 Kings 19). In each case, God draws near—not because we can ascend to Him, but because He graciously stoops to reveal Himself.

And then there is the Transfiguration. On a high mountain, before Peter, James, and John, Jesus is transfigured (Matthew 17; Mark 9; Luke 9). His face shines like the sun. His clothes become dazzling white. Moses and Elijah appear, speaking with Him. A bright cloud overshadows them, and the voice of the Father declares, "This is My beloved Son…listen to Him."

In the Old Testament, the glory of the Lord appeared in fire, cloud, and trembling earth. On the mountain of Transfiguration, that same glory radiates from Jesus Himself. The One who once descended in flame now stands in flesh. The voice that thundered at Sinai now identifies Jesus as the eternal Son. The Law (Moses) and the Prophets (Elijah) bear witness: all of Scripture converges here.

The Transfiguration is a flash of unveiled majesty before the road to Jerusalem. The disciples glimpse who He truly is so that when they later see Him disfigured on the cross, they will remember: the suffering One is the glorious Lord. The One who bleeds is the One who shines. The theophany on the mountain prepares them for the atonement in the valley.

For us, too, the Transfiguration teaches where to look for God. Not in speculation. Not in private spiritual ecstasy. But in Christ—crucified and risen. The Father's command still stands: "Listen to Him."

In Word and Sacrament, the same Lord who once shone on the mountain now reveals Himself in humility—hidden, yet real. His glory is veiled under preaching, water, bread, and wine. But make no mistake: this is the same Jesus. The same divine Son. The same Lord of glory.

Theophanies in Scripture are never meant to satisfy curiosity. They are given to anchor faith. The Transfiguration tells us that the carpenter from Nazareth is the eternal God in the flesh. And it assures us that the cross was not a tragic accident, but the saving mission of the beloved Son.