

Saturday, May 2nd 2026

Land Dedication Service



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 celebrate with us! If you have any questions about our worship service, our congregation, or what we believe, please ask our pastor or any of our members.



SERVANTS DURING WORSHIP THIS MORNING:

Pastor – Rev. E. B. Holschuh
Preacher – Rev. Nathan Wendorf
Vice President, Area C
Choir – Epiphany Children’s Choir
Guitar – Ryan Robb

Welcome and Introductions

Rev. E.B. Holschuh

Brief History of Epiphany Lutheran Church

Jeremy Clifton

Children’s Choir

“Luther’s Morning Prayer”

arr. Joel A. Brondos

*We give thanks to You, dear Father,
Through Jesus Your only Son.
That You have kept us through the night
From harm and the evil one:
And we pray that You would keep us this day
From danger and harm,
From going astray.
Let all our deeds be pleasing to You,
And stay through us all through the day.
Your angels protecting the way;
For in Your name we pray.
Amen.*

Invocation

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

C Amen.

P Today we gather on this land the Lord has provided to dedicate it to His service—so that here the Gospel of Jesus Christ may be preached, sinners forgiven, and disciples gathered and sent into the world.

C Amen.

P Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain.

C Unless the Lord watches over the city, the watchman stays awake in vain. Amen.

First Reading

1 Kings 8:27-30

²⁷“But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Behold, heaven and the highest heaven cannot contain you; how much less this house that I have built! ²⁸Yet have regard to the prayer of your servant and to his plea, O Lord my God, listening to the cry and to the prayer that your servant prays before you this day, ²⁹that your eyes may be open night and day toward this house, the place of which you have said, ‘My name shall be there,’ that you may listen to the prayer that your servant offers toward this place. ³⁰And listen to the plea of your servant and of your people Israel, when they pray toward this place. And listen in heaven your dwelling place, and when you hear, forgive.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

Luke 6:47-49

⁴⁷Everyone who comes to me and hears my words and does them, I will show you what he is like: ⁴⁸he is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid the foundation on the rock. And when a flood arose, the stream broke against that house and could not shake it, because it had been well built. ⁴⁹But the one who hears and does not do them is like a man who built a house on the ground

without a foundation. When the stream broke against it, immediately it fell, and the ruin of that house was great.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Hymn

“A Mighty Fortress”

LSB 656



1 A might - y for - tress is our God,
2 With might of ours can naught be done,
3 Though dev - ils all the world should fill,
4 The Word they still shall let re - main



A trust - y shield and weap - on;
Soon were our loss ef - fect - ed;
All ea - ger to de - vour us,
Nor an - y thanks have for it;



He helps us free from ev - 'ry need
But for us fights the val - iant One,
We trem - ble not, we fear no ill;
He's by our side up - on the plain



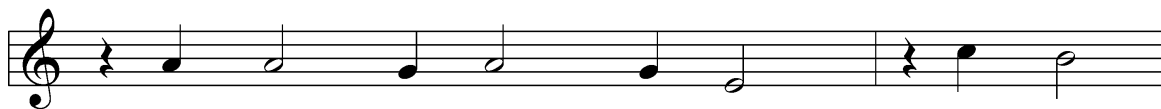
That hath us now o'er - tak - en.
Whom God Him - self e - lect - ed.
They shall not o - ver - pow'r us.
With His good gifts and Spir - it.



The old e - vil foe Now means
 Ask ye, Who is this? Je - sus
 This world's prince may still Scowl fierce
 And take they our life, Goods, fame,



dead - ly woe; Deep guile and great might
 Christ it is, Of Sab - a - oth Lord,
 as he will, He can harm us none.
 child, and wife, Though these all be gone,



Are his dread arms in fight; On earth
 And there's none oth - er God; He holds
 He's judged; the deed is done; One lit -
 Our vic - t'ry has been won; The King -



is not his e - qual.
 the field for - ev - er.
 tle word can fell him.
 dom ours re - main - eth.

Text: tr. composite
 Text and tune: Martin Luther, 1483-1546
 Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Rev. Nathan Wendorf

Dedication

Rev. E.B. Holschuh

☐ I now dedicate this ground in the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit, that the church which will be built here may serve as a place where God will cause His name to dwell and where He will come to His people and bless them.

C Amen.

P On this land may people *connect* to Christ.

C Lord, draw many to Yourself.

P On this land may Your people *grow* in faith.

C Lord, teach us Your Word.

P From this land may disciples *multiply*.

C Lord, send us into the world.

P May the Gospel be faithfully preached, the Sacraments rightly administered, and prayers and praise continually offered here from generation to generation.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

P Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:

**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.**

Collect

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, Lord of heaven and earth, we thank You for the gift of this land. Receive it now as we dedicate it to Your glory. May this place become a house of prayer, a refuge for sinners, and a gathering place for Your people. Bless all who will worship here, hear Your Word here, and be sent from here into the world. 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.

C **Thanks be to God.**

P The grace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **Amen.**

Closing Remarks

Rev. E.B. Holschuh

*The children will sing the first verse alone.
Congregation, please sing verses 2-5.*



1 The Church's one foun - da - tion Is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;
2 E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, Yet one o'er all the earth;
3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der The world sees her op - pressed,
4 Through toil and trib - u - la - tion And tu - mult of her war
5 Yet she on earth has u - nion With God, the Three in One,



She is His new cre - a - tion By wa - ter and the Word.
Her char - ter of sal - va - tion: One Lord, one faith, one birth.
By schisms rent a - sun - der, By her - e - sies dis - tressed,
She waits the con - sum - ma - tion Of peace for - ev - er - more
And mys - tic sweet com - mu - nion With those whose rest is won.



From heav'n He came and sought her To be His ho - ly bride;
One ho - ly name she bless - es, Par - takes one ho - ly food,
Yet saints their watch are keep - ing; Their cry goes up, "How long?"
Till with the vi - sion glo - rious Her long - ing eyes are blest,
O bless - ed heav'n - ly cho - rus! Lord, save us by Your grace



With His own blood He bought her, And for her life He died.
And to one hope she press - es With ev - 'ry grace en - dued.
And soon the night of weep - ing Shall be the morn of song.
And the great Church vic - to - rious Shall be the Church at rest.
That we, like saints be - fore us, May see You face to face.

Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839-1900, alt.
Tune: Samuel S. Wesley, 1810-76
Text and tune: Public domain

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