

Sunday, May 31<sup>st</sup> 2026

The Holy Trinity



**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.

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### 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.

**If you are not a member of a congregation in The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod**, and yet desire to receive Communion, we kindly request that you first speak with our pastor.

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### SERVANTS DURING WORSHIP THIS MORNING:

Pastor – Rev. E.B. Holschuh  
Lay Reader – Dave Layland  
Assisting Elder – Dave Layland  
Usher – Rosie Cabrera  
Acolyte – Calvin Monroe

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We are using the Church Music Solutions Church Organist Service, an iPad application that provides us with accompaniment for our worship service. **There is a brief introduction to the musical parts of the liturgy unless otherwise noted.**

## AS WE PREPARE FOR WORSHIP THIS MORNING:

### *The Holy Triune God Recreates Us in the Image and Likeness of Christ Jesus*

The holy Triune God “*created the heavens and the earth,*” and “*behold, it was very good*” (Gen. 1:1, 31). However, after Adam and Eve fell into sin and plunged God’s good creation into decay and death, the Son of God would be “*delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God*” to be “*crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men*” (Acts 2:23). As Jesus “*received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit*” (Acts 2:33), He also raises up all the baptized and pours out the Spirit upon them through the preaching of His Gospel. He sends out His apostles to “*make disciples of all nations*” by “*baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,*” and “*teaching them to observe all that [He has] commanded*” (Matt. 28:19–20). Through such baptizing and teaching — Gospel and Sacraments — the holy Triune God recreates us in the image and likeness of His incarnate Son, Jesus, the Christ, and behold, it is “*very good*” (Gen. 1:31).

### DIVINE SERVICE SETTING FOUR

**Prelude**

Selected Music

**Welcome and Greeting**

Pastor

**Announcements**

**Opening Hymn**

*“Father Most Holy”*

LSB 504

*(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 16:8-11

**P** I have set the LORD always before me;  
because he is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.

**C** **Therefore my heart is glad, and my whole being rejoices;  
my flesh also dwells secure.**

**P** For you will not abandon my soul to Sheol,  
or let your holy one see corruption.

**C** **You make known to me the path of life;  
in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are  
pleasures forevermore.**

*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



☐ Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

## Gloria in Excelsis (no intro)

Luke 2:14; John 1:29



☐ 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;  
2 To You, O sole - be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;  
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!  
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.  
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shipped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,  
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.  
Where You in pow'r are seat - ed At God's right hand on high—  
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

*2 Timothy 4:22*

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, You have given us grace to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity by the confession of a true faith and to worship the Unity in the power of the Divine Majesty. Keep us steadfast in this faith and defend us from all adversities; for You, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, live and reign, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

*(sit)*

## Old Testament Reading

Genesis 1:1-2:4a

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. <sup>2</sup>The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

<sup>3</sup>And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. <sup>4</sup>And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. <sup>5</sup>God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

<sup>6</sup>And God said, "Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." <sup>7</sup>And God made the expanse and separated the waters that were under the expanse from the waters that were above the expanse. And it was so. <sup>8</sup>And God called the expanse Heaven. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

<sup>9</sup>And God said, "Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. <sup>10</sup>God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good.

<sup>11</sup>And God said, "Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind, on the earth." And it was so. <sup>12</sup>The earth brought forth vegetation, plants yielding seed according to their own kinds, and trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. <sup>13</sup>And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

<sup>14</sup>And God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night. And let them be for signs and for seasons, and

for days and years, <sup>15</sup>and let them be lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light upon the earth.” And it was so. <sup>16</sup>And God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. <sup>17</sup>And God set them in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth, <sup>18</sup>to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. <sup>19</sup>And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

<sup>20</sup>And God said, “Let the waters swarm with swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the heavens.” <sup>21</sup>So God created the great sea creatures and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarm, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. <sup>22</sup>And God blessed them, saying, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.” <sup>23</sup>And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

<sup>24</sup>And God said, “Let the earth bring forth living creatures according to their kinds—livestock and creeping things and beasts of the earth according to their kinds.” And it was so. <sup>25</sup>And God made the beasts of the earth according to their kinds and the livestock according to their kinds, and everything that creeps on the ground according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

<sup>26</sup>Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”

<sup>27</sup>So God created man in his own image,  
in the image of God he created him;  
male and female he created them.

<sup>28</sup>And God blessed them. And God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.” <sup>29</sup>And God said, “Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit. You shall have them for food. <sup>30</sup>And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the heavens and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so. <sup>31</sup>And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

<sup>1</sup>Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. <sup>2</sup>And on the seventh day God finished his work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all his work that he had done. <sup>3</sup>So God blessed the

seventh day and made it holy, because on it God rested from all his work that he had done in creation.

<sup>4</sup>These are the generations  
of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

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

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## Second Reading

Acts 2:14a, 22-36

<sup>14</sup>Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them, . . .

<sup>22</sup>“Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs that God did through him in your midst, as you yourselves know— <sup>23</sup>this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men. <sup>24</sup>God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it. <sup>25</sup>For David says concerning him,

“I saw the Lord always before me,  
for he is at my right hand that I may not be shaken;  
<sup>26</sup>therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;  
my flesh also will dwell in hope.

<sup>27</sup>For you will not abandon my soul to Hades,  
or let your Holy One see corruption.

<sup>28</sup>You have made known to me the paths of life;  
you will make me full of gladness with your presence.’

<sup>29</sup>“Brothers, I may say to you with confidence about the patriarch David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. <sup>30</sup>Being therefore a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would set one of his descendants on his throne, <sup>31</sup>he foresaw and spoke about the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh see corruption. <sup>32</sup>This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses. <sup>33</sup>Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you yourselves are seeing and hearing. <sup>34</sup>For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he himself says,

“The Lord said to my Lord,  
Sit at my right hand,  
<sup>35</sup>until I make your enemies your footstool.’

<sup>36</sup>Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

**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

Matthew 28:16-20

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-eighth chapter.

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

<sup>16</sup>Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. <sup>17</sup>And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted. <sup>18</sup>And Jesus came and said to them, “**All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.** <sup>19</sup>**Go therefore and make disciples of all nations,**

baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup>teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

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

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

*(sit)*

**Hymn of the Day**

*“Holy, Holy, Holy”*

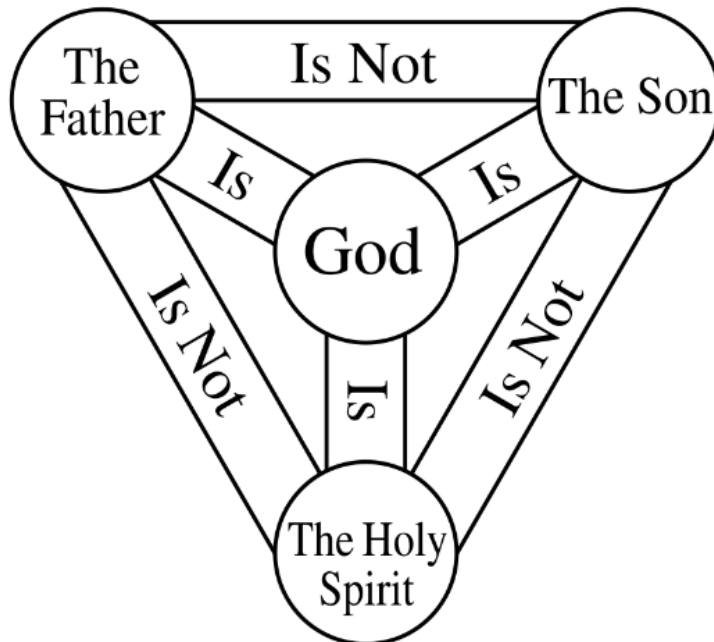
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**Sermon**

*“Why do you call me ‘Lord, Lord,’  
And not do what I tell you?”*

Matthew 28:16-20

*(stand)*



## Athanasian Creed<sup>1</sup>

- P** Whoever desires to be saved must, above all, hold the catholic faith.<sup>2</sup>
- C** **Whoever does not keep it whole and undefiled will without doubt perish eternally.**
- P** And the catholic faith is this,
- C** **that we worship one God in Trinity and Trinity in Unity, neither confusing the persons nor dividing the substance.**
- P** For the Father is one person, the Son is another, and the Holy Spirit is another.
- C** **But the Godhead of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit is one: the glory equal, the majesty coeternal.**
- P** Such as the Father is, such is the Son, and such is the Holy Spirit:
- C** **the Father uncreated, the Son uncreated, the Holy Spirit uncreated;**
- P** the Father infinite, the Son infinite, the Holy Spirit infinite;
- C** **the Father eternal, the Son eternal, the Holy Spirit eternal.**
- P** And yet there are not three Eternals, but one Eternal,
- C** **just as there are not three Uncreated or three Infinites, but one Uncreated and one Infinite.**
- P** In the same way, the Father is almighty, the Son almighty, the Holy Spirit almighty;
- C** **and yet there are not three Almightyies, but one Almighty.**
- P** So the Father is God, the Son is God, the Holy Spirit is God;
- C** **and yet there are not three Gods, but one God.**
- P** So the Father is Lord, the Son is Lord, the Holy Spirit is Lord;
- C** **and yet there are not three Lords, but one Lord.**
- P** Just as we are compelled by the Christian truth to acknowledge each distinct person as God and Lord, so also are we prohibited by the catholic religion to say that there are three Gods or Lords.

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<sup>1</sup> Early in the fourth century, a north African pastor named Arius began teaching that Jesus Christ was not truly God. The Church responded decisively in AD 325 with a statement of faith (The Nicene Creed), which confessed that Jesus is, in fact, true God. Toward the end of the fifth century, another creed was written that delved further into the mystery of the Trinity. Though attributed to Athanasius, a fourth-century opponent of Arius, this anonymous creed clearly came at a later stage in the debate.

<sup>2</sup> The Athanasian Creed declares that its teachings concerning the Holy Trinity and our Lord's incarnation are "the catholic faith." In other words, this is what the true Church of all times and all places has confessed. More than fifteen centuries later, the Church continues to confess this truth, confident that the triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit has given Himself for our salvation.

- C The Father is not made nor created nor begotten by anyone.**
- P** The Son is neither made nor created, but begotten of the Father alone.
- C The Holy Spirit is of the Father and of the Son, neither made nor created nor begotten, but proceeding.**
- P** Thus, there is one Father, not three Fathers; one Son, not three Sons; one Holy Spirit, not three Holy Spirits.
- C And in this Trinity none is before or after another; none is greater or less than another;**
- P** but the whole three persons are coeternal with each other and coequal, so that in all things, as has been stated above, the Trinity in Unity and Unity in Trinity is to be worshiped.
- C Therefore, whoever desires to be saved must think thus about the Trinity.**
- P** But it is also necessary for everlasting salvation that one faithfully believe the incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- C Therefore, it is the right faith that we believe and confess that our Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is at the same time both God and man.**
- P** He is God, begotten from the substance of the Father before all ages; and He is man, born from the substance of His mother in this age:
- C perfect God and perfect man, composed of a rational soul and human flesh;**
- P** equal to the Father with respect to His divinity, less than the Father with respect to His humanity.
- C Although He is God and man, He is not two, but one Christ:**
- P** one, however, not by the conversion of the divinity into flesh, but by the assumption of the humanity into God;
- C one altogether, not by confusion of substance, but by unity of person.**
- P** For as the rational soul and flesh is one man, so God and man is one Christ,
- C who suffered for our salvation, descended into hell, rose again the third day from the dead,**
- P** ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father, God Almighty, from whence He will come to judge the living and the dead.
- C At His coming all people will rise again with their bodies and give an account concerning their own deeds.**

- P** And those who have done good will enter into eternal life, and those who have done evil into eternal fire.
- C** **This is the catholic faith; whoever does not believe it faithfully and firmly cannot be saved.**

## 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, who with Your only-begotten Son and the Holy Spirit are one God, one Lord. In the confession of the only true God, we worship the Trinity in person and the Unity in substance, of majesty coequal. 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 (no intro)

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 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."

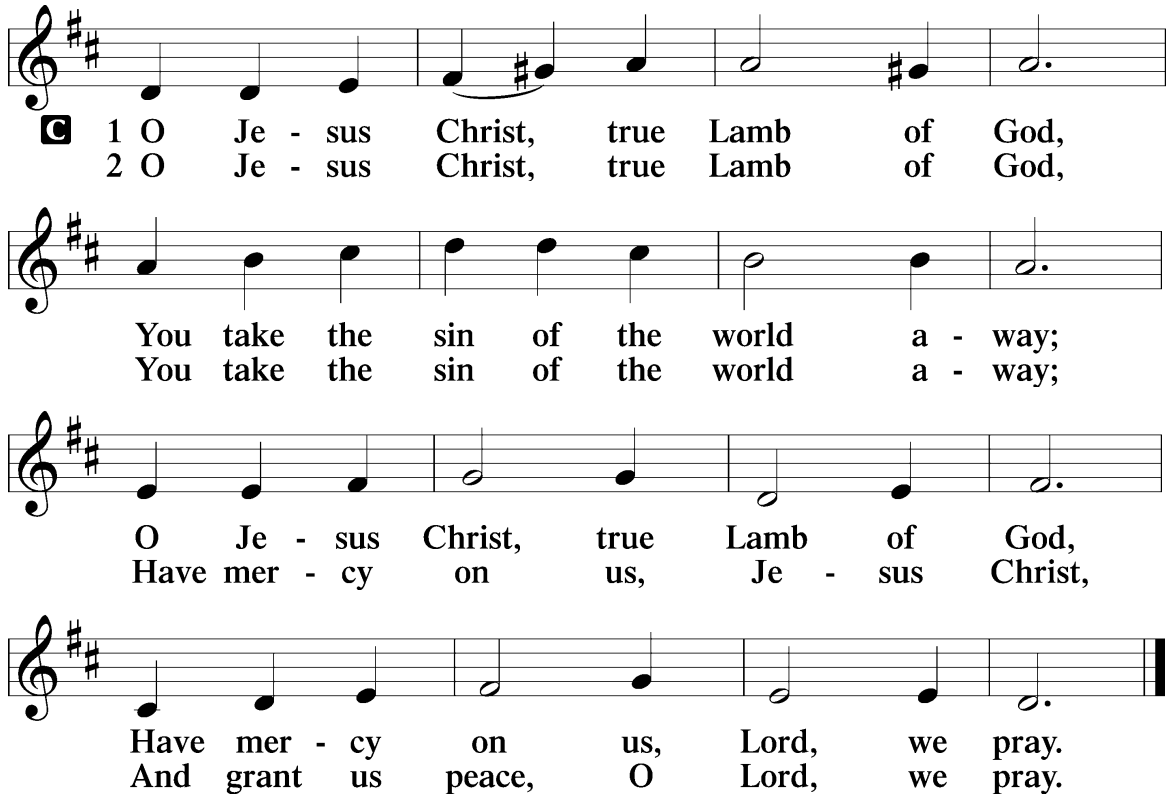
**Pax Domini**

*John 20:19*

- 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)*

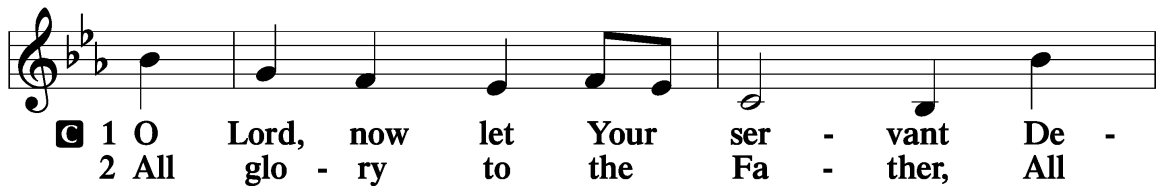
**Distribution Hymn**     *“Glory Be to God the Father”*

LSB #506

*(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**

*“Holy God, We Praise Thy Name”*

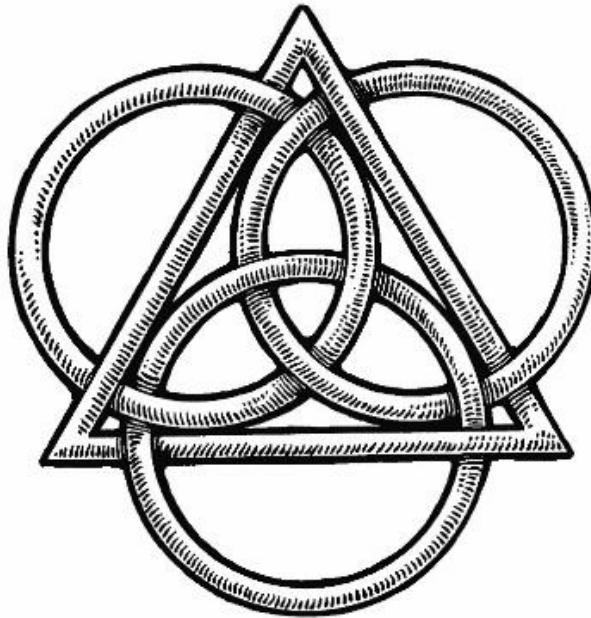
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**P** Go in Peace!

**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.

### CHRISTIAN QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

9. *What, then, has Christ done for you that you trust in Him?*

He died for me and shed His blood for me on the cross for the forgiveness of sins.

10. *Did the Father also die for you?*

He did not; for the Father is God only, the Holy Ghost likewise; but the Son is true God and true man.

He died for me and shed his blood for me.

## SERMON NOTES: Matthew 28:16-20

### ***“Why do you call me ‘Lord, Lord,’ and not do what I tell you?”***

- The most basic of all universal concepts regarding \_\_\_\_\_ and authority is that God is the \_\_\_\_\_ and we are the \_\_\_\_\_.
- Just and legitimate \_\_\_\_\_ is a design of \_\_\_\_\_ and carries with it an expectation of \_\_\_\_\_.
- When the \_\_\_\_\_ usurp the \_\_\_\_\_’s authority, when Man believes \_\_\_\_\_ is the only authority that matters, he becomes—knowingly or unknowingly—a tyrant.
- “A Christian man is the most free lord of \_\_\_\_\_, and subject to \_\_\_\_\_; a Christian man is the most dutiful servant of \_\_\_\_\_, and subject to every one.” (Martin Luther)
- “Therefore, \_\_\_\_\_, disciple people in all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to obey everything that I’ve commanded you.” (Matthew 28:19-20 ISV)
- “Why do you call me ‘\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_,’ and \_\_\_\_\_ do what I tell you?” (Luke 6:46 ESV)



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).



## 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.

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**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).

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



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**9am Adult Sunday School:** Join us as we continue the video study, *Drive Thru History: Ends of the Earth*. We're following host Dave Stotts as he travels the globe to tell the 2,000-year story of how the Gospel of Jesus Christ reached the Ends of the Earth.

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**Bring a Friend! Bring Your Questions!** Join us Wednesday evenings at 7pm, June 17 through August 5, for ***Starting Point: A Conversation About Faith***, an 8-session conversational, video-based study designed for seekers, starters, returners, and anyone curious about Christianity. No question is off-limits, and no prior Bible knowledge is required. Come as you are... Even better, bring a friend!

Answers to Sermon Notes:

1. The most basic of all universal concepts regarding **truth** and authority is that God is the **Creator** and we are the **created**.

2. Just and legitimate **authority** is a design of **God** and carries with it an expectation of **obedience**.

3. When the **created** usurp the **Creator's** authority, when Man believes **his** is the only authority that matters, he becomes—knowingly or unknowingly—a tyrant.

4. "A Christian man is the most free lord of **all** and subject to **none**," a Christian man is the most dutiful servant of **all** and subject to every one." (Martin Luther)

5. "Therefore, **as you go**, disciple people in all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to obey everything that I've commanded you." Matthew 28:19-20 (ISV)

6. "Why do you call me '**Lord, Lord**,' and **not** do what I tell you?" (Luke 6:46 ESV)

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

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**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.



**ChristianBook Giveback Program:** Did you know that your purchases at Christianbook can help fund our congregation? Just visit [christianbook.com/apps/giveback](http://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.

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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...

- John and Jenn Wolf and their children, Ian, Sean, Thad, Annalise, and Angus - missionaries in Kenya
- Fey Betak, Francis Eschberger, Jim Haynes, Anita Hickman, Ranita Murphy, Elaine Ottinger, Sally Potthast, Gert Schriener, and all the residents at Argent Court Assisted Living in Bastrop
- Carl Guetersloh – Deana’s Father
- Will Wiese – Deana’s Nephew
- Safe Travels for All

## **THIS WEEK AT EPIPHANY:**

### **Sunday, May 31<sup>st</sup>**

- 9:00am – Children’s Sunday School
- 9:00am – Adult Sunday School
- 10:00am – Fellowship / Coffee Time
- 10:30am – Worship Service with Communion

### **Tuesday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>**

- 3:00pm – Devotional at Argent Court
- 7:00pm – Church Council Meeting

### **Sunday, June 7<sup>th</sup>**

- 9:00am – Children’s Sunday School
- 9:00am – Adult Sunday School
- 10:00am – Fellowship / Coffee Time
- 10:30am – Worship Service with Communion

3-minute



Seminary

## Luther's Three Estates

Martin Luther often spoke about God working through three “estates” or “orders” in the world: the Church, the Household, and the State. These were not merely human institutions invented for convenience, but vocations and structures through which God preserves creation, nurtures life, and cares for His people. Though our modern world tends to separate faith from daily life, Luther saw these estates as deeply interconnected. Christians live simultaneously in all three, serving God not only in worship, but also in family life, work, citizenship, and community.

The first estate is the Church. Here God gives His gifts through Word and Sacrament. In the Church, sinners hear the Gospel, receive forgiveness, are baptized into Christ, and are strengthened in faith. Luther believed the Church was not defined by grand buildings or worldly power, but by the presence of Jesus through his means of grace. The Church exists to proclaim Christ crucified and risen, making disciples of all nations. It is where believers are connected to Christ and to one another.

The second estate is the Household. Luther used this term broadly. It included marriage, parenting, children, labor, economics, and daily work. The household was not “less spiritual” than church activities. In fact, Luther famously taught that a Christian changing diapers, tending crops, teaching children, or earning an honest living could glorify God just as surely as a monk in a monastery. God provides daily bread through ordinary vocations. Parents become instruments through whom God nurtures children. Employers and workers serve neighbors through honest labor. In a culture that often chases status or platform, Luther reminds us that faithfulness in ordinary callings matters deeply to God.

The third estate is the State, or civil government. God establishes earthly authority to preserve order, punish evil, and protect the vulnerable. Luther lived during chaotic times, and he understood how quickly society could collapse into violence and disorder. While earthly governments are imperfect, Christians are

still called to pray for leaders, obey lawful authority, and seek the good of their communities. Citizenship itself becomes a vocation of loving one's neighbor.

What is striking is that these three estates overlap constantly in the Christian life. A believer may worship Christ on Sunday, raise children on Monday, and serve neighbors through civic responsibilities all week long. None of these are outside God's concern. The Gospel transforms not only our "religious" life, but our entire life.

Luther's teaching also guards against two common temptations. One is to think only "church work" matters to God. The other is to imagine faith belongs only in private life. Instead, God sends His people into every corner of society. Christians carry the light of Christ into homes, workplaces, schools, and communities.

At Epiphany Lutheran Church, this understanding connects naturally to our calling to "Connect. Grow. Multiply." We connect through the Church as we gather around Christ and His Word. We grow through faithful vocations in our households and daily lives. And we multiply as Christians live out their faith in the wider community, bearing witness to Christ in the world God still loves and sustains through these very estates.