

Sunday, August 9th 2026

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost



Mailing Address:

**Epiphany Lutheran Church
489 Agnes
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Bastrop, TX 78602**

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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.

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.

SERVANTS DURING WORSHIP THIS MORNING:

Pastor – Rev. E.B. Holschuh
Lay Reader – Carole Holschuh
Assisting Elder – Alex Monroe
Usher – Harlan Robb
Acolyte – Calvin Monroe

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:

Christ the Crucified Comes to Save Us by the Word of Faith

The Lord who “*laid the foundation of the earth*” (Job 38:4) is the Author and Giver of life who governs all things by His Word. His wisdom and power are beyond our understanding, except as He reveals Himself in the incarnate Word, Christ Jesus. He has “*entered into the springs of the sea*” and “*walked in the recesses of the deep*” (Job 38:16), and He draws near to us in mercy. We have been “*a long way from the land, beaten by the waves*” and tossed about by hostile winds (Matt. 14:24). In our mortality and sinful unbelief, we do not always recognize the Lord Jesus. But as we cry out in fear, He speaks tenderly to us, “*Do not be afraid,*” and He reaches out His hand to save us (Matt. 14:27, 31). “*Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved*” (Rom. 10:13), and now we call upon Him in faith, because we have heard “*through the word of Christ*” (Rom. 10:17). “*The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart*” (Rom. 10:8).

DIVINE SERVICE SETTING FOUR

Prelude

Selected Music

Welcome and Greeting

Pastor

Announcements

Opening Hymn

“Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me”

LSB 722

(stand)

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

The sign of the cross ✠ may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

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

☒ Amen.

Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]

☐ Our help is in the name of the Lord,

☒ who made heaven and earth.

Psalms 124:8

☐ 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 34:4-8

P I sought the LORD, and he answered me
and delivered me from all my fears.

**C Those who look to him are radiant,
and their faces shall never be ashamed.**

P This poor man cried, and the LORD heard him
and saved him out of all his troubles.

**C The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear him,
and delivers them.**

Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good!

P Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!

**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 (no intro)

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-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 most merciful God, preserve us from all harm and danger that we, being ready in both body and soul, may cheerfully accomplish what You want done; 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)

Old Testament Reading

Job 38:4-18

4[The Lord said to Job:] “Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth?

Tell me, if you have understanding.

5Who determined its measurements—surely you know!

Or who stretched the line upon it?

6On what were its bases sunk,

or who laid its cornerstone,

7when the morning stars sang together

and all the sons of God shouted for joy?

8“Or who shut in the sea with doors

when it burst out from the womb,

9when I made clouds its garment

and thick darkness its swaddling band,

10and prescribed limits for it

and set bars and doors,

11and said, “Thus far shall you come, and no farther,

and here shall your proud waves be stayed’?

12“Have you commanded the morning since your days began,

and caused the dawn to know its place,

13that it might take hold of the skirts of the earth,

and the wicked be shaken out of it?

14It is changed like clay under the seal,

and its features stand out like a garment.

15From the wicked their light is withheld,

and their uplifted arm is broken.

¹⁶“Have you entered into the springs of the sea,
or walked in the recesses of the deep?

¹⁷Have the gates of death been revealed to you,
or have you seen the gates of deep darkness?

¹⁸Have you comprehended the expanse of the earth?
Declare, if you know all this.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading

Romans 10:5-17

⁵Moses writes about the righteousness that is based on the law, that the person who does the commandments shall live by them. ⁶But the righteousness based on faith says, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’” (that is, to bring Christ down) ⁷or “‘Who will descend into the abyss?’” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). ⁸But what does it say? “The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); ⁹because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. ¹¹For the Scripture says, “Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame.” ¹²For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. ¹³For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

¹⁴But how are they to call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? ¹⁵And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!” ¹⁶But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, “Lord, who has believed what he has heard from us?” ¹⁷So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

(stand)

Alleluia and Verse



John 20:31



Holy Gospel Reading

Matthew 14:22-33

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fourteenth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

²²Immediately [Jesus] made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. ²³And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴but the boat by this time was a long way from the land, beaten by the waves, for the wind was against them. ²⁵And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. ²⁶But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, and said, "It is a ghost!" and they cried out in fear. ²⁷But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "**Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid.**"

²⁸And Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." ²⁹He said, "**Come.**" So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the

water and came to Jesus. ³⁰But when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, “Lord, save me.” ³¹Jesus immediately reached out his hand and took hold of him, saying to him, “**O you of little faith, why did you doubt?**” ³²And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

(sit)

Hymn of the Day

“Eternal Father, Strong to Save”

LSB 717

Sermon

“Lord, if it is you...”

Matthew 14:22-33

(stand)

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.

**And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.**

Passing of the Peace

(sit)

Confirmation – Madeline Robb

pp. 272-274

Prayer of the Church

☐ Lord, in Your mercy
☑ hear our prayer.

Offering

Usher

(stand)

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Preface

☐ The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

☑ And also with you.

☐ Lift up your hearts.

☑ We lift them to the Lord.

[Colossians 3:1]

☐ 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. 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:

Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9-13

**☩ 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

C 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

“Jesus, Lead Thou On”
“Precious Lord, Take My Hand”

LSB 718
LSB 739

(stand)

Nunc Dimittis

Luke 2:29-32

1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the 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 the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in the 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

“I Am Jesus’ Little Lamb”

LSB 740

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.

SERMON NOTES: Matthew 14:22-33

“Lord, if it is you...”

1. The story of Jesus walking on _____ is more well-known for the obvious _____ than for the two crises of _____.
2. “The fault lies with our _____, which does not allow us to recognize that _____ is present, but thinks him an apparition—or, rather, a devil—because he appears otherwise than we _____ and he remains silent.” (Martin Luther)
3. The combined effects of the _____, the hour of night, the _____ and the danger still in full force, the physical exhaustion, cause the _____ to give into superstition.
4. Do you _____ that you could _____ on _____ in the presence of Jesus? Peter did.
5. When Peter took his _____ off Jesus, _____ of the wind overcame him and he began to _____.
6. God said through Jeremiah, “My messages will come true through _____, not through something good... You will escape and live. That will happen because _____ have _____ in me.”

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.



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.

New 9am Adult Sunday School series starts September 6! Join us for *Sustaining Connections: Living Life in Community*, exploring what it means to be a “disciple-able” follower of Jesus... Come discover how God uses His Word, His people, and His mission to shape us into the kind of church described in Acts—a church that lives life together and shares the hope of Christ with the world. We'll step into how God forms ordinary believers into mature disciples who connect, grow, and multiply!

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](https://www.facebook.com/KFUOradio), [Twitter](https://twitter.com/KFUOradio), and [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/KFUOradio).

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



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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).



THIS WEEK AT EPIPHANY:

Sunday, August 9th

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

Tuesday, August 11th

- 6:20pm – Elders Meeting

Sunday, August 16th

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

Answers to Sermon Notes:
1. The story of Jesus walking on *water* is more well-known for the obvious *miracle* than for the two crises of *faith*
2. The fault lies with our *sin*, which does not allow us to recognize that *Jesus* is present, but thinks him an apparition—or, rather, a devil—because he appears otherwise than we *imagine* and he remains silent. (Martin Luther)
3. The combined effects of the *darkness*, the hour of night, the *storm* and the danger still in full force, the physical exhaustion, cause the *disciples* to give into superstition.
4. Do you *believe* that you could *walk* on *water* in the presence of Jesus? Peter did.
5. When Peter took his *eyes* off Jesus, *fear* of the wind overcame him and he began to *sink*
6. God said through Jeremiah, "My messages will come true through *disaster*, not through something good.... You will escape and live. That will happen because *you* have *trusted* in me."

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. Jeffrey and Deaconess Gina Teeple – missionaries in Germany
- Fey Betak, Francis Eschberger, Jim Haynes, Anita Hickman, Ranita Murphy, Elaine Ottinger, Sally Potthast, Gert Schrinier, and all the residents at Argent Court Assisted Living in Bastrop
- Family and Friends of Carl – Kelly Davis' uncle



Three Solas. One Savior.

The Lutheran Reformation is often summarized by three simple Latin phrases, each ending with the word *sola*—"alone." They are Sola Scriptura (*Scripture alone*), Sola Gratia (*grace alone*), and Sola Fide (*faith alone*). These are not three unrelated doctrines, nor are they slogans competing for our attention. Rather, they are three inseparable truths that all point to one glorious conclusion: *Christ alone*.

Scripture alone teaches us *where* we find God's saving truth. Our faith is not built upon popular opinion, personal experience, or human tradition, but upon the inspired Word of God. Yet the Scriptures are not an end in themselves. Jesus told the religious leaders, "You search the Scriptures... and it is they that bear witness about Me" (John 5:39). The Bible's central purpose is to reveal Christ, the Savior of sinners.

Grace alone tells us *why* we are saved. God does not rescue us because we have earned His favor or made ourselves worthy. "By grace you have been saved" (Ephesians 2:8). Salvation begins entirely with God's undeserved love and mercy toward us in Jesus Christ. Grace has a face, and His name is Jesus.

Faith alone tells us *how* we receive that salvation. Faith is not another work that earns God's approval. Rather, it is the empty hand that receives the gift God freely gives. Faith clings to Christ and His promises, trusting that His death and resurrection are sufficient for our forgiveness and eternal life.

Notice what happens when these three *solas* are placed together. Scripture alone reveals grace alone, which is received through faith alone—and all of it is centered on Christ alone. Remove Christ, and Scripture becomes merely another book, grace becomes an abstract concept, and faith becomes misplaced confidence. But with Christ at the center, the Scriptures proclaim good news, grace becomes God's saving action, and faith finds its perfect object.

As we gather in worship each Lord's Day, we are continually brought back to these same truths. We hear God's Word, receive His grace through Word and Sacrament, and respond in faith—all because of Jesus Christ alone. The Reformation was never merely about recovering three slogans. It was about recovering the one Savior to whom they all lead.

"For no one can lay a foundation other than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ." (1 Corinthians 3:11, ESV)

