

Epiphany Lutheran Church

Reflecting God's generosity by serving and caring

15th Sunday after Pentecost | September 10, 2023 | 9:00am

Prelude

Laurie Thorstad

Welcome and Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

Leader: We gather to worship in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen.

L: Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection

L: Steadfast and faithful God,

C: you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you. We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering. We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others. For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us. For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us. Lead us back to you and set us on the right path; in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

L: Beloved in Christ, God's justice stretches beyond all understanding. God's compassion is beyond compare. In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us. In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, you are already and always forgiven.

C: Amen.

Hymn: **Earth and All Stars!**

hymn 731

Quilt Blessing

Apostolic Greeting

L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

O Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Back to School Blessing

First Reading: Ezekiel 33:7-11

Old Testament page 758

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God

Responsive Reading: Psalm 119:33-40

Old Testament page 530

The psalm will be read responsively by verse. Please respond with the even numbered verses, which are in bold on the screen.

Second Reading: Romans 13:8-14

New Testament page 142

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

ELW page 187

Reading: Matthew 18:15-20

New Testament page 17

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Sarah Deutsch

Hymn of the Day: **In Christ There Is No East or West**

hymn 650

(Sung to the tune of amazing grace hymn 799)

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

L: ...Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

Sharing of the Peace

L: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Offertory Hymn: **Take My Life** (refrain, verse 2, refrain)

hymn 583

The Great Thanksgiving & Preface

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

L: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy... ...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Distribution of Holy Communion

Anyone who is baptized, believes Christ is truly present in the bread and wine, and has received instruction in the Sacrament is welcome to commune with us, regardless of church membership. Those who do not partake in the Lord's Supper, are encouraged to come forward for a blessing.

Communion Hymn: **Great Is Thy Faithfulness**

hymn 733

Blessing

L: May the Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor, and give you peace, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn: **Christ, Be Our Light**

hymn 715

Dismissal

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: We go reflecting God's generosity by serving and caring. Thanks be to God!

Postlude

Praises

- Dennis Hallaway for mowing the church lawn.
- The congregation for asking how the new secretary position is going.
- Laurie Gerdes for putting the new bench together.
- Vicky Huebl for organizing the UFO Saturdays this fall.

Prayer Requests

Barb Arndt	Mark Buesing	Jan Galema	Henry Hansen
Chris Hughes	Barb Johnson	Hudson Johnson	Barb Youell
Linda Kiecker	Lisa Kiecker	Dennis Meyer	Hailey Juhl
Kathy Lang	Chris Price	Barbra Ries	Matt Anderson

- All serving in the military, especially Garrison Pfeffer (US Air Force)
- Our church family living with cancer: Sue Nasinec, Gloria Ideker, Laurie Gerdes, Jim Enz, and others.

Announcements

- Faith Formation begins September 17. One more teacher is needed! Speak with Pastor Sarah if you are interested in teaching one or two Sundays per month!
- Picture Directory work has begun. Please submit a recent photo the church members who live in your household to staff.elca@gmail.com. Don't have a recent photo? Speak with Terry Johnson or Winnis Buesing to have one taken.
- Quilt Silent Auction! The Quilters of Epiphany have created a quilt to auction off. The proceeds will be donated to the American Red Cross for natural disaster relief. Bidding takes place in the narthex!
- Scraft'n Event will be September 29 and 30. Please sign up for meals or door prizes on the happenings board.

Women's Retreat

October 21st, 2023

"Putting Pieces Together." Look for more details and sign up on the Happenings Board.

Sunday Morning Volunteer Schedule

	September 10	September 17
Greeter	Deloris Mosher & Ryan Hatfield	Jane Carter & Duane Anderson
Reader	Jane Carter	Joel Nielsen
Communion Servers	Linda Arndt & Tia Graton	Amy Ely & Linda Arndt
Ushers	Korey Leiferman & Dean Nagel	Jane Carter & Duane Anderson
Acolyte/Power Point	Ryan Hatfield	Jager Heidemann
Open/Close	Korey Leiferman/Melissa Fisher	TBA & Amy Ely
Counters	Dave Overholser & Tom Wellner	Tricia Purrier & Amy Ely
Altar Guild	Patty Adams & Linda Arndt	Patty Adams & Linda Arndt
Fellowship	Terry Johnson & Tom Wellner Lisa Nagel Leiferman Family	David & Judy Kerr, Bernadette Matthes, Kari Severson

Epiphany Lutheran Church

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