

# Epiphany Lutheran Church

*Reflecting God's generosity by serving and caring*

24<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost | November 12, 2023 | 9:00am

Prelude

Jan Lange

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: **Christ Be Our Light**

hymn 715

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 God of justice and love, you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Special Music: Give Me Oil In My Lamp

Faith Formation & Star Light Students

Children's Chat & Teen Talk

First Reading: Amos 5:18-24

Old Testament page 807

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**Congregation: Thanks be to God**

Responsive Reading: Psalm 70

Old Testament page 495

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

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

New Testament page 181

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**Congregation: Thanks be to God**

Gospel Acclamation: **Halle, Halle, Hallelujah**

hymn 172

Reading: Matthew 25:1-13

New Testament page 24

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Pastor Sarah Deutsch

Hymn of the Day: **Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers**

hymn 244

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.**

Offering

Offertory Hymn: **Praise and Thanksgiving (verses 1 & 3)**

hymn 689

## Offering Prayer

L: God of all goodness, generations have turned to you, gathered around your table, and shared your abundant blessings. Number us among them that, as we gather these gifts from your abundance, and give thanks for your rich blessings, we may feast upon your very self and care for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## 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: **When Peace Like a River**

hymn 785

## 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: **Here I Am, Lord**

hymn 574

## Dismissal

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

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

## Postlude

### *Prayer Requests*

Barb Arndt	Chris Price	Mark Buesing	Jan Galema
Henry Hansen	Chris Hughes	Lisa Kiecker	Barbra Ries
Gary Johnson	Rick Ideker	Hailey Juhl	Barb Youell
Linda Kiecker		Eli Mauthe (Kirsti and Ben)	

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

## Praises

- Jan Lange for leading our music this morning.
- Faith Formation and Star Light Students for singing this morning.
- Linda Arndt, Sue Edstrom, and the worship team for helping the confirmation students celebrate last week.
- Duane Anderson for all of the property work he has been doing lately!

## Announcements

- Join us in the fellowship hall after worship today as we create ornaments to be given as gifts to members of our community this holiday season!
- Winter Warm-Up permission slips are due TODAY for confirmation students who plan on attending.
- UFO Saturday is November 18th from 9am-8pm. Cost is \$20. No need to sign up.
- Youth Group (grades 6-12) is today from 6:30pm-8pm. Bring a dish to share as we celebrate Friendsgiving!
- Do you use offering envelopes? 2024 envelopes can be picked up in the Narthex.
- November 15 will be the last day of quilting for 2023. We will take a Christmas hiatus and return in 2024.
- Thanksgiving Eve Worship will take place here at Epiphany at 6:30pm on Wed., November 22.

## Sunday Morning Volunteer Schedule

	<b>November 12</b>	<b>November 19</b>
<b>Greeter</b>	Deloris Mosher & Tracy Enz	Joel & Donna Nielsen
<b>Reader</b>	Winnis Buesing	Colleen Hall
<b>Communion Servers</b>	Dave and Becky Overholser	Duane Anderson & Beth Rossow
<b>Ushers</b>	Tom Wellner & Korey Leiferman	Ray Weber & Bob Brunz
<b>Acolyte</b>	Eli	Noah
<b>Open/Close</b>	Becky Overholser & Melissa Fisher	Korey Leiferman & Amy Ely
<b>Counters</b>	Dave Overholser & Tom Wellner	Tricia Purrier & Amy Ely
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Kathy Gerdes & Cheryl Wellner	Linda Arndt & Patty Adams
<b>Fellowship</b>	Audrey Rieck, Quaal Family, Behrens Family	Bernadette Matthies, Lisa Nagel, Winnis Buesing

## **Epiphany Lutheran Church**

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