

Epiphany Lutheran Church

Reflecting God's generosity by serving and caring

26th Sunday after Pentecost | November 26, 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: **Crown him with Many Crowns**

hymn 855

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 power and might, your Son shows us the way of service, and in him we inherit the riches of your grace. Give us the wisdom to know what is right and the strength to serve the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Children's Chat & Teen Talk

Special Music: **The Victory Song**

Jane Carter

First Reading: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

Old Testament page 759

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

Responsive Reading: Psalm 95:1-7a

Old Testament page 513

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

Second Reading: Ephesians 1:15-23

New Testament page 169

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God

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

hymn 172

Reading: Matthew 25:31-46

New Testament page 25

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Sarah Deutsch

Hymn of the Day: **Jesus Shall Reign**

hymn 434

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 invited to come forward for a blessing.

Communion Hymn: **The King of Love My Sheperd Is**

hymn 502

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: **Prepare the Royal Highway**

hymn 264

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

- Jane Carter for singing this morning.
- Dave Overholser is the volunteer of the month for December.

Announcements

- There is confirmation on Wednesday, November 29.
- There will be no Faith Formation today.
- Help us light the Advent candles! Sign up to read and light the candles on the happenings board!
- The 2023 Advent Brunch and Ornament Exchange will take place Saturday, December 2 from 9:30-11:00am. Bring a wrapped ornament and an item for the brunch potluck. Please sign up on the Happenings Board if you plan on coming!
- UFO Saturday is December 9th from 9am to 8pm. No need to register. Cost is \$20.

Sunday Morning Volunteer Schedule

	November 26	December 3
Greeter	Howard Gibbons & Jolene Damman	Amy Ely & Winnis Buesing
Reader	Joel Nielsen	Katie Seberg
Communion Servers	Tia Graton & Colleen Hall	Lisa Nagel & Terry Weber Johnson
Ushers	Dean Nagel & Joe Fisher	Dean Nagel & Ray Weber
Acolyte	Harvey	Dakota & Tony
Open/Close	Kari Severson & Beck Severson	Bernita Geving & Katie Sieberg
Counters	Tia Graton & Colleen Hall	Lisa Nagel & Sarah Weber
Altar Guild	Linda Arndt & Patty Adams	Becky Overholser & Colleen Hall
Fellowship	Cheryl Wellner, Linda Arndt, Patty Adams	Colleen Hall, Fisher Family, Audrey Rieck

Income & Expenses at a Glance

	10/31/2023	YTD 2023
Income	\$14,290	\$138,300
Expenses	-\$13,198	-\$149,577
Net gain/loss	\$1,092	-\$11,277

Epiphany Lutheran Church

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