

November 8, 2026

EPIPHANY
LUTHERAN CHURCH

24TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Today the prophet Amos calls for justice to roll down like waters. Paul urges us to encourage one another with the promised coming of the Lord. Jesus tells the parable of the wise and foolish bridesmaids. Surrounded by the faithful of every time and place, we celebrate Christ's coming in our midst in the word of life and the feast of victory—the marriage feast of the Lamb.

PRELUDE **Piano Solo**

THE GATHERING

WELCOME

OPENING SONG **I See The Lord**

by Jonathan Smith, Jacob Sooter, Matt Maher, and Eddie Hoagland

VERSE 1

This is where worship starts, here in the temple of my heart,
remembering who You are and all You've done. This is your majesty,
all I have tasted and I've seen, remembering who You are. And once
again:

CHORUS

I see the Lord, forever glorified; exalted and lifted high. And all of the
kingdom; it cries: You are, You are the Lord. Seated upon the throne,
the God who is three in one, the Father, the Spirit, the Son. You are,
You are the Lord.

VERSE 2

This is eternity, deep calling deep inside of me. I'm right where I'm
meant to be, here with You. This is your family, stretching as far as I
can see. I'm right where I'm meant to be, once again.

CHORUS

BRIDGE

You are the Lord, holy. You are, You are the Lord, worthy. You are,
You are the Lord, holy. You are, You are the Lord, worthy You are.

CHORUS

You are the Lord, holy, You are the Lord, worthy. You are the Lord.

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, our dwelling place for all generations, whose compassion never slumbers.

C: **Amen.**

L: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence For Reflection

L: Holy God,

C: **we confess that we have trusted in our preparation instead of your invitation. We prioritize our piety over care for your beloved. We trust the voice of our shame and fear, which keeps us from entering fully into relationship with you and others. We are not awake to the coming of your reign. Rouse us and rescue us, that we may enter into your joy. Amen.**

L: Inherit the riches of God's grace. ✠ Jesus, the good shepherd, feeds you with his mercy. You are forgiven. Blessed are you.

C: **Amen!**

THE PEACE

We receive and extend to one another the gift of Christ's peace. You may greet one another and say "peace be with you" or similar words.

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: 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.

P: Let us pray.

C: 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.

THE WORD

JESUS LOVES ME

Jesus loves me! this I know,
for the Bible tells me so;
little ones to him belong.
they are weak, but he is strong.

Yes, Jesus loves me (X3)
the Bible tells me so.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

A FIRST READING **AMOS 5:18-24**

In the days of Amos, people thought that the day of the LORD would be a time of great victory, but Amos announced that it would be a day of darkness, not light. He said liturgy is no substitute for obedience. The LORD demands justice and righteousness in the community.

Woe to you who desire the day of the Lord! Why do you want the day of the Lord? It is darkness, not light, as if someone fled from a lion and was met by a bear or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall and was bitten by a snake. Is not the day of the Lord darkness, not light, and gloom with no brightness in it?

I hate, I despise your festivals, and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies. Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them, and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals I will not look upon.

Take away from me the noise of your songs; I will not listen to the melody of your harps. But let justice roll down like water and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.



A SECOND READING **1 THESSALONIANS 4:13-18**
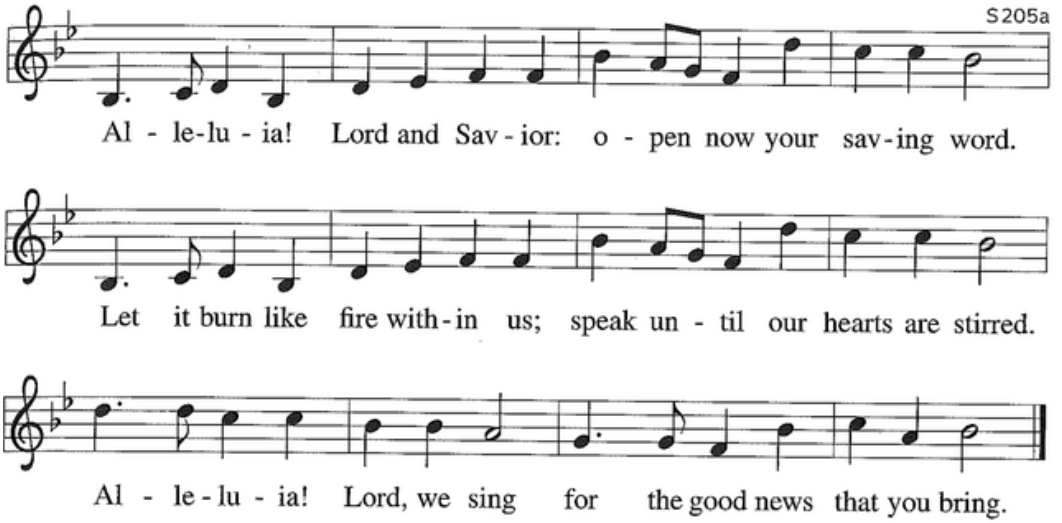
Some of the Thessalonians are worried that dead Christians will be excluded from the resurrection to eternal life when Christ comes again. Paul reassures them with the word of hope that all Christians, living or dead, will be raised into everlasting life with Christ.

We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

L: This is the word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION **Alleluia (ELW Setting X)**



THE GOSPEL READING **MATTHEW 25:1-13**

(Congregation standing)

L: The Holy Gospel of St. Matthew, beginning in the twenty fifth chapter.

C: Glory to you , O Lord.

Jesus tells a parable about his own second coming, emphasizing the need for readiness at all times.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten young women took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those young women got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet, and the door was shut. Later the other young women came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake, therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

PREACHING OF THE GOOD NEWS & A MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

Wake Awake for Night is Flying (ELW 436)
by Philipp Nicolai

1. Wake, a - wake, for night is fly - ing; the watch - men on the heights are cry - ing: A - wake, Je - ru - sa - lem, at last!
2. Zi - on hears the watch - men sing - ing, and all her heart with joy is spring - ing; she wakes, she ris - es from her gloom; for her Lord comes down all - glo - rious, the strong in grace, in truth vic - to - rious. Her Star is risen; her Light is come. Ah come, thou bless - ed One, God's own be - lov - ed Son: Al - le - lu - ia! We
3. Now let all the heavens a - dore thee, and saints and an - gels sing be - fore thee, with harp and cym - bal's clear - est tone; of one pearl each shin - ing por - tal, where we are with the choir im - mor - tal of an - gels round thy daz - zling throne; nor eye hath seen, nor ear hath yet at - tained to hear what there is ours; but

Mid - night hears the wel - come voic - es and at the thrill - ing cry re - joic - es; come forth, ye vir - gins, night is past; the Bride - groom comes, a - wake; your lamps with glad - ness take: Al - le - lu - ia! And for his mar - riage feast pre - pare, for ye must go and meet him there.



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, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, 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, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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 THE PEOPLE

A: United with the great cloud of witnesses, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation.

Each petition shall conclude with:

A: God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

the Prayers conclude:

A: Into your steadfast love, faithful God, we entrust all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus, your beloved.

C: Amen.
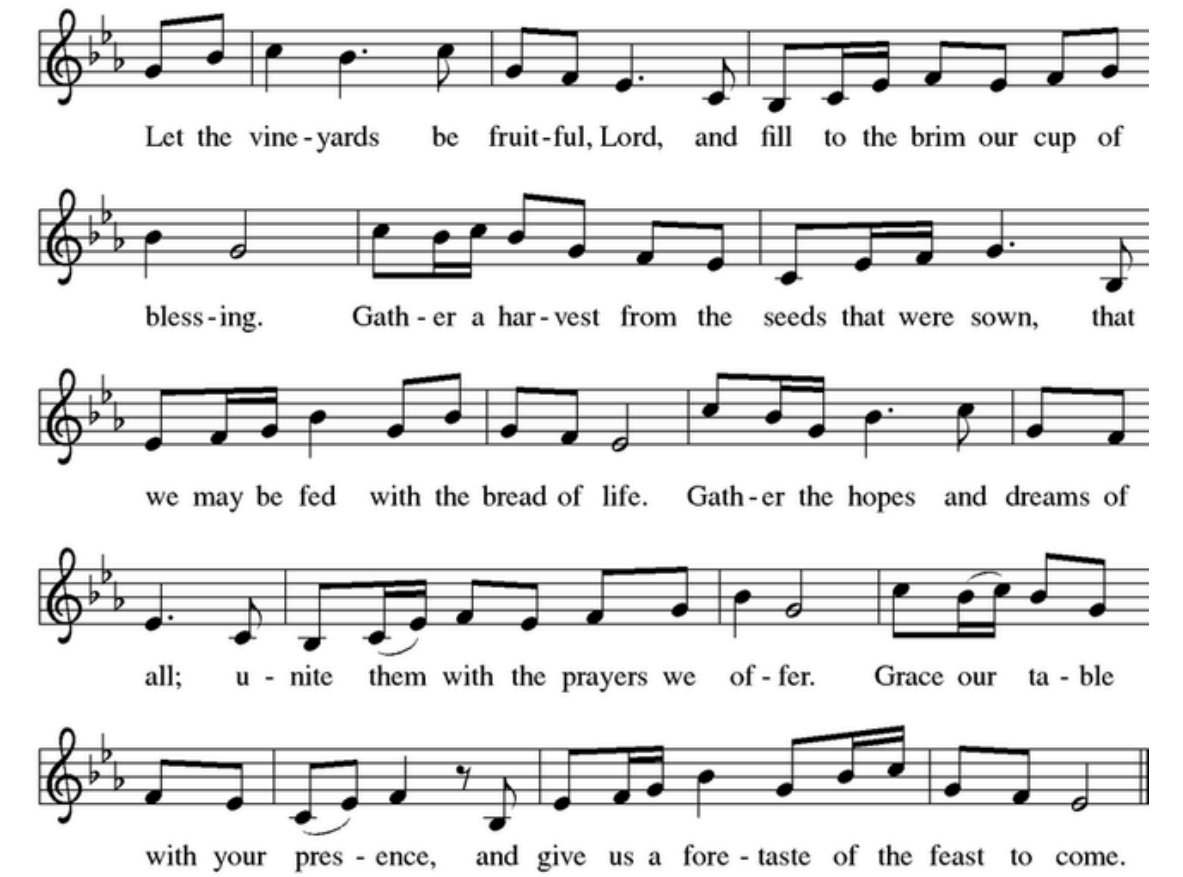


THE MEAL

THE OFFERING

MUSICAL OFFERING

As Saints of Old (ELW 695)
Instrumental, arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful



OFFERING PRAYER

A: Let us pray together.

C: Eternal God, our time, talents, and treasures are gifts from you. Receive what we offer, and all that you entrust to us, until hungry no more, all the world is fed, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts!

C: We lift them to the Lord.

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

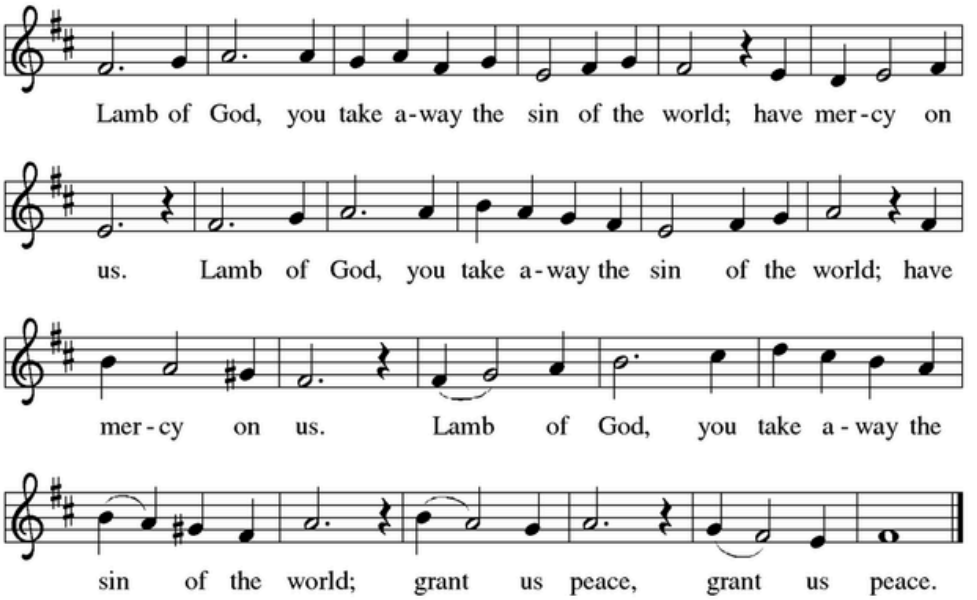
C: It is right to give our thanks and praise!

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

LAMB OF GOD



HOLY COMMUNION

We practice "Open Communion," acknowledging that Jesus welcomes all persons, sinners and saints alike, to the table. All means ALL. Please come forward by the center aisle and receive the Sacrament in a continuous line, exiting by the side aisles. Communion is by intinction. We offer a chalice of wine and a chalice of white grape juice in which you may dip the bread. Gluten-free wafers are available; please ask for them at the altar, if needed. The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you. The communicant may say: Amen.

Infants who are not yet ready to receive food will receive a blessing. Parents who have questions about the practice of open communion may instruct their children to receive just a blessing.

Communion can be served to those who are not physically able to join us for worship. Please speak with an usher if you know of someone who would desire communion from Sunday's table brought to them.

COMMUNION SONG

Higher Ground
Piano solo

COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace until life everlasting.

C: Amen.

THE SENDING

THE BENEDICTION
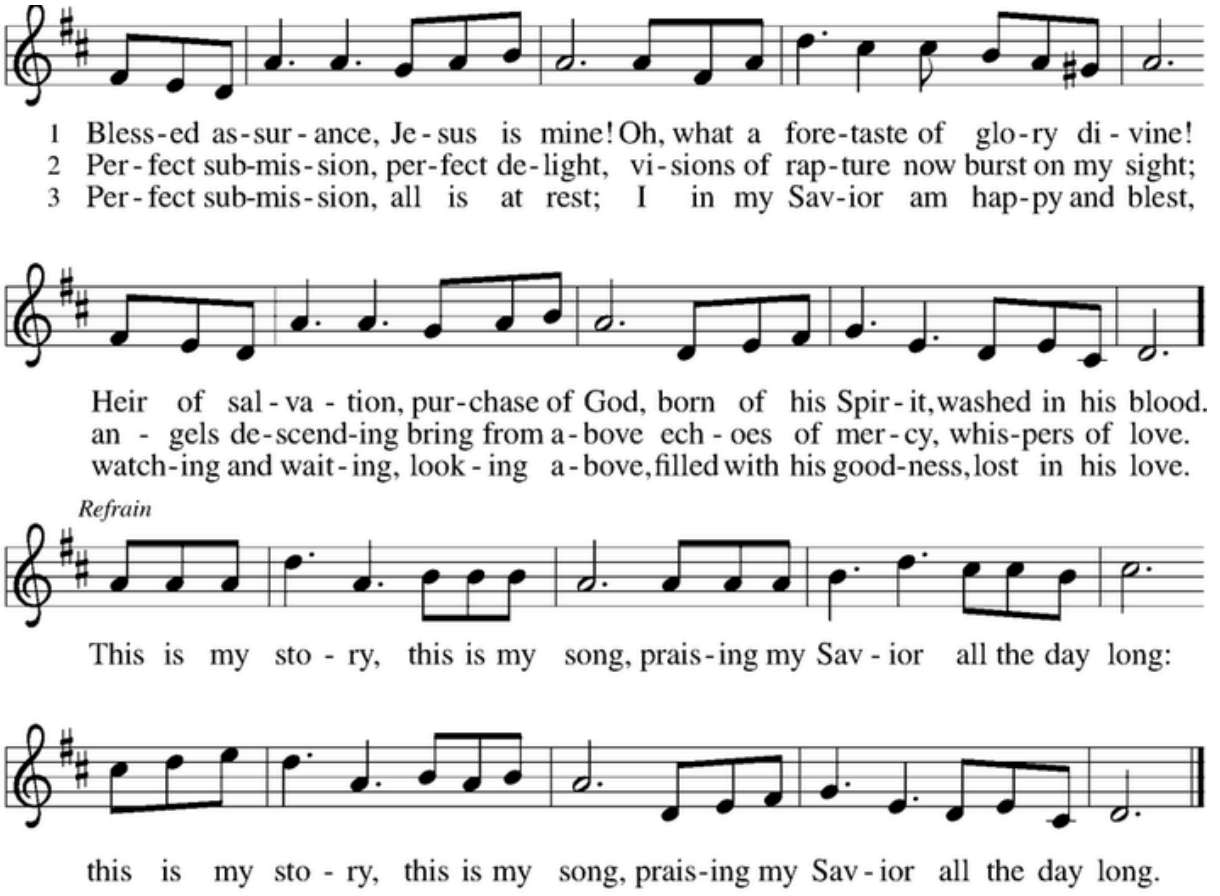
P: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face to shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.
In the name of the Father, and of the Son ✠, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

SENDING SONG

Blessed Assurance (ELW 638)

Text by Fanny J. Crosby, Music by Phoebe P. Knapp



ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSED & SENT TO SERVE

A: This little light of mine...

C: I'm gonna let it shine!

A: Jesus calls us to keep awake with lamps lit as we await his glorious return. That being said: we may be waiting a while. So let us keep being the best disciples of his that we can be, helping others and proclaiming the gospel to make Jesus proud. We'll keep at this holy work either until Jesus comes back or until…

C: Everyone knows that God loves them!

A: Go in peace. Encourage one another.

C: Thanks be to God!



POSTLUDE

If you are worshipping with us at 9:00 am we kindly ask that you leave your bulletin on the back table on your way out for those that are worshipping at 11:00 am if you did not make notes. We wish to be good stewards of our environment and resources.

*** Our services are live-streamed and recorded for later viewing. We also utilize images from our services and activities on our website. If you do not want images of you or your family on our website, please inform us via an email to communications@epiphanysuwanee.org.*

EPIPHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sunday Worship Services

9:00 am & 11:00 am (in-person and online)

Ministers: The People of God

Pastor: Chris Hermansen

Minister of Youth: Kris Perkola

Director of Worship and Music: Heather Hart, DMus

Pianist: Zhiyang (Tomo) Shu

Church Administrator: Bonnie Bradberry

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I See the Lord
Words and Music by Jonathan Smith, Jacob Sooter, Matt Maher, and Eddie Hoagland
CCLI Song #7064832
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Jesus Loves Me (ELW 595)
Lyrics by Anna Bartlett Warner, 1859
Music by William B. Bradbury, 1862
Public Domain

Alleluia (ELW SETTING X)
© Augsburg Fortress. Use by permission.

Wake Awake for Night is Flying (ELW 436)
Text and Music Philipp Nicolai, tr. composite
Text c. 1999 Augsburg Fortress
Music public domain

As Saints of Old (ELW 695)
Music: English folk tune; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams
Text c. 1961, ren. 1989 The Hymn Society, admin. Hope Publishing Company.
Arr. c. Oxford University Press

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful (ELW 182)
Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980
Music: Ronald Nelson, b. 1927
Text and music c. 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, Augsburg Fortress
Copyright Holder Augsburg Fortress

Lamb of God
ELW Holy Communion Setting Four
admin. Augsburg Fortress Text & Music: Public Domain

Higher Ground
Charles H. Gabriel, Arranged by Jenifer Cook
c. 2009 by Jenifer Cook

Blessed Assurance (ELW 638)
Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820-1915
Music: Phoebe P. Knapp, 1830-1908
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