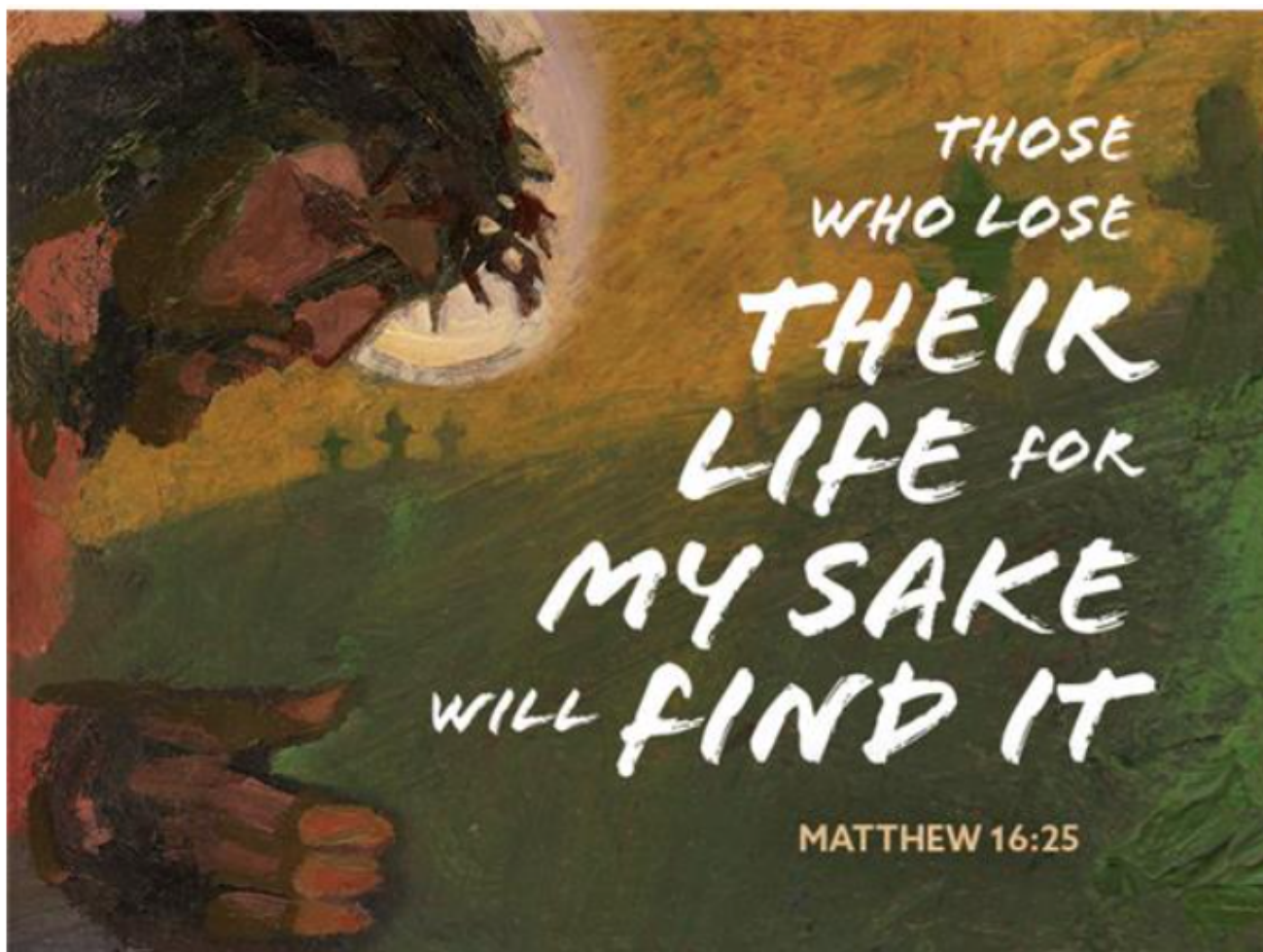




August 30, 2026



EPIPHANY
LUTHERAN CHURCH

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

The prophet Jeremiah speaks of the incurable wound of his suffering yet finds in God's words the delight of his heart. When Peter doesn't grasp Jesus' words about suffering, Jesus tells the disciples they will find their lives in losing them. Such sacrificial love is described by Paul when he urges us to associate with the lowly and not repay evil with evil. In worship we gather as a community that we might offer ourselves for the sake of our suffering world.

PRELUDE

Minuet from Sept fois sept et un (no. 2 and no. 7)

by G.P. Telemann, 1728

Arr. F. Polnauer

THE GATHERING

WELCOME

OPENING SONG

I Will Follow

by Chris Tomlin, Jason Ingram, Reuben Morgan

INTRO

Where You go I'll go
Where You stay I'll stay
When You move I'll move
I will follow
Oh oh oh

VERSE 1

All Your ways are good
All Your ways are sure
I will trust in You alone
Higher than my sight
High above my life
I will trust in You alone

CHORUS

Where You go I'll go
Where You stay I'll stay
When You move I'll move
I will follow You
Whom You love I'll love
How You serve I'll serve
If this life I lose
I will follow (You)

INTERLUDE

Yeah I will follow You yeah

VERSE 2

Light into the world
Light into my life
I will live for You alone
You're the One I seek
Knowing I will find
All I need in You alone
In You alone

BRIDGE

In You there's life everlasting
In You there's freedom for my soul
In You there's joy unending joy
And I will follow

ENDING

Yeah I will follow You yeah
I will follow You yeah
I will follow You yeah

ORDER OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

A: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, whose compassion endures forever.

C: Amen.

A: Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence For Reflection

A: Compassionate God,

C: we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

A: Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest."
In the name of God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Rest in God's love.

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.

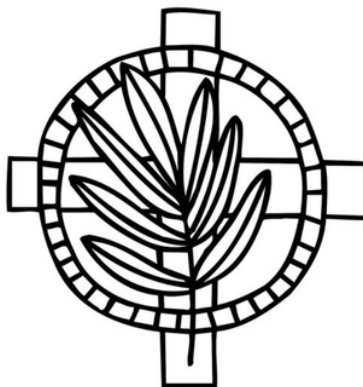
GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

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, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.



THE WORD

THIS IS THE DAY

This is the day (2x)
that the Lord Has made! (2x)
We will rejoice (2x)
and be glad in it! (2x)
This is the day that the Lord Has made!
We will rejoice and be glad in it!
This is the day (2x)
that the Lord has made!

CHILDREN'S SERMON

A RESONSIVE READING

PSALM 26:1-8

Your love is before my eyes; I have walked faithfully with you. (Ps. 26:3)

L: Give judgment for me, O Lord, for I have lived with integrity; I have trusted in the Lord and have not faltered.

C: Test me, O Lord, and try me; examine my heart and my mind.

L: For your steadfast love is before my eyes; I have walked faithfully with you.

C: I have not sat with the worthless, nor do I consort with the deceitful.

L: I have hated the company of evildoers; I will not sit down with the wicked.

C: I will wash my hands in innocence, O Lord, that I may go in procession round your altar,

L: singing aloud a song of thanksgiving and recounting all your wonderful deeds.

C: Lord, I love the house in which you dwell and the place where your glory abides.

A READING FROM

ROMANS 12:9-21

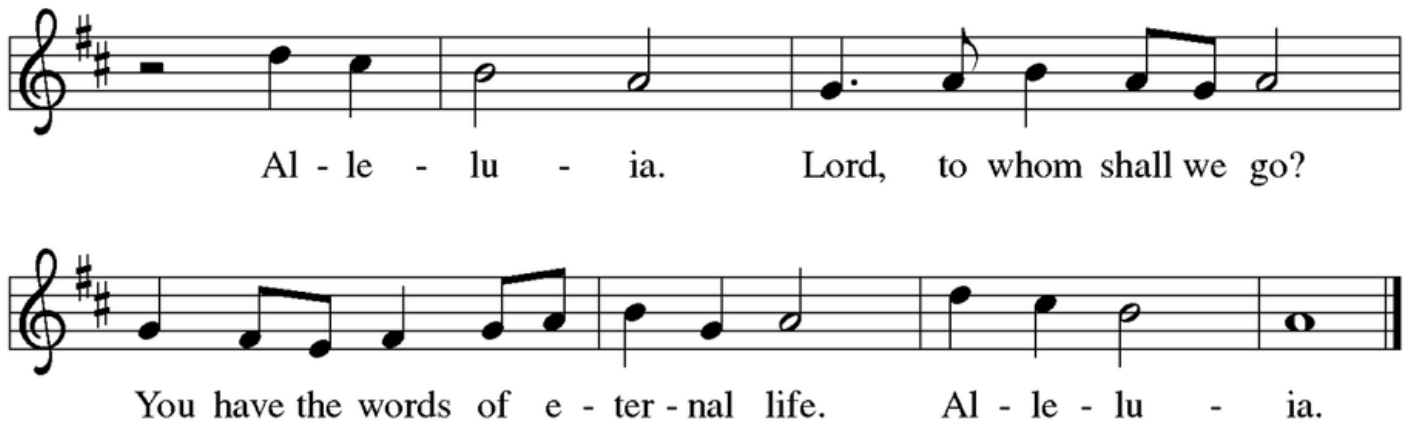
Paul presents benchmarks for faithful relationships with Christians and non-Christians. Love is the unflagging standard of our behavior. When we encounter evil, we do not resort to its tactics but seek to overcome it with good. While Christians cannot control the actions and attitudes of others, we seek to live at peace with all people.

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil; hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal; be ardent in spirit; serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; pursue hospitality to strangers.

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be arrogant, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay, says the Lord." Instead, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink, for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia (ELW Setting IV)



THE GOSPEL READING

MATTHEW 16:21-28

(Congregation standing)

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

C: Glory to you , O Lord.

After Peter confesses that Jesus is "the Messiah, the Son of the living God" (16:16), Jesus reveals the ultimate purpose of his ministry. These words prove hard to accept, even for a disciple whom Jesus has called a "rock."

From that time on, [after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah,] Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes and be killed and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me, for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?"

"For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

PREACHING OF THE GOOD NEWS & A MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

HYMN OF THE DAY

Will You Come & Follow Me (ELW 798)

1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call
2 "Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call
3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call
4 "Will you love the you you hide if I but call
5 Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call

your name? Will you go where you don't
your name? Will you care for cruel and
your name? Will you set the pris - 'ners
your name? Will you quell the fear in -
my name. Let me turn and fol - low

know and nev - er be the same?
kind and nev - er be the same?
free and nev - er be the same?
side and nev - er be the same?
you and nev - er be the same.

Will you let my love be shown, will you let my
Will you risk the hos - tile stare, should your life at -
Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as
Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the
In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and

name be known, will you let my life be
tract or scare? Will you let me an - swer
this un - seen, and ad - mit to what I
world a - round, through my sight and touch and
foot - steps show. Thus I'll move and live and

grown in you and you in me?"
pray'r in you and you in me?"
mean in you and you in me?"
sound in you and you in me?"
grow in you and you in me.

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: With bold trust in God's unfailing provision, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

Each petition shall conclude with:

A: Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

the Prayers conclude:

A: Receive our prayers and answer, O God, as you have promised. All this we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.



THE MEAL

THE OFFERING

MUSICAL OFFERING

Minuet from Sept fois sept et un (no. 9)

G.P. Telemann, arr. by F. Polnauer

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of

bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be

fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -

nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your

pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

OFFERING PRAYER

A: Let us pray together.

C: Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever. 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.

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.

LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on

us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have

mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the

sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION SONG

All Creatures Of Our God And King

(Slides only)

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

All The People Said Amen

VERSE 1

You are not alone, if you are lonely

When you feel afraid, you're not the only

We are all the same, in need of mercy

To be forgiven and be free

It's all you got to lean on but thank God it's all you need

CHORUS

VERSE 2

If you're rich or poor, well it don't matter

Weak or strong, love is what we're after

We're all broken, but we're all in this together

God knows we stumble and fall

And God so loved the world, She sent Her Son to save us all

CHORUS

BRIDGE

Blessed are the poor in spirit who are torn apart

Blessed are the persecuted and the pure in heart

Blessed are the people hungry for another start

For theirs is the kingdom, the kingdom of God.

CHORUS X2

CHORUS

And all the people said Amen, w-o-ah

And all the people said Amen

Give thanks to the Lord for God's love never ends

And all the people said Amen

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSED & SENT TO SERVE

A: This little light of mine...

C: I'm gonna let it shine!

A: We all have a part to play in God's mission, but we can easily get tripped up and lose focus. May this time together remind us of our mission in God's world, may it help us refocus when we have lost our way. Like Peter, we aren't perfect, but God's perfect love is always there for us. May we remind the world that this same love is for them. We do this so that...

C: Everyone knows that God loves them!

A: Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

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

Worship Production: Steve Belfield

Church Administrator: Bonnie Bradberry

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Minuet from Sept fois sept et un (no. 2, no. 7 & no. 9) Will You Come & Follow Me (ELW 798)

by G.P. Telemann, 1728
Arrangement by F. Polnauer
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I Will Follow

Chris Tomlin, Jason Ingram, Reuben Morgan
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This is the Day (W&P 141)

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Music: Les Garrett, b. 1944
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Alleluia (ELW SETTING IV)

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Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful (ELW 182)

Music: Richard W. Hillert, 1923-2010
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Lamb of God

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

All Creatures Of Our God And King

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All The People Said Amen

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