



Epiphany Lutheran Church

6606 Maplecrest Road
Fort Wayne, IN 46835
(260) 485-5122
www.epiphanyfw.com

6th Sunday of Easter

May 5, 2024 – 8:00 & 10:15 am
Worship on Sundays: 8:00 & 10:15 am
Monday Night Worship: 7:00 pm
Richard L. Hartman - Pastor

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

Lutheran Book of Worship

Setting Two (*green hymnal*)

✠ IN NOMINE JESU ✠

This Sunday's image of the life the risen Christ shares with us is the image of friendship. We called to serve others as Jesus came to serve; but for John's gospel, the image of servanthood is too hierarchical, too distant, to capture the essence of life with Christ. Friendship captures the love, the joy, the deep mutuality of the relationship into which Christ invites us. The Greeks believed that true friends are willing to die for each other. This is the mutual love of Christian community commanded by Christ and enabled by the Spirit.

✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠

PRELUDE

You are invited to let this prelude turn your heart to the Lord and prepare you to receive God's gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: In the name of the Father, and the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Open our lips, and our mouth shall declare your praise.

Open our hearts, and we will be given new life.

Open our souls, and our light will shine before others to give You glory.

Let us confess our sins before God and one another so that we may be forgiven and cleansed from all unrighteousness.

P: Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you, O God, and one another, in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have not done. Your Son taught us to "love our neighbor as ourselves," and we have only been concerned about ourselves. Forgive us, O Lord, and bring us to new life in your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

P: Almighty God, in his boundless mercy, has willingly sacrificed his Son for us, and for his sake forgives us all of our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

OPENING HYMN 257" Holy Spirit, Truth Divine" Green Hymnal

Holy Spirit truth divine, Dawn upon this soul of mine.

Word of God and inward light, wake my spirit clear my sight.

Holy Spirit love divine, glow within this heart of mine.

Kindle ev'ry high desire, purge me with your holy fire.

Holy Spirit pow'r devine, fortify this will of mine.

By your will I strongly live, bravely bear and nobly strive.

**Holy Spirit peace divine, still this restless heart of mine.
Speak to calm this tossing sea, stayed in your tranquility.**

**Holy Spirit, right divine, King within my conscience reign.
Be my guide, and I shall be firmly bound, forever free.**

APOSTOLIC GREETING

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

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.**

KYRIE *(sing)*

A: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Lord have mercy.**

A: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Lord have mercy.**

A: For the peace of the whole world, for the well being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Lord have mercy**

A: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Lord have mercy.**

A: Help, save, comfort and defend us gracious Lord.

C: **Amen**

SALUTATION

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY *(unison)*

O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. Amen

FIRST LESSON Acts 10:44-48

While Peter shares the good news of Jesus with a Gentile soldier and his family, the Holy Spirit comes upon them. Recognizing that the Spirit works inclusively in the lives of both Jews and Gentiles, Peter commands that these Gentiles also be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

PSALM 98 Assistant/Congregation

O sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things. His right hand and his holy arm have gotten him victory.

²**The LORD has made known his victory; he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.**

³He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

⁴**Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises.**

⁵Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody.

⁶**With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD.**

⁷Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who live in it.

⁸**Let the floods clap their hands; let the hills sing together for joy**

⁹at the presence of the LORD, for he is coming to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.

SECOND LESSON 1 John 5:1-6

God's children believe that Jesus is the Messiah and love God by keeping God's commandments. Thus the world is conquered not through military might but through love and faith.

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE GOSPEL

P: The Holy Gospel according to John, the 15th chapter, beginning with the 9th verse.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL John 15:9-17

On the night of his arrest, Jesus delivers a final testimony to his disciples to help them in the days ahead. Here, he repeats the most important of all his commands, that they love one another.

As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

P: The Gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you, O Christ

SERMON

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

HYMN OF THE DAY 765 “*Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us With Your Love*” Blue Hymnal

Refrain- Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love,

Show us how to serve the neighbors we have from you.

- 1) **Kneels at the feet of his friend, silently washes their feet**
Master who pours out himself for them. *Refrain*
- 2) **Neighbors are wealthy and poor, varied in color and race,**
Neighbors are nearby and far away. *Refrain*
- 3) **These are the ones we will serve, these are the ones we will love,**
All these are neighbors to us and you. *Refrain*
- 4) **Kneel at the feet of our friends, silently washing their feet,**
This is the way we will live with you. *Refrain*

NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, light from light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
By the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made
man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen, and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world,
and all those in need of good news. *A brief silence.*

Your Holy Spirit falls upon all who hear the word. Fill your church with the gifts of your Spirit and
give understanding hearts to those who strengthen our commitments with our ecumenical and
interreligious partners. God of grace, **HEAR OUR PRAYER.**

You speak and the face of the earth is renewed. Revive your creation, that habitats and every kind of living thing might flourish. Protect endangered species and help us to care for all your creatures. God of grace, **HEAR OUR PRAYER.**

Your world is divided and the nations rage. Grant wisdom and vision to world leaders, that they may seek justice, peace and the good of all. Strengthen international partnerships and cooperation. God of grace, **HEAR OUR PRAYER.**

Your children are in need. Comfort all those who suffer, especially those afflicted by anxiety, depression, and mental illness. Help us be conduits of your love in our care for one another. We pray especially for these members of our Epiphany Lutheran Church family... *Vera, Don, Sarah, Jim, Barb, Sandi, Karen, Richard, Sue, George, Sara* and for those whom we now lift up from our hearts... God of grace, **HEAR OUR PRAYER.**

Your work is done in this place with our hands. Bless the ministries of this congregation, that we may embody your love for the world. Inspire those who plan and lead worship, council members, committee members, and volunteers. God of grace, **HEAR OUR PRAYER.**

Your blessed saints now rest in you. Give us thankful hearts for those who have gone before us. At the last, bring us all together around your heavenly banquet table. God of grace, **HEAR OUR PRAYER.**

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord. **AMEN**

PEACE

P: Peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: and also with you

You are invited to greet one another with the "Peace of the Lord" or similar words.



OFFERINGS can be mailed, dropped off at church or sent through our website at www.epiphanyfw.com.
If you are worshipping in person please
place offering in basket on baptismal font.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A: Merciful God,

C: it would have been enough for you to give us the fruit of the earth by which we live. But in this meal, by your promise, you also give us yourself. Use what we have gathered here in feeding the hungry world with your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING AND EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

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 good to give him thanks and praise.

P: *It is indeed right and salutary ... We praise your name and join their unending hymn:* **C: Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might. Heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.

HOLY COMMUNION



*Everyone is welcome to come to the Lord's Table!
Those baptized who believe in the true presence of Christ
in the bread and wine are welcome to receive the elements.*

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in his grace

C: Amen

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

A: Let us pray,

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the
healing power of this gift of life. We pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us through this
gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our
Lord.

C: Amen

BLESSING

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.

C: Amen

CLOSING HYMN 551 "Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee"

Joyful, joyful we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love.

Hearts unfold like flow'rs before thee, praising thee their sun above.

Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, drive the gloom of doubt away.

Giver of immortal gladness fill us with the light of day.

All thy works with joy surround thee, earth and heav'n reflect thy rays.

Stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise.

Field and forest, vale and mountain, flow'ry meadow, flashing sea.

Chanting bird and flowing fountain call us to rejoice in thee.

Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing ever blest.

Well-spring of the joy of living, ocean-depth of happy rest!

Thou our Father, Christ our brother, all who live in love are thine.

Teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine!

DISMISSAL

P: Go in Peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

May Outreach - Collecting for the Health kits and Layettees. Items needed now:

Bath towels 75, baby blankets 80 (no Fleece), toothbrushes 115, wide toothed combs 175 and nail clippers 190.

Layette items/watch garage sales - baby clothes 6 months to 2T

Shirts long and short sleeved , pants, socks, sleepers no feet, gowns, hats, receiving blankets, mild bar soap and baby blankets.

Quilt items/watch garage sales - for blankets, sheets, mattress pads that we can use as middles and backs.

Ushers/Greeters - There are Greeter scheduled for May, need more for 8:00.

ALTAR FLOWERS There are lots of Sunday's available for flowers

July 14th, September 1st, and 29th, November 3rd, 10th and 24th!

Military Outreach - Current items needed – Slim Jim's,

Beef Jerky (1.25 oz.) Gum, mints, chewy granola bars, power bars, drink mixes, individual servings of coffee, flavored drinks, Emergen-C

Congregational Annual Meeting

Sunday May 19th at 8:45 breakfast and 9:00 meeting. Need a quorum to vote on elections, budget and driveway! Sign up sheet on bulletin board.

Lutheran Night at the TinCaps - June 18th

Tickets \$12 ordered and paid by June 2nd, Sign up sheet on bulletin board.

\$1 of each ticket goes to support the Care Package Program of Worship Anew for elderly adults and care givers.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Thank you for sharing your time and talents!

Pastor

Organist/Pianist

Assistant

Lector/Communion Assistant 8:00

Lector 10:15

Communion Assistant 10:15

Richard Hartman

Alicia Davis

Jim Davis

Sue Johnson

Steve Haag

Mike Rumfield

CALENDAR

SUNDAY 5-5	8:00am & 10:15am 8:45 12:00- 3:30pm	Worship Council Meeting <i>Zo Baptist Worship and Sunday School</i>
MONDAY	7:00 pm	Worship
SATURDAY	11:00am-12:00pm 6:00pm - 8:00 pm	<i>Zo Baptist prayer meeting/undercroft</i> <i>Zo Baptist Worship</i>
SUNDAY 5-12	8:00am & 10:15am 12:00- 3:30pm	Worship <i>Zo Baptist Worship and Sunday School</i>



Melissa Hartman - May 7th!

Fred and Dawn Osheskie
TODAY - 23 years!