



Camp Sunday

Epiphany Lutheran Church

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

15th Sunday of Pentecost

September 1, 2024

Worship on Sundays: 8:00 & 10:15 am

Worship: 7:00 pm Monday

Richard L. Hartman - Pastor

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

Acoustic Guitar and Voice Service

✠ IN NOMINE JESU ✠

Jesus protests against human customs being given the weight of divine law, while the essence of God's law is ignored. True uncleanness comes not from external things, but from the intentions of the human heart. Last week Jesus told us, "the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life." Now James says God has given us birth by the word of truth. We, having been washed in the word when we were born in the font, return to it every Sunday to ask God to create in us clean hearts.

✠ GATHERING ✠

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to all visitors, and thank you for coming to worship at Epiphany!

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, one God, clothed in majesty ever since the world began, who loves us and frees us from our sins, who leads us with all the saints to everlasting life.

C: **Amen.**

P: Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God.

silence is kept for reflection

P: God our maker and redeemer,

C: **we confess that we have sinned against our sisters and brothers and against you. We cherish the values of this world. We cause others to stumble. The earth is wounded by our excess. Have mercy, O God. Forgive us, renew us, and raise us up on eagles' wings, that we may do your will with courage and delight. Amen.**

P: Almighty God has had mercy on us, and God's only Son has been given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins; in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Believing in Jesus' name, you have received the gift of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

GATHERING SONGS

"Humble Thyself In The Sight Of The Lord"

Humble thyself in the sight of the Lord. (echo)

Humble thyself in the sight of the Lord. (echo)

And He (echo) shall lift (echo) you up

Higher and higher. And He (echo) shall lift (echo) you up.

Draw unto God and He will draw unto you. (echo)

Draw unto God and He will draw unto you. (echo)

And He (echo) will draw (echo) unto you

Closer and closer. And He (echo) will draw (echo) unto you.

Resist the devil, he will flee from you. (echo)

Resist the devil, he will flee from you. (echo)

And he (echo) will flee (echo) from you

Farther and farther. And he (echo) will flee (echo) from you.

"I'll Do My Best"

1. Love, I'll love,
I'll love You Lord forever.
Love, I'll love,
I'll love You Lord forever.

I'll do my best,
I'll do my best, whoa-oh-oh
I'll do my best for You. Oh-Oh-Oh
I'll do my best,
I'll do my best, whoa-oh-oh
I'll do my best for You.

2. Serve, 3. Trust, 4. Praise, and 5. Thank

GREETING

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 *"Create In Me a Clean Heart, O God"*

Written by: Richard Hartman

C: **Create in me a clean heart, O God.
Create in me a clean heart, O God.**

P: Cast me not away from Your presence.
Take not your Holy Spirit from me. (C: **Create in me...**)
Restore to me the joy of Your salvation.
Sustain me with a willing Spirit. (C: **Create in me...**)
Deliver me from my sinfulness.
For my mouth will sing of your deliverance.

C: **Create in me a clean heart, O God.
Create in me a clean heart, O God.
Create in me a clean heart, O God.
Amen, Amen, Amen.**

SALUTATION

P: The Lord be with you!

C: **And also with you!**

P: Let us pray together the Prayer of the Day:

O God our strength, without you we are weak and wayward creatures. Protect us from all dangers that attack us from the outside and cleanse us from all evil that arises from within ourselves, that we may be preserved through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

FIRST READING Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

The Israelites believed the law was a divine gift that provided guidelines for living out the covenant. Moses commands the people to obey the law and to neither add to nor subtract from it. The Israelites are also to teach the law to their children and their children's children.

So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the LORD, the God of your ancestors, is giving you.

You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the LORD your God with which I am charging you. You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, "Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!" For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the LORD our God is whenever we call to him? And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today? But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children's children—

SECOND READING James 1:17-27

The letter of James was intended to provide first-century Christians with instruction in godly behavior. Here, Christians are encouraged to listen carefully and to act on what they hear, especially by caring for those least able to care for themselves.

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls. But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing. If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

P: The Holy Gospel for this the 15th Sunday in the Season of Pentecost is from the gospel of Mark 7th chapter beginning at the 1st verse.

C: Glory to you O Lord.

GOSPEL READING : Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Mark's gospel depicts Jesus as challenging traditional ways in which religious people determine what is pure or impure. For Jesus, the observance of religious practices cannot become a substitute for godly words or deeds that spring from a faithful heart.

Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?" He said to them, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written, 'This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines.' You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition."

Then he called the crowd again and said to them, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand: there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile." For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, adul-

tery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you O Christ.

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

SERMON

SONG OF THE DAY “Open The Eyes Of My Heart Lord”

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord,
Open the eyes of my heart.

I want to see You,
I want to see You. (*sing twice*)

To see You high and lifted up,
Shining in the light of Your glory.
Pour out Your power and love
As we sing Holy, Holy, Holy.

Holy, Holy, Holy,
Holy, Holy, Holy,
Holy, Holy, Holy,
I want to see You. *Repeat from Open*

APOSTLES' CREED

P: Let us confess our faith together using the song “*I Believe, I Do Believe.*”

*Refrain: I believe, I do believe, truly I believe it,
truly I believe it, truly I believe it.
I believe, I do believe, truly I believe it,
truly I believe it, truly I believe it.*

I believe in God the Almighty Lord Creator,
mighty Lord Creator, mighty Lord Creator.
I believe in God the Almighty Lord Creator,
mighty Lord Creator, mighty Lord Creator. (*Refrain*)

I believe in Jesus the Savior of the people,
Savior of the people, Savior of the people.
I believe in Jesus the Savior of the people,
Savior of the people, Savior of the people. (*Refrain*)

And I do believe in the power of the Spirit,
power of the Spirit, power of the Spirit.
And I do believe in the power of the Spirit,
power of the Spirit, power of the Spirit. (*Refrain*)

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION:

Drawn together in the power of the Holy Spirit, we pray with confidence for the church, God’s good creation, and all who are in need. *A brief silence.*

God of every generation, give the church a sense of purpose and belonging. Sustain and build up leaders and lay people as we accompany one another in our life with Christ. Merciful God, **RECEIVE OUR PRAYER.**

God of creation, you named humans as co-creators with you. Where the earth cries out in pain, bring wholeness. Guide governments and industry, that environmental laws and practices seek to heal and not harm. Bring relief and justice to people and places suffering from climate catastrophe. Merciful God, **RECEIVE OUR PRAYER.**

Sovereign God, we pray for local communities of every kind: rural and urban; established and new. Lead those in authority to seek the good of all through their words and actions and to mentor others in honest and generous ways. Merciful God, **RECEIVE OUR PRAYER.**

Healing God, you draw near to all who are hurting. Be with all who desire relief from chronic and acute illness, cancer, and post-traumatic stress disorder. Strengthen health care workers, therapists, and caregivers. Tend to those who are close to our hearts... we pray especially for these members of our Epiphany Lutheran Church... **Jim, Sarah, Barb, George, Sara, Sandi, Ayden, Karen, Vera** and for those whom we lift up from our hearts... Merciful God, **RECEIVE OUR PRAYER.**

On this Labor Day weekend we remember and give thanks for all who have fought for workers' rights around the world. Continue to improve working conditions and establish fair wages so that all people may thrive. Merciful God, **RECEIVE OUR PRAYER.**

Comforting God, console us as we mourn our departed. We hold fast to the promise that death has been defeated by our Savior Jesus Christ. Merciful God, **RECEIVE OUR PRAYER.**

We entrusted and all our prayers to you, holy God, in the name of your beloved child. Jesus Christ, our Savior. **AMEN**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

C: And also with you.

You are invited to share the peace with others around you.



OFFERINGS can be mailed, dropped off at church or sent through our website at www.epiphanyfw.com
Place Offering in basket on Baptismal Font.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A: Merciful God,

C: As grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together to become one bread, so let your church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

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

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

P It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, Holy Father, through Christ our Lord; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with the Church on earth and the host of heaven, we give you thanks, Almighty God.

C: Amen.

THE 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



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.*

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

P: Now may the Body and Blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ, strengthen you and keep you in His peace.

C: Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

A: God our shepherd, you have gathered us again from scattered places and nourished us with rich food in word and sacrament. Go with us now, that we may seek the lost, bind up the injured, and strengthen the weak, until you gather us and all the saints into your eternal feast with Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

P: Now may the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord make His face to 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.

CLOSING SONG Allelu!

Refrain: Allelu! Allelu! Everybody sing Allelu!
For the Lord has risen it is true
Everybody sing Allelu!

**God said He would send His Son, Allelu, Allelu.
And salvation would be won, Alleluia! Refrain**

**Christ was born in Bethlehem, Allelu, Allelu,
So that we might live again, Alleluia! Refrain**

Thirty years He walked this land, Allelu, Allelu,
To all in need He lent His hand, Alleluia! *Refrain*

On the hardwood of the cross, Allelu, Allelu,
He suffered and He died for us, Alleluia! *Refrain*

On the third day He did rise, Allelu, Allelu,
Now He lives no more to die, Alleluia! *Refrain*

Now we too can live anew, Allelu, Allelu,
Live in Him need all we do, Alleluia! *Refrain*

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Thank you for sharing your time and talents!

Pastor	Richard Hartman
Assistant	Dia Herb
Lector 8:00/ Communion Assistant	Kim Robinson
Lector 10:15	Mike Rumfield
Communion Assistant 10:15	Mark Herb
Altar Guild	Herb's
Technical Support	Kristen Davis

August	Deposits	Paid Bills	Balance
8/4/2024	3,736.90	1,335.47	2,401.43
8/11/2024	3,314.51	4,239.99	(925.48)
8/18/2024	1,765.71	1,107.50	658.21



Richard Lee - September 5th!
Bob Zimmerman - September 5th!
Nancy Lee - September 6th!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Altar Flowers today in memory of Jack Flanigan by Becky Flanigan.

SEPTEMBER OUTREACH - Associated Churches Food bank.

1. Dry milk
2. Canned meats: chicken, beef, tuna
3. Crackers
4. Peanut Butter and jelly
5. Bagged noodles
6. Sauces to go with the noodles to make a meal

Ongoing Military Support - Sending Care Packages - Granola Bars, Jerky, Gum, Mints, Life Savers, Power Bars, Chap stick, individual drink mixes, individual servings of coffee, and Emergen-C. Just sent 2 boxes in August!

God's Work Our Hands - September 15th - One 9:00 service

Work on kit assembly after service

12:00 Picnic lunch, hamburgers, hotdogs and water provided.

Please sign up to bring a side dish.

Bible Study - Wednesday evenings, 6:00 pm light dinner, 6:30 Bible study.

All individual studies, may get some readings for the next week. Sign up so we know how many will be attending for handouts and food.

CALENDAR

SUNDAY 9/1	8:00am & 10:15am Worship Camp Sunday 12:00- 3:30pm Zo Baptist Worship and Sunday School
MONDAY	Labor Day - office closed no 7:00 worship
WEDNESDAY	10:00 am - 12:00 pm Quilting 6:00 pm Meal 6:30 pm Bible Study
THURSDAY	Northeast Home School 1st day! 8:00 am - 4:00 pm
SATURDAY	10:00 am - 12:00 pm Quilting 11:00 am-12:00pm Zo Baptist prayer mtg/undercroft 6:00pm - 8:00 pm Zo Baptist Worship
SUNDAY 9/8	8:00am & 10:15am Worship 12:00- 3:30pm Zo Baptist Worship and Sunday School