

HE IS RISEN

Hallelujah



Easter Celebration Service

Epiphany Lutheran Church
Fort Wayne, IN
10:15 am



✠ IN NOMINE JESU ✠

On this day the lord has acted! On the first day of the week God began creation, transforming darkness into light. On this, the “eighth day” of the week, Jesus Christ was raised from the dead. We celebrate this new creation in the waters of baptism and in the feast of victory. With great joy we celebrate this day of days, even as we begin the great fifty days of Easter. Filled with hope, we go forth to share the news that Christ is risen!!! He is risen indeed!

✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠

PRELUDE *Special Music*

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, ANNOUNCEMENTS, ALLELUIAS RELEASED

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (*P: Pastor, C: Congregation*)

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.

GATHERING HYMN 151 *“Jesus Christ Is Risen Today” Green Hymnal*

**Jesus Christ is Risen today, Alleluia
Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia
Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia
Suffer to redeem our loss, Alleluia**

**Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia
Unto Christ our heav’nly king Alleluia
Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia
Sinners to redeem and save, Alleluia**

**But the pains which he endured, Alleluia
Our salvation have procured, Alleluia
Now above the sky he’s king, Alleluia
Where the angels ever sing, Alleluia**

**Sing we to our Lord above, Alleluia
Praise eternal as his love, Alleluia
Praise him all you heav’nly host, Alleluia
Father, Son and Holy Ghost, Alleluia**



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 with Assistant)*

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray,

God of mercy, we no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for his is alive and has become the Lord of Life. Increase in our minds and hearts the risen life we share with Christ, and help us to grow as your people toward the fullness of eternal life with you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

FIRST LESSON Acts 10:34-43

Peter's sermon, delivered at the home of Cornelius, a Roman army officer, is a summary of the essential message of Christianity: everyone who believes in Jesus, whose life, death, and resurrection fulfilled the words of the prophets, "receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

Then Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

CHOIR ANTHEM "Resurrection Celebration" Barbara Furman & Heather Sorenson

SECOND LESSON Colossians 3:1-4

Easter means new life for us as it first meant new life for Christ. His resurrection reshapes the entire focus and motivation for our lives, since we are now hidden with the risen Christ in God.

So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE GOSPEL

P: The Holy Gospel according to Mark the 16th chapter starting with the 1st verse.

C: Glory to you O Lord.

GOSPEL READING Matthew 28:1-10

Sorrow gives way to "fear and great joy" when two women are sent by an angel to proclaim the good news: Jesus is RISEN!

After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the woman, "Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples. 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." So they left the tomb and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you O Christ.

PUPPET MINISTRY

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY 145 *"Thine is the Glory"* Green Hymnal

Thine is the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son.

Endless is the vict'ry Thou or death hast won!

Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away.

Kept the folded grave clothes where thy body lay.

Refrain: **Thine is the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son.**

Endless is the vict'ry Thou o'er death hast won!

Lo, Jesus meets thee, risen from the tomb!
Lovingly he greets thee, scatters fear and gloom.
Let his Church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,
For the Lord now liveth, death has lost its sting! Refrain

Refrain: Thine is the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son.
Endless is the vict'ry Thou o'er death hast won!

No more we doubt thee, Glorious Prince of life.
Life is nought without thee, aid us in our strife.
Make us more than conqu'rors through thy deathless love.
Bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above. 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

Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation. *A brief moment of silence.*

Risen Savior, you have conquered death and opened the gates of everlasting life. Dispel our doubts and fears and renew our faith and hope in you. Merciful God. **RECEIVE OUR PRAYER.**

Life-giving God, the created world rejoices in Christ's victory over death. May all the earth be renewed by the light of Jesus' resurrection, and may we be faithful stewards of all you have made. Merciful God. **RECEIVE OUR PRAYER.**

Sovereign God, let the nations acknowledge your reign of justice and truth. Where violence, oppression, and corruption hold sway, pour out your holy and life-giving Spirit to transform and redeem. Merciful God. **RECEIVE OUR PRAYER.**

Gentle Shepherd, like the woman at the empty tomb, many grieve or feel lost and afraid. Draw near to those who are ill or in pain, we pray especially for these members of our Epiphany Lutheran Church family...**Karen, Allan, Pat, Vicki, George** and for those whom we name silently from our hearts... Reveal yourself to them as the Risen One. Merciful God. **RECEIVE OUR PRAYER.**

Faithful God, we thank you for the living hope you give us through Christ's resurrection. Bless Epiphany Lutheran Church, that we may boldly proclaim Christ's victory over death in word and deed. Merciful God. **RECEIVE OUR PRAYER.**

Eternal One, we give thanks for all who have died and now share in the joy of your resurrection. Bring us, with them, to the unending feast of your victory. Merciful God. **RECEIVE OUR PRAYER.**

God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. **AMEN**

PEACE

P: The 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."



**OFFERINGS can be mailed or dropped off at church
6606 Maplecrest Road Fort Wayne In 46835
or sent through our website at www.epiphanyfw.com.**

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 to feed the hungry world with your love, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING *(sing with Pastor)*

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 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, God of power and might.

Heaven 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.*

NOTE: *There is white grape juice in the center ring of each communion tray for those who so desire.*

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

CLOSING HYMN 131 *“Christ is Risen! Alleluia!” Green Hymnal*
Christ is risen! Alleluia! Risen our victorious head!
Sing his praises! Alleluia! Christ is risen from the dead!
Gratefully our hearts adore him as his light once more appears.
Bowing down in joy before him, rising from grief and tears.

Refrain: *Christ is risen! Alleluia! Risen our victorious head!*
Sing his praises! Alleluia! Christ is risen from the dead!

Christ is risen! All the sadness of our Lenten fast is o'er.
Through the open gates of gladness, he returns to life once more.
Death and hell before him bending see him rise the victor now,
Angels on his steps attending, glory round his wounded brow. Refrain

Christ is risen! All the sorrow that last evening round him lay.
Now has found a glorious morrow in the rising of today.
See the grave its first fruits giving, springing up from holy ground.
He was dead but now is living, he was lost but he is found. Refrain

Christ is risen! Hence-forth never death or hell shall us enthrall.
Be we Christ's in him forever, we have triumphed overall.
All the doubting and dejection of our trembling hearts have ceased.
Hail the day of resurrection! Let us rise and keep the feast. Refrain

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

DISMISSAL

P: Go in Peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Join us to sing - the “Hallelujah Chorus”

OUTREACH APRIL - Just Neighbors - family emergency shelter, currently housing 30 families. Need twin sheets and blankets, new pillows, bath towels, disposable diapers size newborn - 6, Pullups girls and boys. Grocery gift cards, laundry baskets, household cleaners, dish soap, broom & dustpan, toilet bowl brush, household mop, papertowels and toilet paper. Place items in the library.

OUTREACH APRIL We are collecting items for the Lutheran World Relief Health Kits and Layettes. Items in most need right now are - Hand & Bath Towels, Baby Blankets (not fleece), receiving blankets, Ivory or Dial Soap 4oz bars if possible, cloth diapers or money towards purchasing diapers, short sleeved shirts 6 month -2T, sweaters or jackets (no Fleece)

WATCH UP COMING GARAGE SALES check them out for items Quilters can use - cotton fabrics, mattress pads, blankets as well as queen/king sheets. Layette items needed are long sleeved shirts and pants, T-shirts, sweaters, sock and hats, hand towels, blankets. (all clothing needs to be 6-24 month (2T)

THANK YOU for the outpouring of food for Associated churches food bank!
We collected lots of food during Lent!

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Thank you for sharing your time and talents!

Pastor	Richard L. Hartman
Assistant	Rebecca Norberg
Lector	Shane Pickett
Communion Assistant	Alicia Davis
Pianist/Organist	Amanda Pickett
Choir Director	Jim Davis
Brass	Shane & Nathaniel Pickett, Jim Davis, Sophia Horn
Puppets	Mike Rumfield and Becca Norberg
Altar Guild	Pickett Family



Vicki Auman - April 6th!
Belated Anniversary Wishes to
Joe & Vicki Malott
April 2nd - 49 Years!



Our Easter flowers were given by:

Pat and Gary AnsberryIn memory of Gary’s sister’s Anne and Teresa

The Davis FamilyIn Memory of Sara Davis

Steve & Nina Haag.....In memory of Our Parents and D.J Gray

Joyce Husted In memory of Charlie Husted and Art and Rose Johnson
In honor of family

Sue JohnsonIn memory of Charles and Margaret Johnson

Vickie & Joe MalottIn honor of our grandchildren

Sally Mertz.n memory Denny Mertz and Parents

Pickett familyIn memory of Jeremy Dawkins & Kate Fetzer
David & Jane Dawkins and Deb & Gary Pickett

Mike & Cathy Rumfield.....To the Glory of God

Jack & Sandi Swanson..... In Memory of Sandi

SPECIAL THANKS To all those who purchased flowers for this beautiful display on Easter.. We especially thank Rachael and Amanda Pickett for arranging 19 plants!



You may take your flowers home following the 10:15 am service. They will be placed in the breezeway along with the list in case you forgot what plant you purchased.

Epiphany's Calendar of Events

TODAY 4-5	Easter Day / The Resurrection of Our Lord 8:00 am Worship - Sunrise Service 8:45 am Easter Breakfast 10:15 am Worship - Celebration Service 12:00-3:30 <i>Zo Baptist Worship and Sunday School</i> 3:00 pm Take down crosses
WEDNESDAY	10:00 am- 12:00 pm Quilting <i>No Meal/Bible Study</i>
SATURDAY	10:00 am - 12:00 pm Quilting <i>11:00-12:00 Zo Prayer Meeting</i> <i>6:00 - 8:00 pm Zo Baptist Worship</i>
SUNDAY 4-12	2nd Sunday of Easter 8:00 am Worship 10:15 am Worship 12:00-3:30 <i>Zo Baptist Worship and Sunday School</i>

Financial Update

March	Deposits	Paid Bills	Balance
3/1/2026	3,403.47	2,626.94	776.53
3/8/2026	2,854.47	4,496.68	(1,642.21)
3/15/2026	4,319.60	1,311.48	3,008.12
3/22/2026	2,217.43	3,452.26	(1,234.83)