

“LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE...”



M A T T H E W 5 : 1 6

Epiphany Lutheran Church

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

5th Sunday in Epiphany

February 5, 2023

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

Grief Support Mondays: 7:00 pm

Richard L. Hartman - Pastor

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

With One Voice

Light shines in the darkness for the upright, the psalmist sings. Isaiah declares that when we loose the bonds of injustice and share our bread with the hungry, the light breaks forth like the dawn. In another passage from the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus the light of the world, calls his followers to let the light of their good works shine before others. Through baptism we are sent into the world to shine with the light of Christ.



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

*Welcome to all visitors, and thank you for coming to worship at Epiphany!
If you have any questions, please feel free to ask anyone for assistance.
Please sign our guest book by the front doors.*

BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

C: Amen

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known and from whom no secrets are hid. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive us and cleanse us 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 in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart, we have not loved our neighbor as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all 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 400 *“God, Whose Almighty Word!”*

God whose almighty word, chaos and darkness heard, and took their flight.
Hear us we humbly pray, and where the Gospel day,
Sheds not its glorious ray, let there be light!

Lord who once came to bring, on your redeeming wing, healing and sight.
Health to the sick in mind, sight to the inly blind,
Oh, now to humankind, let there be light!

Spirit of truth and love, life giving holy dove, speed forth your flight.
Move on the water’s face, bearing the lamp of grace,
And in earth’s darkest place, let there be light!

Holy and blessed three, Glorious Trinity, Wisdom, love, might!
Boundless as oceans tide, rolling in fullest pride,
Through the earth, far and wide, let there be light!

APOSTOLIC 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 *(sing with Assistant)*

A: *Kyrie eleison*

C: **Lord have mercy.**

A: *Christe eleison*

C: **Christ have mercy.**

A: *Kyrie eleison*

C: **Lord have mercy.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

Refrain: **Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest.**

Glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God’s people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father,
We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. *Refrain*

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,
You take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us.
You are seated at the right hand of the Father, receive our prayer. *Refrain*

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
In the glory of God the Father Amen.

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest.
Glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God’s people on earth,
And peace to God’s people on earth.

SALUTATION

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY *(unison)*

Lord God, with endless mercy you receive the prayers of all who call upon you. By your Spirit show us the things we ought to do, and give us the grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

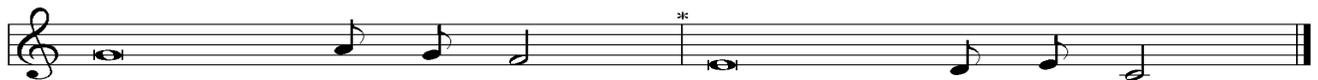
FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 58:1-20

Shortly after the return of Israel from exile in Babylon, the people were troubled by the ineffectiveness of their fasts. God reminds them that outward observance is no substitute for genuine fasting that results in acts of justice, such as feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless, and clothing the naked.

Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgments, they delight to draw near to God.

“Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?” Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day, and oppress all your workers. Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the LORD? Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin?

Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard. Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am. If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday. The LORD will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail. Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.



PSALM 112:1-9 *(sing with Assistant)*

¹Praise the LORD! Happy are those who / fear the LORD,
who greatly delight in / his commandments.

²**Their descendants will be mighty / in the land;
the generation of the upright / will be blessed.**

³Wealth and riches are / in their houses, and their righteousness en / dures forever.

⁴**They rise in the darkness as a light / for the upright;
they are gracious, merci / ful, and righteous.**

⁵It is well with those who deal generous / sly and lend,
who conduct their af / fairs with justice.

⁶**For the righteous will never / be moved; they will be remem / bered forever.**

⁷They are not afraid of / evil tidings; their hearts are firm, secure / in the LORD.

⁸**Their hearts are steady, they will not / be afraid;
in the end they will look in triumph / on their foes.**

⁹They have distributed freely, they have given / to the poor;
their righteousness endures forever; their horn is exal / ted in honor.

SECOND LESSON: 1 Corinthians 2:1-16

Though people such as the Corinthians are enamored with human philosophy and wisdom, Paul continuously presents God's hidden wisdom which is Jesus Christ crucified. True spiritual maturity involves judging ourselves and others in light of God's revelation in the cross.

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God. Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him"— these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual. Those who are unspiritual do not receive the gifts of God's Spirit, for they are foolishness to them, and they are unable to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. Those who are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else's scrutiny. "For who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?" But we have the mind of Christ.

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 5th chapter beginning with the 13th verse.

C: Glory to you O Lord.

GOSPEL: Matthew 5:13-20

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus encourages his followers to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world, doing good works and keeping God's commandments.

"You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot. "You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

"Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you O Christ

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY “This Little Light of Mine”

This little light of mine, I’m gonna let it shine (repeat 3 times).

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Hide it under a bushel, oh no! I’m gonna let it shine (repeat 3 times).

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Don’t let Satan (*blow*) it out, I’m gonna let it shine (repeat 3 times).

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

All around the neighborhood, I’m gonna let it shine (repeat 3 times).

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

It will point the way to heaven, I’m gonna let it shine (repeat 3 times).

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM (*P: Pastor, B: Baptized*)

*Anyone who celebrates their Baptismal Birthday in the months of
January, February and March, or anyone wanting
to affirm their baptism are invited to gather*

P: Dear friends, we rejoice that you now desire to affirm and remember the covenant God made with you at your Baptism. We rejoice that you now intend to make public profession of the faith into which you were baptized. Brothers and sisters in Christ: In Holy Baptism our Lord Jesus Christ received you and made you members of his Church. In the community of God's people, you have learned from his Word God's loving purpose for you and all creation. You have been called to be witnesses to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Now, therefore, I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the Church, the faith in which we baptize.

Do you renounce all the forces of evil, the devil, and all his empty promises?

B: I do.

P: Do you believe in God the Father?

B: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

B: I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

B: 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 INTERCESSION

Called to be a light to the nations, let us pray for God’s justice, peace and healing.

A brief silence.

Eternal God, you are one-in-three and three-in-one. Strengthen the ministry of the World Council of Churches and the Lutheran World Federation. Solidify ecumenical partnerships as they work to break the bonds of injustice and let the oppressed go free. Hear us, O God. **YOUR MERCY IS GREAT.**

Send relief where storms and floods overwhelm. Provide shelter and safe habitat for all creatures.

Protect seeds and bulbs for the spring and fall harvest. Hear us, O God. **YOUR MERCY IS GREAT.**

Ignite the nations with the flame of your justice. Enlighten the leaders of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank with your wisdom: guide government officials to seek economic justice in their communities. Hear us, O God. **YOUR MERCY IS GREAT.**

Comfort the afflicted, compassionate God. Accompany all who wait on death row. Reconcile families torn apart by crime or addiction. Heal the brokenhearted, the newly diagnosed, and all who suffer, we pray especially for these members of our Epiphany Lutheran Church family... *Vera, Don, Sarah, Jim, Barb, Sara, George, Joe, Dave, Steve, Karen, Sandi,* and for those whom we lift up from our hearts now... Hear us, O God. **YOUR MERCY IS GREAT.**

Fill those who form the faith of others with insight and energy. Multiply the fruit of their labor. Grow disciples eager to feast on your living word and embody it each day. Hear us, O God. **YOUR MERCY IS GREAT.**

We thank you for all the saints who dared to shine with the light of Christ. Compel us to shine freely and witness to your abundant grace each day. Hear us, O God. **YOUR MERCY IS GREAT.**

Receive these prayers in the name of Christ, the light of the world, who is one with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen

P: You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in Holy Baptism: to live among God's faithful people, to hear his Word and share in his supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of our Lord Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

B: I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

P: Let us pray. Gracious Lord, through water and the Spirit you have made these people your own. You forgave them all their sins and brought them to newness of life. Continue to strengthen them with the Holy Spirit, and daily increase in them your gifts of grace: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

C: Amen

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

C: And also with you.

You are invited to greet each other with words of peace.

OFFERINGS



Can be mailed, dropped off at church
6606 Maplecrest Road Fort Wayne IN 46835
or sent through
our website at www.epiphanyfw.com.

Place offerings in basket on Baptismal Font.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A: Merciful Father,

C: we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us, ourselves, our time and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, 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, 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.

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.

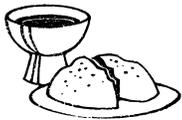
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

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: Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen

CLOSING HYMN 763 *"Let Justice Flow like Streams"*

**Let justice flow like streams, of sparkling water pure,
enabling growth, refreshing life, abundant cleansing sure.**

**Let righteousness roll on, as others' cares we heed,
An everflowing stream of faith, translated into deed.**

**So may God's plumb line straight, define our measure true,
And justice right and peace pervade, this world our whole life through.**

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/Communion Assistant 8:00	Kim Robinson
Lector 10:15	Melissa Hartman
Communion Assistant 10:15	Steve Haag
Pianist	Alicia Davis

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

SUNDAY 2-5	8:00 am & 10:15 am Worship <i>Affirmation of Baptism</i> <i>12:00 - 3:30pm Zo Baptist Sunday School and Worship</i>
MONDAY	8:00 - 2:00 pm NHC 7:00 PM Grief Support Group
WEDNESDAY	7:00 PM Choir practice
THURSDAY	8:00 - 2:00 pm NHC
SATURDAY	<i>11:00 am - 12:00 pm Zo Baptist Prayer Meeting/undercroft</i> <i>6:00 pm - 8:00 pm Zo Baptist Worship</i>
SUNDAY 2-12	8:00 & 10:15 am Worship 8:45 am Council Meeting <i>12:00 - 3:30pm Zo Baptist Sunday School and Worship</i>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

February Outreach we are gathering items needed Associated Churches Food banks. Canned goods, boxed items. Place them on your Favorite team to win the "Souper Bowl".

Military Support - Lets make they know we are thinking of them, praying for them and send some items they can't get to show our support. The red bin is where you put the items, personal hygiene items unscented if possible, snacks, lip balm, word puzzle books, hard candies, small paperback books that fit in your pocket, playing cards, flavored drink mixes for individual bottles, lifesavers.