



all Are

The Psalms

Bring it all to God

Welcome

We hope you feel welcomed by our community, inspired by the message
of Jesus today and excited to live that out in the coming week

Welcome To Worship



WORSHIP

Worship is a big deal to us. Something happens in us and through us when we gather. Jesus said it this way: “For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.” When we gather together for worship we can experience the presence of God in a way that we can’t on our own. It isn’t just about learning and it certainly isn’t about getting on God’s good side. Worship is a corporate way to personally experience (be in relationship with) God and others. Welcome!

GIVE

Want an easy way to give digitally? Scan the QR code below and head to the give page of our website for all the info!



CONNECT

The best way to stay connected to Epiphany is to sign up to receive our twice per week emails we call “Connect”. On Tuesday and Friday we send out the latest information about our ministries, worship, events and more.

You can see our most recent emails by scanning this QR Code and following the link. If you wish, you can even sign up to receive Connect for yourself! The sign up form is on the same page. Open your phone’s camera and scan the code below to stay connected!



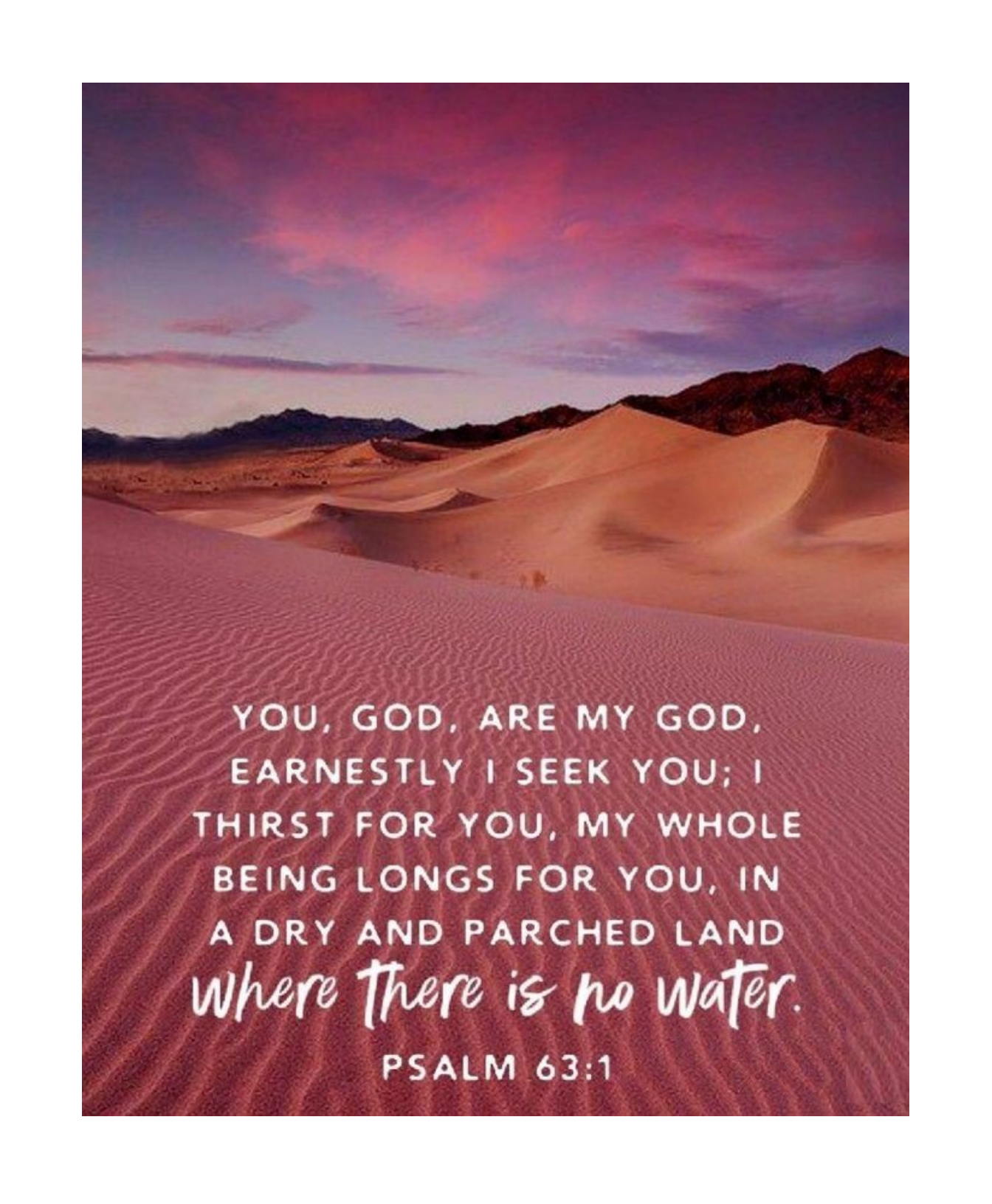
NEW

If you are new to Epiphany we want to tell you a little about our us. We hope to be a church that focuses on the love of Jesus, invites you to follow Jesus in the way you live and seeks to spread that invitation to all people, including those in the LGBTQIA+ community, all family types, ethnicities, ages and social classes. We want to follow Jesus and passionately proclaim that his love is for all. If you wish to know more about our welcome and inclusion statement, visit us here.



We would love to hear a little bit about you. Scan the QR code below for an easy way to let us know what you think or ask us a question.



A photograph of a desert landscape featuring rolling sand dunes in the foreground and middle ground. The sky is filled with soft, colorful clouds in shades of pink, purple, and blue, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. In the background, dark, silhouetted mountains are visible against the horizon. The overall mood is serene and contemplative.

YOU, GOD, ARE MY GOD,
EARNESTLY I SEEK YOU; I
THIRST FOR YOU, MY WHOLE
BEING LONGS FOR YOU, IN
A DRY AND PARCHED LAND
Where There is no water.

PSALM 63:1

Third Sunday in Lent

March 23, 2025 ~ 9:00 a.m.

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate One,
**you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love,
but our lives do not always reflect you
and your love for the world.**

**We do not show others the tender compassion
you have shown to us.**

**We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality
you grant to all people.**

**We oppress others,
even though you have set us free again and again.**

We squander the abundant gifts of the earth.

**Transform our lives
and guide us again in the way of the cross.**

Amen.

Beloved in Christ,
God's arms are always stretched open wide
to welcome the wandering ones home.

In ✝ Christ your sins are forgiven.

You have a place in God's house forever.

Amen.

OPENING HYMN

ELW #251

My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness

1 My soul pro-claims your great-ness, Lord; I sing my Sav - ior's praise!
 2 To all who live in ho - ly fear your mer-cy ev - er flows.
 3 To Is - ra - el, your ser - vant blest, your help is ev - er sure;



You looked up - on my low - li - ness, and I am full of grace.
 With might - y arm you dash the proud, their schem-ing hearts ex - pose.
 the prom - ise to our par - ents made their chil - dren will se - cure.



Now ev - 'ry land and ev - 'ry age this bless-ing shall pro - claim—
 The ruth-less you have cast a - side, the low - ly throned in - stead;
 Sing glo - ry to the Ho - ly One, give hon - or to the Word,



great won - ders you have done for me, and ho - ly is your name.
 the hun - gry filled with all good things, the rich sent off un - fed.
 and praise the Pow'r of the Most High, one God, by all a - dored.

Text: *With One Voice*, 1995, based on the Magnificat

Music: KINGSFOLD, English folk tune

Text © 1995 Augsburg Fortress

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.**

COME AND GATHER BENEATH THE TREE OF LIFE

REFRAIN



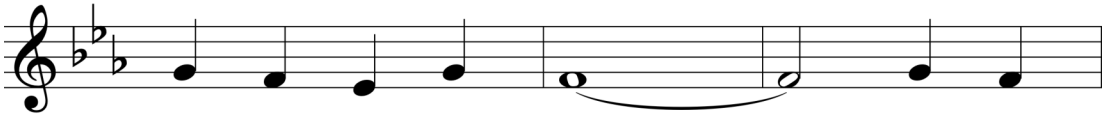
Come and gath - er be - neath the tree of life.



Come and gath - er be - neath the tree of



life— root of wis - dom, branch of peace, fruit of



heal - ing and re - lease. Come and



gath - er be - neath the tree of life.

(con't)

VERSES



1. Here we raise the sav - ing cross of
 2. Flow - ing from this tree of grace and
 3. Come and drink the wa - ters of sal -
 4. Here be - neath the branch - es of your
 5. Root - ed in the rich earth of your



Je - sus, sing - ing praise to him who
 pas - sion, Oh how sweet the taste, how
 va - tion, come and die to sin, rise
 mer - cy, we in - voke your name, re -
 Gos - pel, may we bear the fruits your



leads us on from death in - to new life.
 deep and rich the well - spring of your love.
 up to life with - in the Reign of God.
 mem - ber how your love has set us free.
 Word has plant - ed deep with - in our hearts.

To Refrain

Text: Marty Haugen and Susan Briehl; © 2000, GIA Publications, Inc.
 Music: Marty Haugen; © 2000, GIA Publications, Inc.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray. Eternal God, your kingdom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son. Help us to hear your word and obey it, and bring your saving love to fruition in our lives, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Please sit

READING Psalm 63:1-8 (read responsively)

A A reading from Psalm 63.

¹ O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you;
my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land
where there is no water.

² **Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place,
that I might behold your power and your glory.**

³ For your steadfast love is better than life itself;
my lips shall give you praise.

⁴ **So will I bless you as long as I live
and lift up my hands in your name.**

⁵ My spirit is content, as with the richest of foods,
and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,

⁶ **when I remember you upon my bed,
and meditate on you in the night watches.**

⁷ For you have been my helper,
and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.

⁸ **My whole being clings to you;
your right hand holds me fast.**

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION ELW #698 vs. 1,3
How Long, O God



1 “How long, O God?” the psalm-ist cries, a cry we make our own,
3 Your grace, O God, seems far a - way; will heal - ing ev - er come?



for we are lost, a - lone, a - fraid, and far a - way from home.
Our bro - ken lives lie bro - ken still; will night give way to dawn?

GOSPEL

Luke 13:1-9

P The Gospel according to Luke, the thirteenth chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹ At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices.² [Jesus] asked them, “Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans?”³ No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. ⁴ Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? ⁵ No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.”

⁶ Then he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. ⁷ So he said to the gardener, ‘See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?’ ⁸ He replied, ‘Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. ⁹ If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.’”

P The Gospel of the Lord

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please sit

SERMON

Pastor Brad Gee

*Please stand***HYMN OF THE DAY****ELW #767*****Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me***

1 Lord, take my hand and lead me up - on life's way;
 2 Lord, when the tem - pest ra - ges, I need not fear;
 3 Lord, when the shad - ows length - en and night has come,



di - rect, pro - tect, and feed me from day to day.
 for you, the Rock of A - ges, are al - ways near.
 I know that you will strength - en my steps toward home,



With - out your grace and fa - vor I go a - stray;
 Close by your side a - bid - ing, I fear no foe,
 then noth - ing can im - pede me, O bless - ed Friend!



so take my hand, O Sav - ior, and lead the way.
 for when your hand is guid - ing, in peace I go.
 So, take my hand and lead me un - to the end.

Text: Julie von Hausmann, 1825–1901; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*

Music: SO NIMM DENN MEINE HÄNDE, Friedrich Silcher, 1789–1860

Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

APOSTLES' CREED

C 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 to the dead.*
 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

A Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world,
 and all those in need.

A Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your
 love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life.

C **Amen.**

PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

Please Sit

SPECIAL MUSIC

Adult Bells

I Will Arise and Go to Jesus --Edwards

Please stand

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.**

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho-ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord,
God of power and might, heav-en and earth are full of your
glo-ry. Ho - san-na, ho - san-na, ho - san-na in the
high - est. Bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san-na, ho - san-na, ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

C 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.

Please sit

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: grant us your peace, grant us your peace.

Music: Marty Haugen; © 2000, GIA Publications, Inc.

COMMUNION

All are welcome to share in communion this morning! Gluten-free wafers are available if needed. White grape juice is available in the center of the tray. If you would like to have communion brought to you in the pew, please don't hesitate to raise your hand to catch the traveling server's attention and also let the usher know. If you have questions about communion, contact Pastor Brad at: pastorbrad@epiphany-lutheran.com.

COMMUNION HYMN

ELW #779

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
 4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
 have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me
 word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to



now am found; was blind, but now I see.
 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt., sts. 1–4; anonymous, st. 5
 Music: NEW BRITAIN, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

*Please stand***POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

P May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of the bread and wine
 that we have shared, strengthen us and unite us in bonds of love and peace.

C Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A Generous Host,
 you have shared your feast with us and made us new.
 Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities,
 that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom,
 in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT FOR THE WEEK

CLOSING HYMN

ELW #807

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing



- 1 Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
- 2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer: "Hith-er by thy help I've come";
- 3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con-strained to be;



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
let that grace now like a fet - ter bind my wan-d'ring heart to thee.



While the hope of end-less glo - ry fills my heart with joy and love,
Je - sus sought me when a strang-er, wan-d'ring from the fold of God;
Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.



teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; may I still thy good-ness prove.
he, to res - cue me from dan-ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

Text: Robert Robinson, 1735–1790, alt.

Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

EPIPHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Ministers

ALL THE MEMBERS OF EPIPHANY

Pastor

Brad Gee

Pastoral Intern

Ian Boden

Director of Education & Technology

Jeff Mitchell

Director of Music

Terry McCandless

Director of Children, Youth & Family Ministries

Ali Adams

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Dori Holbrook

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