EPIPHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH



Seventh Sunday of Easter

May 12, 2024 9:30 a.m.



5521 Old Mill Road Alexandria, Virginia 22309 (703) 780-5077

www.epiphanylutheran.org Rev. David A. Yocis, Pastor

WELCOME TO VISITORS

We're delighted to welcome all our guests to worship here at Epiphany. We would love to remain in contact with you! Use the welcome cards in the pew to let us know how to reach out to you; please fill one out and drop it in the offering basket.

Please visit our website **www.epiphanylutheran.org** and sign up to receive our weekly e-mail newsletter!

All are invited to stand as you are able when indicated by (*).

PRELUDE

Handel, Largo from Trio Sonata No. 2

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed!

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us.

We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin.

We are truly sorry and humbly repent.

In your compassion forgive us our sins,

known and unknown,

things we have done and things we have failed to do.

Turn us again to you,

and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

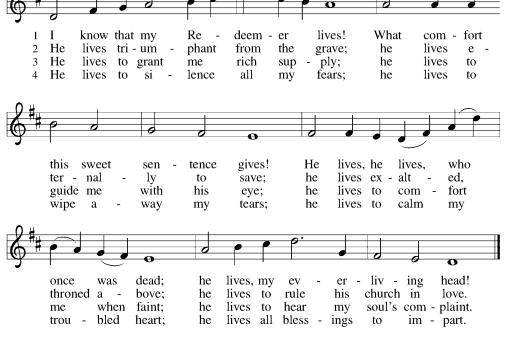
Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.

*GATHERING HYMN (ELW 619)

I Know That My Redeemer Lives



- 5 He lives to bless me with his love; he lives to plead for me above; he lives my hungry soul to feed; he lives to help in time of need.
- 6 He lives, my kind, wise, heav'nly friend; he lives and loves me to the end; he lives, and while he lives, I'll sing; he lives, my prophet, priest, and king!
- 7 He lives and grants me daily breath; he lives, and I shall conquer death; he lives my mansion to prepare; he lives to bring me safely there.
- 8 He lives, all glory to his name! He lives, my Savior, still the same; what joy this blest assurance gives: I know that my Redeemer lives!

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.



Let us pray.

Gracious and glorious God,
you have chosen us as your own,
and by the powerful name of Christ you protect us from evil.
By your Spirit transform us and your beloved world,
that we may find our joy in your Son,
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.

Amen.

WORD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST READING (Acts 1:15-17, 21-26)

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

¹⁵In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred twenty persons) and said, ¹⁶"Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus—¹⁷for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry. ²¹"So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, ²²beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection."

²³So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. ²⁴Then they prayed and said, "Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen ²⁵to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own

place." ²⁶And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

Word of God, word of life. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSE (Psalm 1)

¹Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked,

nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

²Their delight is in the law of the Lord, and they meditate on God's teaching day and night.

³They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; everything they do shall prosper.

⁴It is not so with the wicked; they are like chaff which the wind blows away.

⁵Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

⁶For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked shall be destroyed.

SECOND READING (1 John 5:9-13)

A reading from the first letter of John.

⁹If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. ¹⁰Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son.

¹¹And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. ¹²Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not

have the Son of God does not have life. ¹³I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Tune: Angels from the Realms of Glory

- Easter people, raise your voices,
 Sounds of heaven in earth should ring.
 Christ has brought us heaven's choices,
 Heavenly music, let it ring.
 Alleluia! Alleluia! Easter people, let us sing.
- Fear of death no more can stop us
 From our pressing here below.
 For our Lord empowered us to
 Triumph over every foe.
 Alleluia! Alleluia! On to victory now we go.
- 3. Every day to us is Easter,With its resurrection song.When in trouble, move the faster,To the God who rights the wrong.Alleluia! Alleluia! See the power of heav'nly throngs.

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*GOSPEL (John 17:6-19)

A reading from the gospel according to John. Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus prayed:] ⁶"I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; ⁸for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me.

9"I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. ¹⁰All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.

¹²"While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. ¹³But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves.

¹⁴"I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. ¹⁵I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. ¹⁶They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world.

¹⁷"Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. ¹⁸As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. ¹⁹And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

***HYMN OF THE DAY** (*ELW* #655)

Son of God, Eternal Savior



- 1 Son of God, e ter nal Sav ior, source of life and truth and grace,
- As you, Lord, have lived for oth ers, so may we for oth ers live.
 Come, O Christ, and reign a mong us, King of love and Prince of peace;
- 4 Son of God, e ter nal Sav ior, source of life and truth and grace,



Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us hal - lows all our hu - man race, Free - ly have your gifts been grant-ed; free - ly may your ser - vants give. hush the storm of strife and pas-sion, bid its cru-el dis - cords cease. Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us hal - lows all our hu - man race:



you our head, who, throned in glo-ry, for your own will ev plead: Yours the gold and yours the sil-ver, yours the wealth of land and sea; Byyour pa - tient years of toil-ing, by your si - lent hours pain, by your pray-ing, by your will-ing that your peo-ple should be one,



fill us with your love but stew-ards of your boun-ty held in sol - emn trust will be.

quench our fe-vered thirst of plea-sure, stem our self - ish greed of gain.

grant, oh, grant our hope's fru - i - tion: here on earth your will be

*APOSTLES' CREED

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 OF INTERCESSION

... God of grace, hear our prayer.

*PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

All may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, saying "Peace be with you," or using similar words. For health reasons, please do not feel obligated to shake hands with others outside your immediate family – consider a reverent bow towards others, with your hand over your heart.

TABLE

OFFERING

Since Covid, we do not pass an offering plate. If you wish, you may leave an offering in the plate on the table in the back of the sanctuary. Offerings may also be made electronically at our web site www.epiphanylutheran.org.

Blessed are you, O God,
ruler of heaven and earth.

Day by day you shower us with blessings.

As you have raised us to new life in Christ,
give us glad and generous hearts,
ready to praise you and to respond to those in need,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

*THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

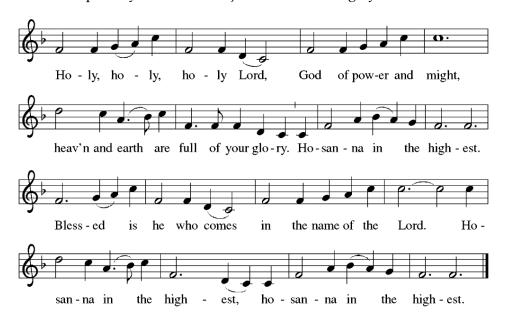
It is indeed right to give you our thanks and praise, O God, for you have put your testimony in our hearts so that we might know that our life is in you.

You created the earth and the heavens and marked out the way of the upright.

Through the prophets you called us to accept life, and none are lost to your love and protection except those who turn to their own ways and reject your life. You sent your Son into the world and entrusted to him those who accepted your Word.

He made you known to us and prayed that we might share the identity you gave him and so be one with each other in your love. Though he was killed by this hell-bent world, you raised him from the dead and through your sanctifying Word of truth you call us to share eternal life in him.

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who proclaimed good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

Amen.

*LORD'S PRAYER

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.

COMMUNION

Jesus placed no restrictions on who was invited to his table, and so neither do we. All baptized persons who wish to share in the sacrament are welcome to do so. If you are unable to come forward, please notify the host and communion will be brought to you.

Life-giving God,

in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people.

Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*BLESSING

Go now. Christ sends you into the world just as he himself was sent into the world. Delight in the Lord's teaching, testify to his resurrection life, and share in the ministry of his people.

And may God protect you from the evil one;

And may the Holy Spirit sanctify you in the truth, and fill you with the joy of God.

Amen.

*SENDING HYMN (ELW #826)

Thine the Amen



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is

sigh - ing gone the dy - ing what was loss

splen-dor thine the bright-ness on - ly

liv - ing thine the lov - ing ev - er - more

up

thee

at thy feast

lift - ed

ev - er

at thy

on - ly

up.

high.

more.

feast.

thee.

Go in peace to love and to serve the Lord.

vine - yard then the cup

won - der all in - creas - ing

Thanks be to God.

gone the

thine the

then the

thine the

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Wed May 15 – Bible reading group, 10:00 a.m. on Zoom. Sun May 19 – Pentecost Sunday, 9:30 a.m. service (the color of the day is red!) Sun May 19 – Congregation Council meeting, 10:45 a.m.

DAILY MORNING AND EVENING PRAYER

We are continuing to share daily morning and evening prayer online. Each service is less than 15 minutes and is prerecorded, so it can be participated in whenever and wherever works for you. Praying the Scriptures, and especially the psalms, together in community is an ancient Christian tradition that can shape and form us even today.

To get the links to each individual service and to connect with the community, please visit us online at www.epiphanylutheran.org/daily.

EPIPHANY WEEKDAY SCHOOL

Epiphany Weekday School offers half-day programs for ages 2½ through PreKindergarten with extended day options.

Registration for the 2024-25 school year is underway.

Serving the Alexandria, Mount Vernon & Fort Belvoir Community Since 1967

For more information, please call (703) 780-3852 or visit www.epiphanyweekdayschool.org.