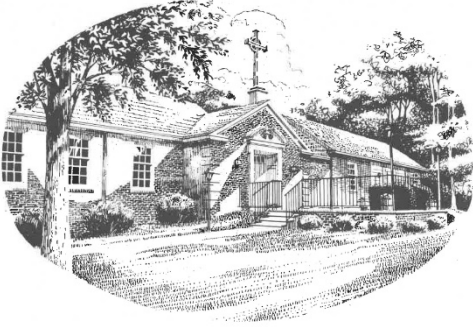


# EPIPHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

---



Third Sunday  
of Easter

April 14, 2024  
9:30 a.m.



5521 Old Mill Road  
Alexandria, Virginia 22309  
(703) 780-5077  
[www.epiphanylutheran.org](http://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](http://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

Chopin, *Ballade No. 1 in G minor*

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 389)**

Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing



1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. The cross stands  
 2 Christ is a - live! No long - er bound to dis - tant  
 3 In ev - 'ry in - sult, rift, and war, where col - or,  
 4 Wom - en and men, in age and youth, can feel the  
 5 Christ is a - live, and comes to bring good news to



emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with  
 years in Pal - es - tine, but sav - ing, heal - ing,  
 scorn, or wealth di - vide, Christ suf - fers still, yet  
 Spir - it, hear the call, and find the way, the  
 this and ev - 'ry age, till earth and sky and



prais - es ring. Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.  
 here and now, and touch - ing ev - 'ry place and time.  
 loves the more, and lives, where e - ven hope has died.  
 life, the truth, re - vealed in Je - sus, freed for all.  
 o - cean ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.

Text Brian A. Wren (b. 1936). © 1975, rev. 1995 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission. One License No. A-733167

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.

**\*HYMN OF PRAISE** (HWC 215)

Alleluia! Alleluia!

- 1. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Hearts to heav'n and voic - es raise;  
- 2. Now the i - ron bars are bro - ken, Christ from death to life is born,

Sing to God a hymn of glad - ness, Sing to God a hymn of praise.  
Glo - rious life, and life im - mor - tal, On this res - ur - rec - tion morn;

He who on the cross as Sav - ior For the world's sal - va - tion bled,  
Christ has tri - umphed, and we con - quer By His might - y en - ter - prise,

Je - sus Christ, the King of Glo - ry, Now is ris - en from the dead.  
We with Him to life e - ter - nal By His res - ur - rec - tion rise.

Let us pray.

Holy and righteous God,  
you are the author of life,  
and you adopt us to be your children.

Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses  
to the resurrection of 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 3:1-19)

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

<sup>1</sup>One day Peter and John were going up to the temple at the hour of prayer, at three o'clock in the afternoon. <sup>2</sup>And a man lame from birth was being carried in. People would lay him daily at the gate of the temple called the Beautiful Gate so that he could ask for alms from those entering the temple.

<sup>3</sup>When he saw Peter and John about to go into the temple, he asked them for alms. <sup>4</sup>Peter looked intently at him, as did John, and said, "Look at us." <sup>5</sup>And he fixed his attention on them, expecting to receive something from them. <sup>6</sup>Peter said, "I have no silver or gold, but what I have I give you; in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, stand up and walk." <sup>7</sup>And he took him by the right hand and raised him up, and immediately his feet and ankles were made strong.

<sup>8</sup>Jumping up, he stood and began to walk, and he entered the temple with them, walking and leaping and praising God. <sup>9</sup>All the

people saw him walking and praising God, <sup>10</sup> and they recognized him as the one who used to sit and ask for alms at the Beautiful Gate of the temple, and they were filled with wonder and astonishment at what had happened to him.

<sup>11</sup> While he clung to Peter and John, all the people ran together to them in the portico called Solomon's Portico, utterly astonished. <sup>12</sup> When Peter saw it, he addressed the people, "Fellow Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? <sup>13</sup> The God of Abraham and Isaac and Jacob, the God of our ancestors, has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. <sup>14</sup> But you rejected the holy and righteous one and asked to have a murderer given to you, <sup>15</sup> and you killed the author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. <sup>16</sup> And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know, and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

<sup>17</sup> "And now, brothers and sisters, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. <sup>18</sup> In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. <sup>19</sup> Repent, therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out."

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

**RESPONSE** (Psalm 4)

<sup>1</sup> Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause;  
you set me free when I was in distress; have mercy on me and  
hear my prayer.

<sup>2</sup> "You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory;  
how long will you love illusions and seek after lies?"

<sup>3</sup>Know that the LORD does wonders for the faithful;  
the LORD will hear me when I call.

<sup>4</sup>**Tremble, then, and do not sin;  
speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.**

<sup>5</sup>Offer the appointed sacrifices,  
and put your trust in the LORD.

<sup>6</sup>**Many are saying, "Who will show us any good?"  
Let the light of your face shine upon us, O LORD.**

<sup>7</sup>You have put gladness in my heart,  
more than when grain and wine abound.

<sup>8</sup>**In peace, I will lie down and sleep;  
for you alone, O LORD, make me rest secure.**

### **SECOND READING** (1 John 3:1-3)

A reading from the first letter of John.

<sup>1</sup>See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. <sup>2</sup>Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. <sup>3</sup>And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

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

### **\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Tune: *Angels from the Realms of Glory*

1. 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.

2. 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.

Text William H. James. © 1979 The United Methodist Publishing House. Used by permission. One License No. A-733167

**\*GOSPEL** (Luke 24:36b-48)

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

<sup>36b</sup>Jesus himself stood among [the disciples] and said to them, "Peace be with you." <sup>37</sup>They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost.

<sup>38</sup>He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? <sup>39</sup>Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." <sup>40</sup>And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet.

<sup>41</sup>While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" <sup>42</sup>They gave him a piece of broiled fish, <sup>43</sup>and he took it and ate in their presence.



44Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.” 45Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, 46and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, 47and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. 48You are witnesses of these things.”

The gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

**\*HYMN OF THE DAY** (ELW #674)

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ



1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a shout of joy:  
 2 Christ is a - ble to make us one, at the ta - ble he sets the tone,  
 3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a world of doubt,



bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured, Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.  
 teach - ing peo - ple to live to bless, love in word and in deed ex - press.  
 gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Im - man - u - el) ev - 'ry - where!

*Refrain*



Je - sus lives a - gain, earth can breathe a - gain, pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

Text Fred Kaan (1929-2009). Text and music © 1975, Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission. One License No. A-733167

## \*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](http://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 in great love you have made us your children  
and destined us for life in union with your Son, Jesus Christ.  
You are the creator of heaven and earth  
and the author of life.  
You revealed your purposes  
through the law of Moses, the prophets and the psalms,  
and declared your intention to suffer as a servant among us  
so that you might bring forgiveness to the nations.

Your Word came to fulfilment in your servant, Jesus,  
 the Holy and Righteous One,  
 who was rejected and handed over to death.  
 He was killed through our ignorance,  
 but after three days in the tomb  
 you raised him from the dead.  
 Now he embraces us with hands still wounded,  
 and disturbs our fears and doubts  
 with words of peace  
 and the promise of life yet to be revealed.

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:

The musical notation consists of four staves of music in a single system, written in a treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might, heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est." The music ends with a double bar line.

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

We have eaten together with the risen Christ.  
Go out then, as witnesses of these things.  
Attend to your heart, worship with integrity,  
trust in the Lord.  
Proclaim forgiveness and healing in his name to all.  
And may God raise you from death to life,  
from brokenness to perfect health;  
May † Christ Jesus cast out your fear and doubt;  
And may the Holy Spirit give your heart joy,  
even as the bread and wine give your body life.  
**Amen.**

**\*SENDING HYMN (ELW #361)**

**The Day of Resurrection**



1 The day of res - ur - rec - tion! Earth, tell it out a - broad,  
2 Let hearts be purged of e - vil that we may see a - right  
3 Now let the heav'ns be joy - ful, let earth its song be - gin,  
4 All praise to God the Fa - ther, all praise to Christ the Son,



the pass - o - ver of glad - ness, the pass - o - ver of God.  
the Lord in rays e - ter - nal of res - ur - rec - tion light,  
the round world keep high tri - umph and all that is there - in.  
all praise to God the Spir - it, e - ter - nal Three in One!



From death to life e - ter - nal, from sin's do - min - ion free,  
and lis - t'ning to his ac - cents, may hear, so calm and plain,  
Let all things, seen and un - seen, their notes of glad - ness blend;  
Let all the ran - somed num - ber fall down be - fore the throne,



our Christ has brought us o - ver with hymns of vic - to - ry.  
his own "All hail!" and hear - ing, may raise the glad re - frain.  
for Christ the Lord has ris - en, our joy that has no end!  
and hon - or, pow'r, and glo - ry as - cribe to God a - lone!

Go in peace to love and to serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Wed Apr. 17 – Bible reading group, 10:00 a.m. on Zoom

### 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](http://www.epiphanylutheran.org/daily).

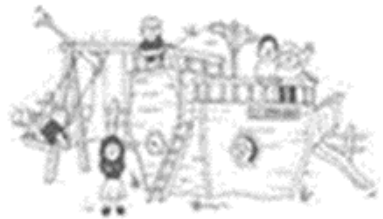
### EPIPHANY WEEKDAY SCHOOL

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.

For more information, please call (703) 780-3852 or visit

[www.epiphanyweekdayschool.org](http://www.epiphanyweekdayschool.org).



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