

Epiphany Lutheran Church

Reflecting God's generosity by serving and caring

Sunday, October 4, 2026 | 19th Sunday after Pentecost

Joseph in Prison

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

Leader: We worship in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Let us confess our sin in the presence of God, and of one another.

Silence for reflection

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive 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 neighbors 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.

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 fellow member of the priesthood of the baptized, and by the authority of Christ alone, 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.

Amen.

Apostolic Greeting

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.

Opening Hymn: Baptized and Set Free

ELW 453

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism for Wyatt Francis Wolner

Wyatt is the son of Kelsey and Jordan Wolner.

Wyatt's baptism sponsors are Michael Davis, Carly Mosher, and Kristina Bollum.

In baptism our gracious heavenly Father frees us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are born children of a fallen humanity; by water and the Holy Spirit we are reborn children of God and made members of the church, the body of Christ. Living with Christ and in the communion of saints, we grow in faith, love, and obedience to the will of God.

Michael, Carly, and Kristina: We present Wyatt Francis Wolner for baptism.

Kelsey and Jordan, called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have your child baptized into Christ?

Kelsey and Jordan: We do.

As you bring your child to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities:

To live with him among God's faithful people,
bring him to the word of God and the holy supper,
teach him the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments,
and nurture him in faith and prayer,
so that your child may learn to trust God,
proclaim Christ through word and deed,
care for others and the world God made,
and work for justice and peace.

Do you promise to help Wyatt grow in the Christian faith and life?

Kelsey and Jordan: We do.

Michael, Carly, and Kristina, do you promise to nurture Wyatt in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help him live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

Michael, Carly, and Kristina: I do.

People of God, do you promise to support Wyatt and pray for him in his new life in Christ?

We do.

I ask all gathered here today to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

I renounce them.

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

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

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 into hell. 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.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

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.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

Wyatt Francis Wolner, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life. Sustain Wyatt with the gift of your Holy Spirit: 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, both now and forever. Amen.

Wyatt Francis, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever. Amen.

Lighting of the baptism candle

L: Jesus said, I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will have the light of life.

Presentation of gifts

A blanket made by our quilters, that Wyatt and his family may know they are wrapped in the love and prayers of this congregation.

A story Bible, that Wyatt may come to know that he is one of God's beloved children, and an important part of the greatest story ever told.

Wyatt, the world will call you many things. The world will try to rename you.

Today we echo the voice of the Triune God. Today we call you beloved child.

When we see you begin to wonder if this new name is really yours,

we promise to remind you. You are indeed a child of God.

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.

Baptism Hymn: Borning Cry

ELW 732

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

God of salvation, you rescued the Israelites at the edge of the Red Sea. Rescue us from the things of this world that threaten our lives and livelihoods, so that we might forever place our trust in you.

We pray these things in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Children's Chat

Special Music: How Great Thou Art

John Hobbs

First Reading: Exodus 14:5-7, 10-14, 21-29

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

ELW 172

Gospel Reading: Matthew 2:13-15

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Sarah Deutsch

Prayers of Intercession

...Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Sharing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Offering

Offertory Response: As the Grains of Wheat

Refrain

As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were

gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from

all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.

1 As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst,
2 Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when

Refrain

may we share the pres - ence of your love.
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

Offertory Prayer

L: Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving and Daily Preface

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

L: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and
might; heav - en and earth are filled with your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is the one who comes in your name. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

The Words of Institution

The 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.

Distribution of Holy Communion

Distribution Hymn: Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

hymn 631

Post-Communion Blessing

May the body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
Amen.

Post-Communion Prayer

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

1 Praise to you, O God of mer - cy: thanks be to you for -
 2 From of old you loved and sought us: thanks be to you for -
 3 Praise to you, O God of mer - cy: thanks be to you for -
 ev - er! Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly:
 ev - er! Truth and jus - tice you have taught us:
 ev - er! Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly:
 thanks be to you for - ev - er! ev - er!
 thanks be to you for -
 Strong is your faith - ful-ness, strong is your love, re -
 mem - b'ring your cov - e - nant of life with us.
 ev - er! Thanks be to you for - ev - er!

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Sending Hymn: What a Friend We Have in Jesus

hymn 742

Dismissal

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

We go reflecting God's generosity by serving and caring. Thanks be to God. Amen.

Postlude

PRAYER REQUESTS

Cathy Anderson	Ken Anderson	Becky Baer	Mark Buesing	Tracy Enz	Jeanine Williams
Henry Hanson	Warren Hase	Mark Hobbs	Gary Johnson	Linda Kiecker	Sue Miller
Barb Liptrap	Eli Mauthe	Barb Youell	Dennis Ninow	Chelcy Tullgren	Laurie Geving
Nicole Buesing					

- All serving in the military: especially Garrison & Megan Pfeffer (US Air Force)
- Our church family living with cancer: Sue Nasinec, Gloria Ideker, and others.

PRAISES

- For the promises God makes to Wyatt in the waters of baptism.
- Dennis Halloway for mowing.
- John Hobbs for providing special music.

INCOME & EXPENSES AT A GLANCE

General Fund			Property Maintenance Fund \$8,582	Endowment Fund	
	08/31/26	YTD 2026		Beg Bal 1/1/2026	\$32,004.86
Income	\$13,807	\$102,725		Ministry Growth	\$654.40
Expenses	\$12,256	\$97,206		Additional Funds	\$10,025.00
Net gain/loss	\$1,551	\$5,519		Market Change	\$2,585.85
				End Bal 11/30/2025	\$45,270.11

Sunday Morning Volunteer Schedule

	October 4	October 11	October 18
Greeter	Winnis Buesing	Jolene Daaman Howard Gibbons	Linda Arndt
Reader	Kathy Gerdes	Katie Sieberg	Kari Severson
Communion Servers	Colleen Hall Lisa Nagel	Dave & Becky Overholser	Donna Nielsen Linda Arndt
Ushers	Dean Nagel Ray Weber	Joe Fisher Bob Brunz	Tom Wellner Terry Johnson
Acolyte/ Power Point	Grace	Eli	Gavin
Open/Close	Bernita Gevin Dave Kerr	Kari Severson Katie Sieberg	Sue Edstrom Colleen Hall
Counters	Dave Kerr Duane Anderson	Bruce Sieberg Dave Overholser	Linda Arndt Patty Adams
Altar Guild	Patty Adams Linda Arndt	Patty Adams Linda Arndt	Becky Overholser Vickie Huebl
Fellowship	Marlyn & Theresa Mosher, Sue & Kieth Edstrom	Dave & Becky Overholser; Mark & Beth Rossow	Deb & Brian Fingerson, Linda Arndt,

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The church council is currently accepting bids for **snow removal** for the upcoming winter. If you or someone you know would like more information, please contact the church office.
- **Adult Bible study** will take place on Sunday mornings following worship! This fall, we will be exploring the Gospel text that supports our narrative lectionary preaching text, and find connections between the stories of the Old and New Testament.
- **The Little pantry** could use the following items: cereal, pancake mix, syrup, canned meat, boxed meals (ex. Hamburger helper), condiments (ketchup, mustard, mayo).
- **Quilt Silent Auction!** The two quilts hanging in the narthex are being auctioned off by the Epiphany quilters. Proceeds from the silent auction will go towards purchasing a rocking chair for the nursery/Faith Formation room. Bidding closes at 10:15am on Sunday, October 4.
- Help support **Eagle Lake Elementary** by bringing in your receipts from either of the Mankato HyVee stores. Receipts must be from 9/1/2026 or more recent. Receipts for alcohol or prescription medications cannot be counted. Place your receipts in the white box under the green bulletin board!
- The next **Red Cross Blood Drive** at Epiphany will be Monday, October 12 from 1pm-6pm.
- Due to a conflict in Pastor Sarah's schedule, the start of **women's Bible study** has been postponed. The first session for Women's Bible study will take place Monday, November 2 at 11:30am.
- In the month of October we will be collecting items to make **newborn kits** for Global Health Ministries. Items needed:
 - Regular size bath towel, lightweight, approx. 50" x 26"
 - Washcloth (not microfiber)
 - Bath-size bar of white Ivory soap (in original packaging)
 - Newborn cotton t-shirt or "onesie" (size newborn or 0-3 months)
 - Newborn stocking hat
 - Cloth, prefolded diapers (cotton with reinforced center panel)