

# IDENTITY

revealed

*Jesus Calls You Blessed*

**PEACE**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Houghton, Michigan  
Sunday, February 1, 2026

## **Welcome to Worship**

God's grace welcomes you, and so do we — the pastor and members of Peace! Jesus Christ is the only Savior of all people. By his perfect life, innocent death and triumphant resurrection, Jesus saves all sinners. We learn these truths from the Bible — God's complete plan for our salvation and his guidebook for our lives. Peace greets you with a warm welcome. We look forward to seeing you again soon!

## **About Our Service**

The gospel (or good news) is not just information about what Jesus did to save sinners. It is also the power God uses to work faith in our hearts, transform our lives, and give us lasting peace. Therefore, Lutheran Worship places the gospel in central focus in an order of service called the liturgy. In the message and meal (Holy Communion), in specially selected Scripture readings, and in carefully crafted songs, prayers, and creeds, the liturgy proclaims the good news about Jesus from start to finish. Lutheran worship is also designed to include the participation of the entire assembly (including children). For your ease and convenience, the order of service is printed out on the following pages. If a song is not found in this service folder, it can be found in the red or blue hymnals located on the chair in front of you.

## **Series Explanation: Epiphany Moments**

“Epiphany” comes from a Greek word that means “reveal.” It is the season when you see Jesus begin his public ministry, revealing the reason the Son of God came to earth. During Epiphany, you will come to understand that when the true identity of Jesus is revealed, you realize your own true identity as well.

## **Worship Series Schedule: Identity Revealed**

January 11: Jesus Is the Christ, the Anointed One

January 18: Jesus Is the Lamb of God

January 25: Jesus Is the Christ, the One Who Calls

### **February 1: Jesus Calls You Blessed**

February 8: Jesus Calls You Salt and Light

February 15: Jesus is the Son of God in Glory

## **Today's Focus: Jesus Calls You Blessed**

You may not feel blessed when you are hungry or insulted or mourning the death of a loved one. You may not be in the mood to boast when you feel foolish, weak, or lowly. But knowing your difficulties, Jesus still chose you to be his own. He gives you many gifts, and he calls you blessed.

## **Service Participants:**

Computer Organ: Nate Crowder

Pastor of Peace: Pastor Welch



# THE ORDER OF SERVICE

For Sunday, February 1, 2026

## Hymn

Afflicted Saint, to Christ Draw Near sts. 1–2, Ref. 3–4



1 Af - flict - ed saint, to Christ draw near, your Sav - ior's  
2 Your faith is weak, your foes are strong, and if the  
3 Should per - se - cu - tion rage and flame, still trust in  
4 When called to bear your weight - y cross, or sore af -



gra - cious prom - ise hear; his faith - ful Word you can be -  
con - flict should be long, the Lord will make the tempt - er  
your Re - deem - er's name. In fi - ery tri - als you shall  
flic - tion, pain, or loss, or deep dis - tress, or pov - er -



lieve, that as your days your strength shall be. v. 2  
flee, that as your days your strength shall be. Refrain  
see that as your days your strength shall be. Refrain  
ty, still as your days your strength shall be. Refrain

*Refrain*



So, sing with joy, af - flict - ed one; the bat - tle's fierce, but the



vic - t'ry's won! God shall sup - ply all that you need;



yes, as your days your strength shall be.

*Please stand.*

## **Invocation**

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

The name of the triune God and the sign of the cross remind worshipers of their baptisms.

## **Confession**

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just  
and will forgive us our sins  
and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

1 John 1:8-9

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**Holy God, gracious Father,**

**I am sinful by nature  
and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.**

**I have not loved you with my whole heart;**

**I have not loved others as I should.**

**I deserve your punishment both now and forever.**

**But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins**

**with his innocent suffering and death.**

**Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

The use of the keys of absolution is that special right which Christ gave to his church on earth: to proclaim the forgiveness of sins through Jesus. See John 20:21-23.

Silence for meditation and reflection

## **Absolution**

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.

By Jesus' command and authority, I say to you what God says. Your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God!

1 John 3:1

**And that is what we are! Thanks be to God!**

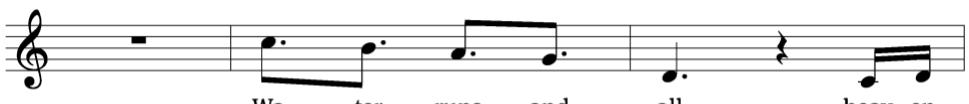
This song of praise takes us through the Epiphany season. Stanza 1: the Baptism of Jesus (Epiphany 1); stanza 2: the Wedding at Cana (Epiphany 2); stanza 3: Transfiguration (Last Sunday of Epiphany); refrain: the Season of Epiphany.

## Hymn of Praise

*Christ Begins*



1 We stand and we watch on the bank, wide-eyed.  
2 Mar - y's whis - per - ing, but it's not the time.  
3 See the sun out - shined on the hill and hide.  
4 We stand, gath - ered round on the moun - tain-side.



Wa - ter runs and all heav - en  
Yet six jars are filled with the  
Clothes like light - ning white,  
Watch the clos - ing clouds heav - en  
hide him

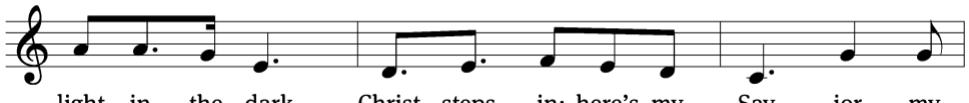


o - pens wide, and a voice like thun - der re - plies.  
fin - est wine. Tell me, who is this by our side?  
o - pens wide, and a voice like thun - der re - plies.  
from our eyes; with a voice u - nit - ed we cry:

*Refrain*



Here's my Proph - et, my Priest, my King, a



light in the dark, Christ steps in; here's my Sav - ior, my



God, my King, the time has come, Christ be - gins.

## Prayer

Almighty and everlasting God, look with mercy on our weaknesses, and in all our dangers and needs stretch out the right hand of your majesty to help and defend us; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**



*Please be seated*

## The Word

### Reading

*Zephaniah 2:3; 3:11-13*

<sup>3</sup>Seek the LORD, all you humble of the land,  
you who do what he commands.

Seek righteousness, seek humility;  
perhaps you will be sheltered  
on the day of the LORD's anger.

<sup>11</sup>On that day you, Jerusalem, will not be put to shame  
for all the wrongs you have done to me,  
because I will remove from you  
your arrogant boasters.

Never again will you be haughty  
on my holy hill.

<sup>12</sup>But I will leave within you  
the meek and humble.

The remnant of Israel  
will trust in the name of the LORD.

<sup>13</sup>They will do no wrong;  
they will tell no lies.

A deceitful tongue  
will not be found in their mouths.

They will eat and lie down  
and no one will make them afraid."

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

The Lord  
promises that  
those who  
trust him will  
not be put to  
shame.

## Children's Lesson

*Please stand.*

Matthew 5:3

### Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia. Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.  
Alleluia.

*Speak, O Lord st. 3*

For centuries  
in preparation  
for hearing  
the Gospel,  
Christians  
have sung or  
spoken  
“Alleluia!” and  
a Scripture  
verse  
reinforcing  
the theme of  
the day.



3 Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds, help us grasp the heights  
of your plans for us, truths unchanged from the  
dawn of time, that will echo down thro' eternity.  
And by grace we'll stand on your promises, and by faith we'll  
walk as you walk with us. Speak, O Lord, till your  
Church is built, and the earth is filled with your glory.

Text: Keith Getty, b. 1974; Stuart Townend, b. 1963

Tune: Keith Getty, b. 1974; Stuart Townend, b. 1963

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<sup>1</sup>Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, <sup>2</sup>and he began to teach them.

He said:

<sup>3</sup>“Blessed are the poor in spirit,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>4</sup>Blessed are those who mourn,  
for they will be comforted.

<sup>5</sup>Blessed are the meek,  
for they will inherit the earth.

<sup>6</sup>Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,  
for they will be filled.

<sup>7</sup>Blessed are the merciful,  
for they will be shown mercy.

<sup>8</sup>Blessed are the pure in heart,  
for they will see God.

<sup>9</sup>Blessed are the peacemakers,  
for they will be called children of God.

<sup>10</sup>Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>11</sup>“Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. <sup>12</sup>Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to you, O Christ!**

*Please be seated.*

In the Beatitudes, our Savior turns the ideas of the world upside down.

## Hymn of the Day

How Deep the Father's Love for Us



1 How deep the Fa - ther's love for us, how vast be-yond all  
2 Be - hold the Man up - on a cross, my sin up - on his  
3 I will not boast in an - y - thing: no gifts, no pow'r, no

mea - sure, that he should give his on - ly Son to  
shoul - ders. A - shamed, I hear my mock-ing voice call  
wis - dom. But I will boast in Je - sus Christ: his

make a wretch his trea - sure. How great the pain of sear-ing loss.  
out a - mong the scot - fers. It was my sin that held him there  
death and res - ur - rec - tion. Why should I gain from his re - ward?

The Fa - ther turns his face a - way as wounds which mar the  
un - til it was ac - com - plished; his dy - ing breath has  
I can - not give an an - swer. But this I know with

Cho - sen One bring man - y sons to glo - ry.  
brought me life. I know that it is fin - ished.  
all my heart: his wounds have paid my ran - som.

Text: Stuart Townend, b. 1963

Tune: Stuart Townend, b. 1963

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## Reading

*1 Corinthians 1:26–31*

<sup>26</sup>Brothers and sisters, think of what you were when you were called. Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many were influential; not many were of noble birth. <sup>27</sup>But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. <sup>28</sup>God chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things—and the things that are not—to nullify the things that are, <sup>29</sup>so that no one may boast before him. <sup>30</sup>It is because of him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God—that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption. <sup>31</sup>Therefore, as it is written: “Let the one who boasts boast in the Lord.”

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

God changes how we view ourselves by connecting us to Christ Jesus.

## Sermon

*1 Corinthians 1:26–31*

Public confession is faith's response to God's saving Word. Christians composed the Nicene Creed in the fourth century to defend the Bible's teachings that both Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit are true God, equal to the Father in one eternal, undivided Trinity.

## Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is,  
seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one being with the Father.**

**Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,  
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.  
He suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.  
He ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who in unity with the Father and the Son  
is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

*Please be seated*

## Offering

The members of Peace have joined together in the grace of giving (2 Corinthians 8:7) to do the Lord's work of sharing the message of Jesus. Visitors need not feel obligated. You are our guests!

Members and visitors, kindly fill out one of our Connection Cards. You may place it in the offering plate or hand it to an usher.

## Prayer of the Church

Please stand. The pastor will speak the prayer of the church and the congregation will join to say the Lord's prayer.

### 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.**

## The Sacrament

We believe what God's Word says. God's Word clearly teaches that along with the bread and wine we receive Christ's body and blood for the forgiveness of sins (Matt. 26:26,28; Mk. 14:22,24; Lk. 22:19-22). God's Word also tells us that those who take Communion together are to:

1. Recognize that Christ's true body and blood are miraculously present in the Sacrament (1 Cor. 10:16; 11:29),
2. Examine their hearts (1 Cor. 11:28), and
3. Be united in faith with the congregation with which they commune (1 Cor. 10:17).

Therefore we ask that those who have not had the opportunity to understand our Scriptural confession would speak with the pastor before participating in the Lord's Supper this morning. If you would like to come forward to receive a blessing, simply cross your arms as the pastor approaches. It is our sincere desire to share in the blessings of the Lord's Supper with you according to the pattern Jesus himself has given in his Word.



## Introduction to the Lord's Supper

1 Cor. 11:28

Everyone ought to examine their hearts before partaking of the Lord's Supper.

Psalm 32:5

**I confessed my transgressions to the Lord and he forgave the guilt of my sin.**

1 Cor. 11:29

Everyone ought to recognize the true body and blood of the Lord in this Supper.

1 Cor. 10:16

**The bread that we break and the cup that we bless are a participation in the body and blood of Christ.**

Those partaking of the Lord's Supper are to be united in fellowship as one body.

1 Cor. 10:17

**Because there is one loaf, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf.**

### Hymn

*In This Holy, Blest Communion*

1 In this ho - ly, blest com - mun - ion plain and  
2 In this ho - ly, blest com - mun - ion Christ and  
3 In this ho - ly, blest com - mun - ion saints are

pre - cious gifts com - bine: bread is tru - ly  
sin - ners join as one— they, the Fa - ther's  
gath - ered side by side, joined to - geth - er,

Je - sus' bod - y, blood of Je - sus joins with wine.  
ran - somed chil - dren, he, the Fa - ther's right - ful Son.  
broth - ers, sis - ters, in one bod - y u - ni - fied,

What a bless - ing Christ is giv - ing; what a  
Here the loft - y feeds the low - ly, each his  
faith in Je - sus, hope of heav - en, love for 4

lov-ing, gra-cious host, in his sup- per  
high-ly cher-ished guest; here the guilt- y  
oth-ers all in-creased by the full- ness  
  
well pro-vid-ing what his peo-ple need the most!  
taste for-give-ness, here the wea-ry find their rest.  
of the ban-quet, by the rich-ness of the feast.

Text: Michael D. Schultz, b. 1963

Tune: Welsh

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## Words of Institution

*The pastor speaks the words of institution according to the words of 1 Corinthians 11.*

### Lamb of God

1 Lamb of God, pure and ho- ly, who on the cross did suf- fer,  
ev- er pa-tient and low- ly, your-self to scorn did of- fer.  
  
All sin you car-ried for us, else had de-spair reigned o'er us:  
have mer- cy on us, O Je- sus! O Je- sus!

John the  
Baptist  
declared Jesus  
to be God's  
Lamb, who  
was offered as  
a sacrifice for  
sin once for  
all.

## **Distribution**

*Please be seated after the song. Communicants will come forward at the usher's direction after the song.*

## **Closing Prayer**

Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

## **Blessing**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.

**Amen.**

## Hymn

*May the Peace of God*

1 May the peace of God our heav'n-ly Fa - ther,  
2 May this peace which pass - es un - der - stand - ing,  
and the grace of Christ the ris - en Son,  
and this grace which makes us what we are,  
and the fel - low - ship of God the Spir - it  
and this fel - low - ship of his com - mun - ion  
keep our hearts and minds with - in his love.  
make us one in spir - it and in heart.

*Refrain*

And to him be praise for his glo - rious reign  
from the depths of earth to the heights of heav'n.  
We de - clare the name of the Lamb once slain -  
Christ e - ter - nal, the King of kings.

# Announcements

## Foundations of Faith

Foundations is for everyone: people interested in becoming members, those looking to build their faith, or the curious observer who wants to study the Bible without feeling obligated to join a church. This study is Bible-based and discussion-centered. Classes can be arranged to fit personal schedules.

To get plugged in or to request more information, contact Pastor Welch ([pastor@peacehoughton.org](mailto:pastor@peacehoughton.org)). Childcare is available upon request.



## Online Offering Option

If you would like to give an online offering today, please scan the QR code. All online donations are safe and go directly to Peace.

## Roof Shoveling – Saturday, February 11 at 9:30 am

We will shovel the church and the parsonage this Saturday. If you have shovels, bring them. Afterwards, there will be lunch.

## Upcoming Events



There is a full schedule of events for both members and students alike. You can find the schedule on the table in the fellowship hall, on the app/website, or by scanning the QR code. Here are some upcoming events to keep in mind:

- **All-nighter Statue Competition – Wednesday, February 4 at 6:00 pm**

## Sunday Volunteer Schedule

Date	Usher	Counter	Computer	Piano	Snacks	Children's Ministry
February 1	Steve	Cody	Nate	x	Mary Ann	Liesel
February 8	Cesar	Scott	Zack	x	Karin	help needed
February 15	Steve	Steve	Nate	x	Amy Spahn	help needed
Feb 18 (Ash Wednesday)	Cody	Cody	Zack	x		NA
February 22	Cesar	Craig	Nate	x	Heather	help needed

## **Wednesday Dinner Help**

Every Wednesday, the students meet for dinner and a Bible study. Please consider helping to provide a meal. The sign-up sheet is in the entryway on the blue table. It is not expected that you would pay for the meal, unless you want to. If you do purchase items for a meal, submit a receipt to Pastor Welch, and Peace will reimburse you. Reach out to Pastor Welch with any questions you may have. Thank you!



# PEACE

LUTHERAN CHURCH

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**[Peacehoughton.org](http://Peacehoughton.org)**

Our mission is to spread the gospel of Christ, to gather college students and the local community into a family of believers, and to share the message of hope and the promise of salvation through grace.