

# IDENTITY revealed

*Jesus Is the Christ, the Anointed One*

**PEACE**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Houghton, Michigan  
Sunday, January 11, 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 Light

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 is the Christ, the Anointed One***

“Christ” is not the family name of Jesus. It is a title. The Greek word “Christ” and the Hebrew word “Messiah” both mean the same thing: “The Anointed One.” Anointing was the practice of pouring liquid over the head of someone to signify selection for some special task. When the Lord had someone anointed, he also poured his Spirit over them. It was the fulfillment of promises made over centuries.

### **Service Participants:**

Computer Organ: Zack Sickmann

Pastor of Peace: Pastor Welch



# THE ORDER OF SERVICE

*For Sunday, January 11, 2026*

## Hymn

384 *By Grace I'm Saved*



1 By grace I'm saved, grace free and bound-less; my soul, be -  
2 By grace God's Son, our on - ly Sav - ior, came down to  
3 By grace! O mark this word of prom - ise when you are  
4 By grace to tim - id hearts that trem - ble, in trib - u -  
5 By grace! On this I'll rest when dy - ing; in Je - sus'



lieve and doubt it not. Why wa - ver at this word of  
earth to bear our sin. Was it be - cause of your own  
by your sins op - pressed, when Sa - tan plagues your trou - bled  
la - tion's fur - nace tried, by grace, de - spite all fear and  
prom - ise I re - joice, for though I know my heart's con -



prom - ise? Has Scrip - ture ev - er false-hood taught? So then this  
mer - it that Je - sus died, your soul to win? No, it was  
con-science, and when your heart is seek - ing rest. What rea - son  
trou - ble, the Fa - ther's heart is o - pen wide. Where could I  
di - tion, I al - so know my Sav - ior's voice. My heart is



word must true re - main: by grace you, too, shall heav'n ob - tain.  
grace, and grace a - lone, that brought him from his heav'n - ly throne.  
can - not com - pre-hend God by his grace to you did send.  
help and strength se - cure if grace were not my an - chor sure?  
glad, all grief has flown since I am saved by grace a - lone.

Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; Christian L. Scheidt, 1709–1761, abr.  
Tune: Cornelius H. Dretzel, 1697–1775  
Text and tune: Public domain

*Please stand.*

## **Invocation**

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

## **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.**

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.**

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.

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

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.

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

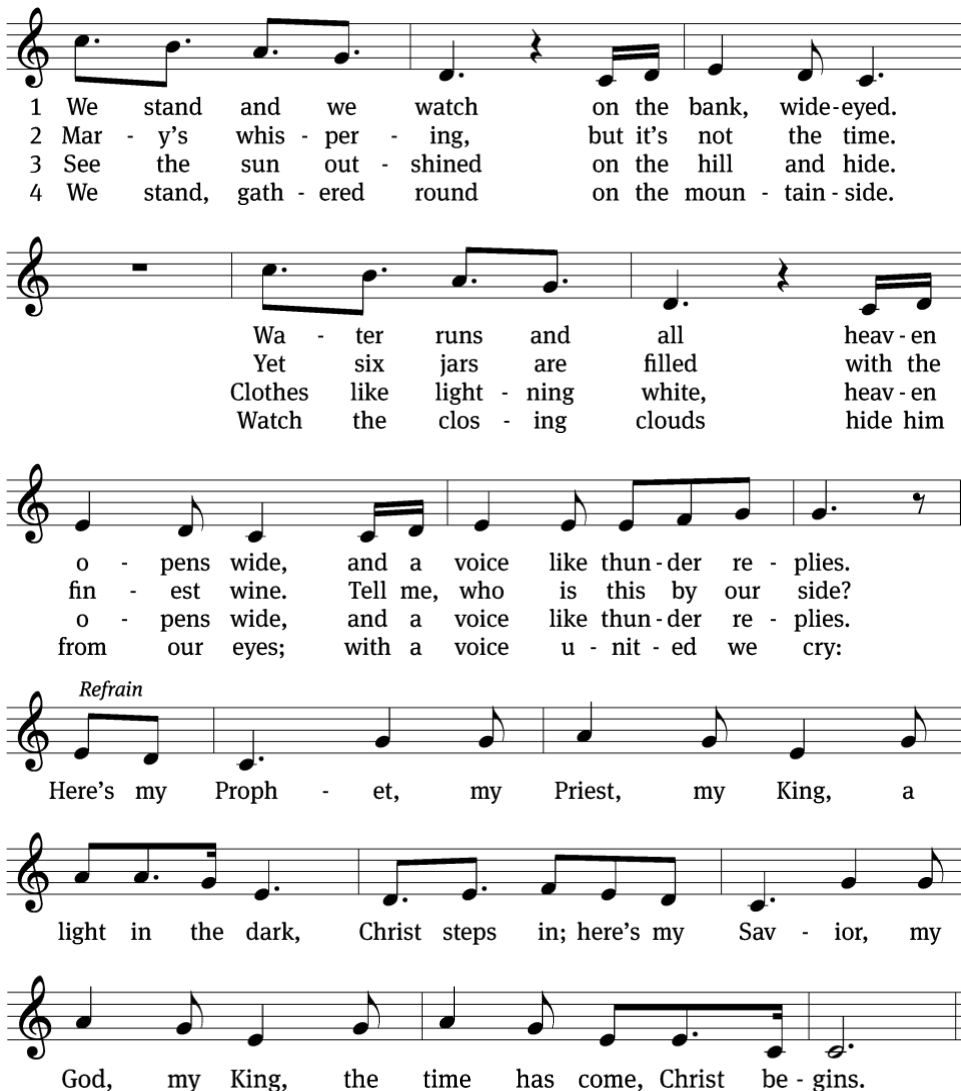
1 John 3:1

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

## Hymn of Praise

*Christ Begins*

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.



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, heav - en  
 Watch the clos - ing clouds 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.

*Please be seated.*



## Prayer of the Day

Father in heaven, at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan, you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Keep us who are baptized into Christ faithful in our calling as your children, and make us heirs with him of everlasting life; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## The Word

### Reading

*Isaiah 42:1–7*

<sup>1</sup>“Here is my servant, whom I uphold,  
my chosen one in whom I delight;  
I will put my Spirit on him,  
and he will bring justice to the nations.  
<sup>2</sup>He will not shout or cry out,  
or raise his voice in the streets.  
<sup>3</sup>A bruised reed he will not break,  
and a smoldering wick he will not snuff out.  
In faithfulness he will bring forth justice;  
<sup>4</sup>he will not falter or be discouraged  
till he establishes justice on earth.  
In his teaching the islands will put their hope.”  
<sup>5</sup>This is what God the LORD says—  
the Creator of the heavens, who stretches them out,  
who spreads out the earth with all that springs from it,  
who gives breath to its people,  
and life to those who walk on it:  
<sup>6</sup>“I, the LORD, have called you in righteousness;  
I will take hold of your hand.  
I will keep you and will make you

The Lord  
promises to  
put his Spirit  
on the  
Messiah.

to be a covenant for the people  
and a light for the Gentiles,  
<sup>7</sup>to open eyes that are blind,  
to free captives from prison  
and to release from the dungeon those who sit in darkness.

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

## Children's Lesson

### Reading

1 Corinthians 1:15-22

Because God  
anointed us,  
we can stand  
firm in his  
promises.

<sup>15</sup> Because I was confident of this, I wanted to visit you first so that you might benefit twice. <sup>16</sup> I wanted to visit you on my way to Macedonia and to come back to you from Macedonia, and then to have you send me on my way to Judea. <sup>17</sup> Was I fickle when I intended to do this? Or do I make my plans in a worldly manner so that in the same breath I say both “Yes, yes” and “No, no”?

<sup>18</sup> But as surely as God is faithful, our message to you is not “Yes” and “No.” <sup>19</sup> For the Son of God, Jesus Christ, who was preached among you by us—by me and Silas and Timothy—was not “Yes” and “No,” but in him it has always been “Yes.” <sup>20</sup> For no matter how many promises God has made, they are “Yes” in Christ. And so through him the “Amen” is spoken by us to the glory of God. <sup>21</sup> Now it is God who makes both us and you stand firm in Christ. He anointed us, <sup>22</sup> set his seal of ownership on us, and put his Spirit in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.

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

*Please stand.*

### Gospel Acclamation

Mark 1:11

Alleluia. You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased. Alleluia.



*Speak, O Lord st. 1*

1 Speak, O Lord, as we come to you to re - ceive the food  
of your ho - ly Word; take your truth, plant it  
deep in us, shape and fash - ion us in your like - ness,  
that the light of Christ might be seen to - day in our acts of  
love and our deeds of faith. Speak, O Lord, and ful -  
fill in us all your pur - pos-es for your glo - ry.

The musical score is written on six staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are: '1 Speak, O Lord, as we come to you to re - ceive the food'. The second staff continues: 'of your ho - ly Word; take your truth, plant it'. The third staff continues: 'deep in us, shape and fash - ion us in your like - ness,'. The fourth staff continues: 'that the light of Christ might be seen to - day in our acts of'. The fifth staff continues: 'love and our deeds of faith. Speak, O Lord, and ful -'. The sixth staff concludes: 'fill in us all your pur - pos-es for your glo - ry.' The score ends with a double bar line.

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

## Gospel

Matthew 3:13–17

In the waters of  
the Jordan  
River, Jesus  
was anointed  
with the Holy  
Spirit and with  
power.

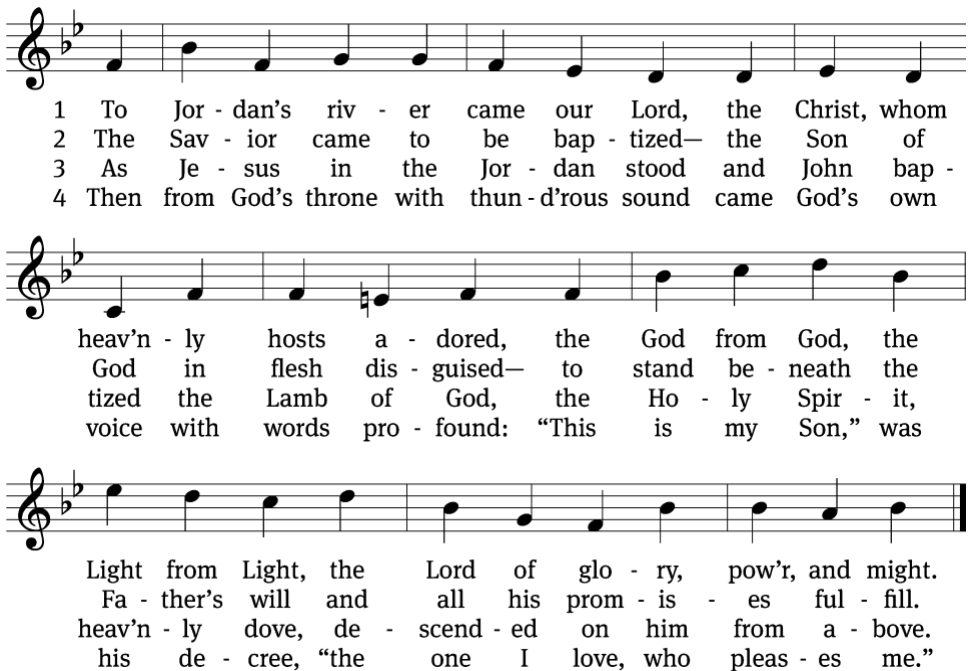
<sup>13</sup>Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptized by John.  
<sup>14</sup>But John tried to deter him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?”  
<sup>15</sup>Jesus replied, “Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness.” Then John consented.  
<sup>16</sup>As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. <sup>17</sup>And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.”

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise be to you, O Christ!**

*Please be seated.*

## Hymn of the Day

89 To Jordan's River Came Our Lord



1 To Jor - dan's riv - er came our Lord, the Christ, whom  
2 The Sav - ior came to be bap - tized— the Son of  
3 As Je - sus in the Jor - dan stood and John bap -  
4 Then from God's throne with thun - d'rous sound came God's own

heav'n - ly hosts a - dored, the God from God, the  
God in flesh dis - guised— to stand be - neath the  
tized the Lamb of God, the Ho - ly Spir - it,  
voice with words pro - found: “This is my Son,” was

Light from Light, the Lord of glo - ry, pow'r, and might.  
Fa - ther's will and all his prom - is - es ful - fill.  
heav'n - ly dove, de - scend - ed on him from a - bove.  
his de - cree, “the one I love, who pleas - es me.”

- 5 The Father's word, the Spirit's flight  
anointed Christ in glorious sight  
as God's own choice, from Adam's fall  
to save the world and free us all.
- 6 Now rise, faint hearts: be resolute!  
This man is Christ, our substitute!  
He was baptized in Jordan's stream,  
proclaimed Redeemer, Lord supreme.

Text: James P. Tiefel, b. 1949

Tune: Musicalisch Hand-Buch der Geistlichen Melodien, Hamburg, 1690, alt.

Text: © 1993 James P. Tiefel, admin. Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 734944

Tune: Public domain

## Sermon

*1 Corinthians 1:15-22*

Public  
confession is  
faith's  
response to  
God's saving  
Word.  
Christians  
composed the  
Apostle's  
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.

## **Apostles' Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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.  
The third day he rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. 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.**

### 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

294 Baptized into Your Name Most Holy



- 1 Bap-tized in - to your name most ho - ly, O Fa - ther, Son, and
- 2 My lov - ing Fa - ther, there you took me to be hence-forth your
- 3 My faith - ful God, you fail me nev - er; your prom - ise sure - ly
- 4 All that I am and love most dear - ly— re - ceive it all, O



Ho - ly Ghost, I claim a place, though weak and low - ly,  
child and heir. My faith - ful Sav - ior, there you let me  
will en - dure. O cast me not a - way for - ev - er  
Lord, from me. Let me con - fess my faith sin - cere - ly;



a - mong your saints, your cho - sen host. Bur - ied with Christ and  
the fruit of all your sor - rows share. O Ho - ly Spir - it,  
if words and deeds be - come im - pure. Have mer - cy when I  
help me your faith - ful child to be! Let noth - ing that I



dead to sin, your Spir - it now shall live with - in.  
com - fort me when threat - 'ning clouds a - round I see.  
come de - filed; for - give, lift up, re - store your child.  
am or own serve an - y will but yours a - lone.

Text: Johann J. Rambach, 1693–1735, abr.; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.

Tune: Cornelius H. Dretzel, 1697–1775

Text and tune: Public domain

# 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). 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.



## 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 directly to the right. Here are some upcoming events to keep in mind:



- 1) **Cross Country Skiing – January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2:00 – 4:00**
- 2) **Joint Campus Ministry Retreat – January 30-31**

## Sunday Volunteer Schedule

Date	Usher	Counter	Computer	Piano	Snacks	Children's Ministry
January 11	Cesar	Cody	Zack	x	Amy Hughes	Grace
January 18	Steve	Craig	Nate	x	Kristie Vlahos	help needed
January 25	Cody	Steve	Zack	x	Gabriela	Ivy
February 1	Steve	Cody	Nate		Mary Ann	help needed
February 8	Cesar	Scott	Zack		Karin	help needed



47745 Mill Rd.  
Houghton, MI 49931

Office: 906-482-1602

Pastor Welch's Cell: 906-231-6835

Pastor Welch's Email: [pastor@peacehoughton.org](mailto:pastor@peacehoughton.org)

**[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.