

## The Theme of Today's Liturgy

If Our Lord kept a record of sins, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with Him! (*Introit*) Therefore we beg the Lord today to hear the devout prayers of His Faithful people and grant us the forgiveness we desire (*Collect*). And with that forgiveness comes the courage to share that forgiveness with others – to forgive in the same way that we have been forgiven. For he who has begun a good work in you by His mercy will complete it in the day of Our Lord Jesus Christ (*Epistle*).

### Introit

*Psalm 130:1-2, 7-8; antiphon: Psalm 130:3-4*



- P** If You, O Lord, should mark iniquities, O Lord, | who could stand? \*  
But with You there is forgiveness, that You | may be feared.
- P** Out | of the depths \*  
I cry to You, | O Lord!
- C** O Lord, | hear my voice! \*  
Let Your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleas for | mercy!
- P** O Israel, hope in the Lord! For with the Lord there is | steadfast love, \*  
and with Him is plentiful re- | demption.
- C** And He will redeem | Israel \*  
from all his in- | iquities.
- C** Glory be to the Father and | to the Son \*  
and to the Holy | Spirit;  
as it was in the be- | ginning, \*  
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.
- P** If You, O Lord, should mark iniquities, O Lord, | who could stand? \*  
But with You there is forgiveness, that You | may be feared.

### Collect of the Day

O God, our Refuge and Strength, the Author of all godliness, be ready, we implore You, to hear the devout prayers of Your Church, and grant that those things which we ask faithfully we may obtain effectually; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, Our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

### Old Testament Reading

*Micah 6:6-8*

With what shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before the High God? Shall I come before Him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, ten thou-

sand rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul? He has shown you, O man, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God?

- P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

### Gradual

*Psalm 133:1, 3b*

- P** Behold, how good and pleas- | ant it is \*  
when brothers dwell in | unity!
- C** For the Lord has commanded the | blessing, \*  
life for- | evermore.

### Epistle Reading

*Philippians 1:3-11*

Brethren: I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine making request for you all with joy, for your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ; just as it is right for me to think this of you all, because I have you in my heart, inasmuch as both in my chains and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel, you all are partakers with me of grace. For God is my witness, how greatly I long for you all with the affection of Jesus Christ. And this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in knowledge and all discernment, that you may approve the things that are excellent, that you may be sincere and without offense till the day of Christ, being filled with the fruits of righteousness which are by Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

- P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

### Alleluia and Verse

*Psalm 147:3*



**C** Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

- P** He heals the brokenhearted:  
and heals all their wounds.



**C** Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

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↑ - Please stand • ↓ - Please sit

## Welcome to Epiphany Lutheran Church!

*Here is where Jesus answers His promise to be with us always, by coming to us in His living and active Word and the Blessed Sacrament of His Body and Blood.*

### *Parents of Small Children:*

We are very happy that you are here today, honoring Our Lord's Words: "Let the little children come to Me and do not hinder them, for the Kingdom of God belongs to such as these" (Lk. 18:16). If you feel you must step out with a fussy child, please hurry back! Like Jesus, we want your children in the Divine Service, not out.

### *Visitors:*

Please introduce yourself to Pastor Beffrey and the congregation! We hope you'll come back to Founders Hall after the service to share a cup of coffee and snack with us.

### *Who may Commune at Epiphany?*

The Sacrament of the Altar is offered at Epiphany every Lord's Day and every Wednesday evening. The normal communicant is a confirmed member of a congregation of The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod (LCMS). Under no circumstances should an unbaptized person commune. If you are not a member of an LCMS congregation, or have not communed at Epiphany before, please speak with the Pastor or an Elder before the service begins.

## Holy Gospel Reading

*St. Matthew 18:23-35*

☐ The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew, the eighteenth chapter.

☑ (🎵) **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

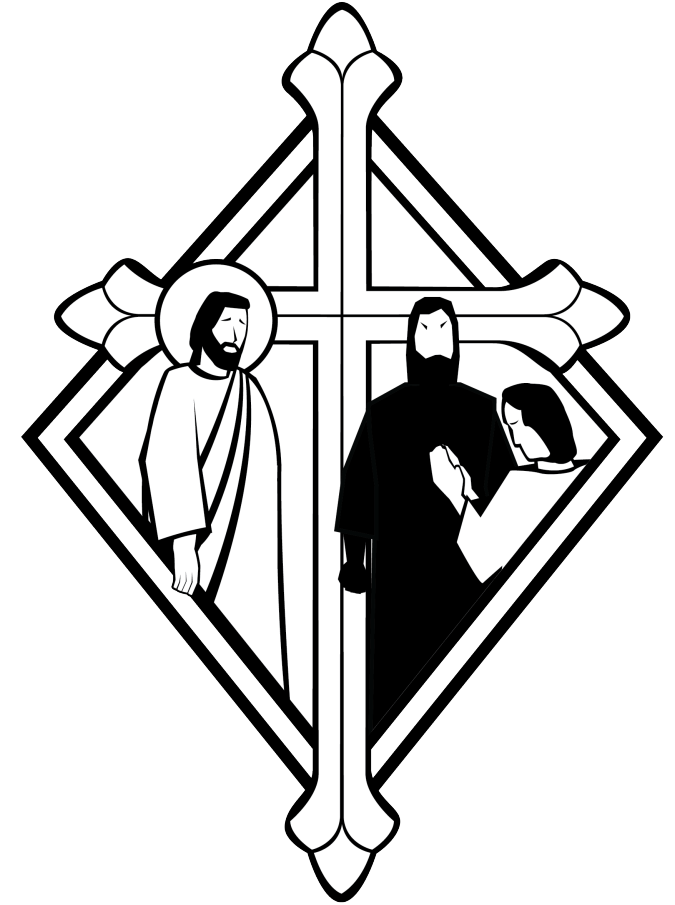
At that time Jesus spoke this parable to His disciples: "The kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. And when he had begun to settle accounts, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. But as he was not able to pay, his master commanded that he be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and that payment be made. The servant therefore fell down before him, saying, 'Master, have patience with me, and I will pay you all.' Then the master of that servant was moved with compassion, released him, and forgave him the debt. But that servant went out and found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii; and he laid hands on him and took him by the throat, saying, 'Pay me what you owe!' So his fellow servant fell down at his feet and begged him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you all.' And he would not, but went and threw him into prison till he should pay the debt. So when his fellow servants saw what had been done, they were very grieved, and came and told their master all that had been done. Then his master, after he had called him, said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you begged me. Should you not also have had compassion on your fellow servant, just as I had pity on you?' And his master was angry, and delivered him to the torturers until he should pay all that was due to him. So My heavenly Father also will do to you if each of you, from his heart, does not forgive his brother his trespasses."

☐ This is the Gospel of the Lord.

☑ (🎵) **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

## The Twenty-second Sunday after Trinity

✠ Sunday 22 October Anno ✠ Domini 2023 ✠



With You there is forgiveness that You may be feared.

—Psalm 130:4

## Epiphany Lutheran Church

A congregation of the English District,  
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