

The Theme of Today’s Liturgy

While the flesh indulges in shopping sprees and parties, the Church urges you to lift up your soul to the Lord (*Introit*). For your salvation is near (*Epistle*) as Our Savior comes in poverty and humility (*Gospel*). He desires only to forgive your sin and save your life from your selfish indulgences (*Old Testament*). So we beg Our Lord to stir us up so that we might take to heart the deliverance he gives (*Collect*), await Him in true faith (*Gradual*), and greet him with repentant joy (*Chief Hymn*).

Introit *Psalm 25:4-5, 21-22; antiphon: Psalm 25:1-3a*



- P** To You, O LORD, I lift up my soul. O my God, in You I trust; let me not be | put to shame. *
Let not my enemies exult over me. Indeed, none who wait for You shall be | put to shame.
- P** Make me to know Your ways, | O LORD; *
teach me | Your paths.
- G** Lead me in Your truth and teach me, for You are the God of my sal- | vation; *
for You I wait all the | day long.
- P** May integrity and uprightness pre- | serve me, *
for I | wait for You.
- G** Redeem Israel, | O God, *
out of all his | troubles.
- G** 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** To You, O LORD, I lift up my soul. O my God, in You I trust; let me not be | put to shame. *
Let not my enemies exult over me. Indeed, none who wait for You shall be | put to shame.

Collect of the Day

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come, that by Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by Your mighty deliverance; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Old Testament Reading *Jeremiah 23:5-8*

“Behold, the days are coming,” says the LORD, “That I will raise to David a Branch of righteousness; a King shall reign and prosper, and execute judgment and righteousness in the earth. In His days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell safely; now this is His name by which He will be called: THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS. Therefore, behold, the days are coming,” says the LORD, “that they shall no longer say, ‘As the LORD lives who brought up the children of Israel from the land of Egypt,’ but, ‘As the LORD lives who brought up and led the descendants of the house of Israel from the north country and from all the countries where I had driven them.’ And they shall dwell in their own land,” says the LORD Almighty.

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

Gradual *Psalm 25:3-4*

- P** None who wait for You shall be | put to shame; *
they shall be ashamed who are wantonly | treacherous.
- G** Make me to know Your ways, | O LORD; *
and teach me | Your paths.

Epistle Reading *Romans 13:11-14*

Brethren: You know the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep; for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed. The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light. Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts.

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

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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:
So we can get to know you better, please fill out one of the attendance cards in the hymnal rack in your pew and 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 in every Service. The normal communicant is a confirmed member of a congregation of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod (LCMS). Under no circumstances should an un-baptized 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.

Alleluia and Verse

Psalm 85:7



Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

Show us Your steadfast love, O Lord,
And grant us Your salvation.



Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel Reading

St. Matthew 21:1-9

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew, the twenty-first chapter.

(♪) Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

At that time: When they drew near Jerusalem, and came to Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, “Go into the village opposite you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Loose them and bring them to Me. And if anyone says anything to you, you shall say, ‘The Lord has need of them,’ and immediately he will send them.” All this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying: “Tell the daughter of Zion, ‘Behold, your King is coming to you, lowly, and sitting on a donkey, a colt, the foal of a donkey.’ ” So the disciples went and did as Jesus commanded them. They brought the donkey and the colt, laid their clothes on them, and set Him on them. And a very great multitude spread their clothes on the road; others cut down branches from the trees and spread them on the road. Then the multitudes who went before and those who followed cried out, saying: “Hosanna to the Son of David! ‘Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!’ Hosanna in the highest!”

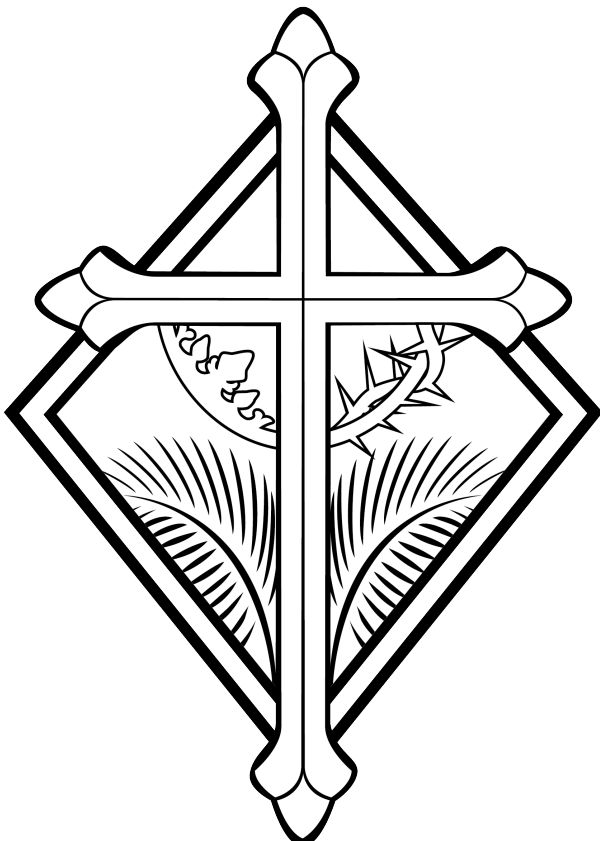
This is the Gospel of the Lord.

(♪) Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Ad Te Levavi

The First Sunday of Advent

✠ Sunday 3 December Anno ✠ Domini 2023 ✠



Behold, your King is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is He.
—Zechariah 9:9

Epiphany Lutheran Church
A congregation of the English District,
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

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