

## The Theme of Today's Liturgy

Today, Our Lord reveals His purpose: to be about the Father's business by sitting in the midst of His enemies (*Gospel*). This contrasts with the view we see of Our Lord now-sitting on a throne, high and lifted up (*Introit*). And as Our Lord offers Himself willingly for our salvation, we pray for grace to do the same (*Collect*) by offering our bodies a living sacrifice (*Epistle*). In this way, as we partake in His suffering, we bless God (*Gradual*), make a joyful noise (*Alleluia*), and give Him praise (*Chief Hymn*).

### Introit

*Psalm 100; antiphon: Isaiah 6:1; Revelation 19:6*



**P** I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and the train of His robe filled the | temple. \*

Then I heard the voice of a great multitude, crying out,  
"Alleluia! For the Lord our God the Al- | mighty reigns."

**P** Make a joyful noise to the Lord, | all the earth! \*

Serve the Lord with gladness! Come into His presence with | singing!

**C** Know that the Lord, | He is God! \*

It is He who made us, and we are His; we are His people, and the sheep of His | pasture.

**P** Enter His gates with thanksgiving, and His | courts with praise! \*

Give thanks to Him; | bless His name!

**C** For the Lord is good; His steadfast love endures for- | ever, \*

and His faithfulness to all gener- | ations.

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** I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and the train of His robe filled the | temple. \*

Then I heard the voice of a great multitude, crying out,  
"Alleluia! For the Lord our God the Al- | mighty reigns."

### Collect of the Day

O Lord, mercifully receive the prayers of Your people who call upon You and grant that they both perceive and know what things they ought to do and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfill the same; 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

*Isaiah 42:1-9*

Thus says the LORD God: "Behold! My Servant whom I uphold, my Elect One in whom My soul delights! I have put My Spirit upon Him; He will bring forth justice to the Gentiles. He will not cry out, nor raise His voice, nor cause His voice to be heard in the street. A bruised reed He will not break, and smoking flax He will not quench; He will bring forth justice for truth. He will not fail nor be discouraged, till He has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands shall wait for His law." Thus says God the LORD, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread forth the earth and that which comes from it, who gives breath to the people on it, and spirit to those who walk on it: "I, the LORD, have called You in righteousness, and will hold Your hand; I will keep You and give You as a covenant to the people, as a light to the Gentiles, to open blind eyes, to bring out prisoners from the prison, those who sit in darkness from the prison house. I am the LORD, that is My name; and My glory I will not give to another, nor My praise to carved images. Behold, the former things have come to pass, and new things I declare; before they spring forth I tell you of them."

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Gradual

*Psalm 72:18, 3*

**P** Blessed be the Lord, the God of | Israel, \*  
who alone does | wondrous things.

**C** Let the mountains bear prosperity for the | people, \*  
and the hills, in | righteousness.

## Epistle Reading

*Romans 12:1-6*

Brethren: I beseech you by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God. For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith. For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function, so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another. Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them, in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** 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:*

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. Luke 2:41-52*

☐ The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke, second chapter.

☑ (♪) **Glory to You, O Lord.**

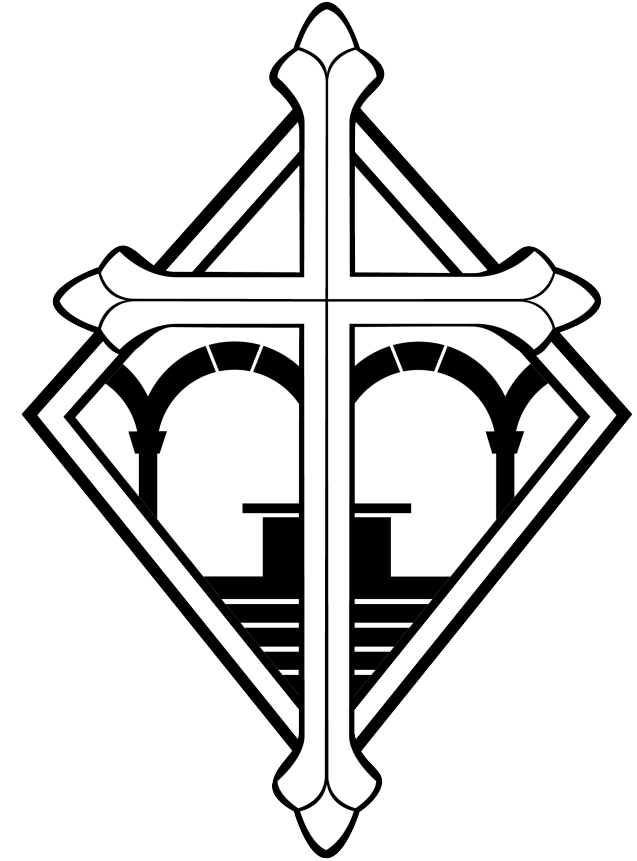
At that time: When Jesus was twelve years old, they went up to Jerusalem according to the custom of the feast. When they had finished the days, as they returned, the Boy Jesus lingered behind in Jerusalem. And Joseph and His mother did not know it; but supposing Him to have been in the company, they went a day's journey, and sought Him among their relatives and acquaintances. So when they did not find Him, they returned to Jerusalem, seeking Him. Now so it was that after three days they found Him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, both listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard Him were astonished at His understanding and answers. So when they saw Him, they were amazed; and His mother said to Him, "Son, why have You done this to us? Look, Your father and I have sought You anxiously." And He said to them, "Why did you seek Me? Did you not know that I must be about My Father's business?" But they did not understand the statement which He spoke to them. Then He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was subject to them, but His mother kept all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.

☐ This is the Gospel of the Lord.

☑ (♪) **Praise to You, O Christ.**

## Sunday in the Octave of the Epiphany

✠ Sunday 8 January Anno ✠ Domini 2023 ✠



We have seen His glory,  
glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

—John 1:14

## Epiphany Lutheran Church

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

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