

The Theme of Today's Liturgy

Prayer begins with listening to Our Lord and His Word. So we hear that "the Lord has redeemed His people" (*Introit*). We take to heart that "Christ has redeemed us with His Blood" (*First Alleluia*). We confess that He is the God "from whom all good things come" (*Collect*). Then we "make a joyful noise to God" and pray for His merciful guidance to live in the righteousness He gives (*Introit*). In this way prayer makes us "doers of the Word and not hearers only" (*Epistle*). To this faithful doing our Lord attaches His wonderful promise: "Whatever you ask the Father in My name, He will give it to you; and you shall receive, and your joy shall be full" (*Gospel*).

Introit

Psalm 66:1-2a, 17, 19-20; Antiphon: Isaiah 48:20b



P [With a voice of singing,] declare this with a shout of joy to the end of the earth. Alle- | luia! *

The Lord has redeemed His servant Jacob! Alle- | luia!

P Shout for joy to God, | all the earth; *
sing the glory | of His name.

C I cried to Him | with my mouth, *
and high praise was | on my tongue.

P But truly God has | listened; *
He has attended to the voice | of my prayer.

C Bless- | ed be God, *
because He has not rejected my prayer or removed His steadfast
| love from me!

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 [With a voice of singing,] declare this with a shout of joy to the end of the earth. Alle- | luia! *

The Lord has redeemed His servant Jacob! Alle- | luia!

Collect of the Day

O God, from whom all good things do come, grant to us, Your humble servants, that by Your inspiration we may think those things that are right and by Your guidance may perform them; 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

Numbers 21:4-9

In those days: The children of Israel journeyed from Mount Hor by the Way of the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; and the soul of the people became very discouraged on the way. And the people spoke against God and against Moses: "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and our soul loathes this worthless bread." So the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people; and many of the people of Israel died. Therefore the people came to Moses, and said, "We have sinned, for we have spoken against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD that He take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. Then the LORD said to Moses, "Make a fiery serpent, and set it on a pole; and it shall be that everyone who is bitten, when he looks at it, shall live." So Moses made a bronze serpent, and put it on a pole; and so it was, if a serpent had bitten anyone, when he looked at the bronze serpent, he lived.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

First Alleluia

Liturgical verse; John 16:28

P Alleluia, alle- | luia!*

Christ is risen and has showed light to us, whom He has redeemed with His most precious Blood. Alle- | luia!

C Alleluia, alle- | luia! *

I came forth from from the Father and have come into the world.
Again, I leave the world and go to the Father. Alle- | luia!

Epistle Reading

James 1:22-27

Dearly Beloved: Be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was. But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does. If anyone among you thinks he is religious, and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his own heart, this one's religion is useless. Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their trouble, and to keep oneself unspotted from the world.

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:

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.

Holy Gospel Reading

St John 16:23-30

- P** The Holy Gospel according to Saint John, the sixteenth chapter.
G (♪) **Glory to You, O Lord.**

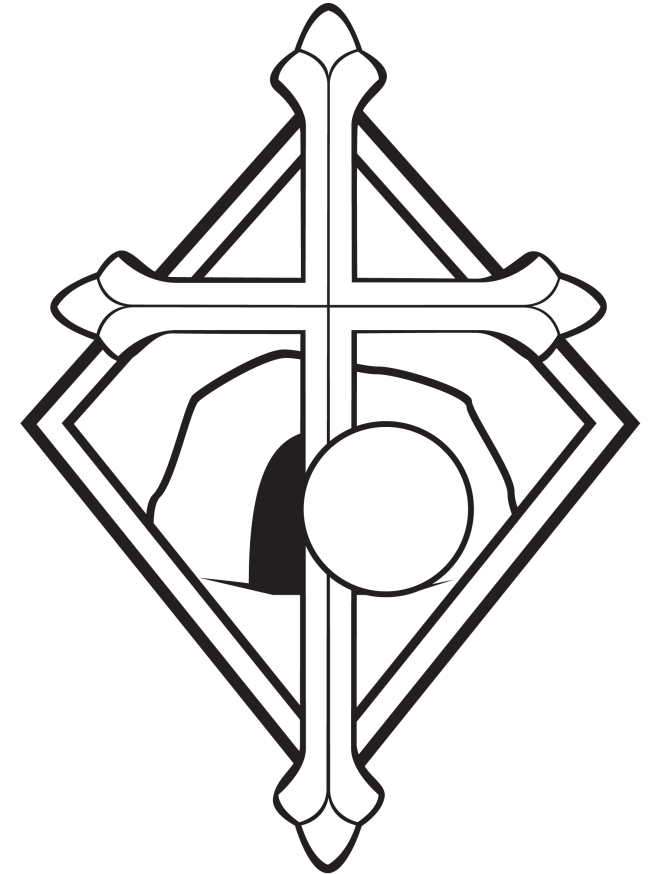
At that time Jesus said to His disciples: "Most assuredly, I say to you, whatever you ask the Father in My name He will give you. Until now you have asked nothing in My name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full. These things I have spoken to you in figurative language; but the time is coming when I will no longer speak to you in figurative language, but I will tell you plainly about the Father. In that day you will ask in My name, and I do not say to you that I shall pray the Father for you; for the Father Himself loves you, because you have loved Me, and have believed that I came forth from God. I came forth from the Father and have come into the world. Again, I leave the world and go to the Father." His disciples said to Him, "See, now You are speaking plainly, and using no figure of speech! Now we are sure that You know all things, and have no need that anyone should question You. By this we believe that You came forth from God."

- P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
G (♪) **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Rogate

The Fifth Sunday after Easter

✠ Sunday 14 May Anno ✠ Domini 2023 ✠



When I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw all people to Myself.
—John 12:32

Epiphany Lutheran Church

A congregation of the English District,
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