

The Theme of Today's Liturgy

Confessing Christ before the world is what He expects us to do because He uses us as His messengers, hunters, and fishermen (*Old Testament; Gospel*). As we do that before the world, God has promised that He will be with us and His Spirit will accompany His word with strength and power, and we will not be put to shame (*Introut*). We are not put to shame because we do not preach our own doctrine, but we preach what the Church has always preached and confessed (*Epistle*). This confession of Christ and His salvation helps build up the Church and reminds us of the help He gives to us in the Church Militant (*Collect*).

Introut

Psalm 46:1-4; antiphon: Psalm 119:46



- P** I will speak of Your testimonies also | before kings, *
And will not | be ashamed.
- P** God is our ref- | uge and Strength, *
a very present help in | trouble.
- C** **Therefore we | will not fear, ***
even though the earth be removed, and though the mountains
be carried into the midst | of the sea,
- P** though its waters roar and be | troubled, *
Though the mountains shake with its | swelling.
- C** **There is a river whose streams shall make glad the cit- | y of God,**
*
the holy place of the tabernacle of the | Most High.
- 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** I will speak of Your testimonies also | before kings, *
And will not | be ashamed.

Collect of the Day

O Lord God, heavenly Father, pour out Your Holy Spirit on Your faithful people, keep them steadfast in Your grace and truth, protect and comfort them in all temptation, defend them against all enemies of Your Word, and bestow on Christ's Church Militant Your saving peace; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, Our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the same Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Old Testament Reading

Jeremiah 16:16-21

"Behold, I will send for many fishermen," says the LORD, "and they shall fish them; and afterward I will send for many hunters, and they shall hunt them from every mountain and every hill, and out of the holes of the rocks. For My eyes are on all their ways; they are not hidden from My face, nor is their iniquity hidden from My eyes. And first I will repay double for their iniquity and their sin, because they have defiled My land; they have filled My inheritance with the carcasses of their detestable and abominable idols."

O LORD, my strength and my fortress, my refuge in the day of affliction, the Gentiles shall come to You from the ends of the earth and say, "Surely our fathers have inherited lies, worthlessness and unprofitable things."

Will a man make gods for himself, which are not gods?

"Therefore behold, I will this once cause them to know, I will cause them to know My hand and My might; and they shall know that My name is the LORD.

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

Gradual

Psalm 30:1-2

- P** I will extol You, O Lord, for You have lif - | ted me up, *
and have not let my foes rejoice | over me.
- C** **O Lord my God I | cried out to you , ***
And You | healed me.

Epistle Reading

Ephesians 2:19-22

Brethren: Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

- 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.

Alleluia and Verse

Psalm 48:12



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

☐ O Lord of hosts,
blessed is the man who trusts in You,



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

Holy Gospel Reading

St. Matthew 10:26-33

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

☐ (🎵) **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

At that time Jesus said to the disciples: There is nothing covered that will not be revealed, and hidden that will not be known.

"Whatever I tell you in the dark, speak in the light; and what you hear in the ear, preach on the housetops. And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a copper coin? And not one of them falls to the ground apart from your Father's will. But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Do not fear therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows.

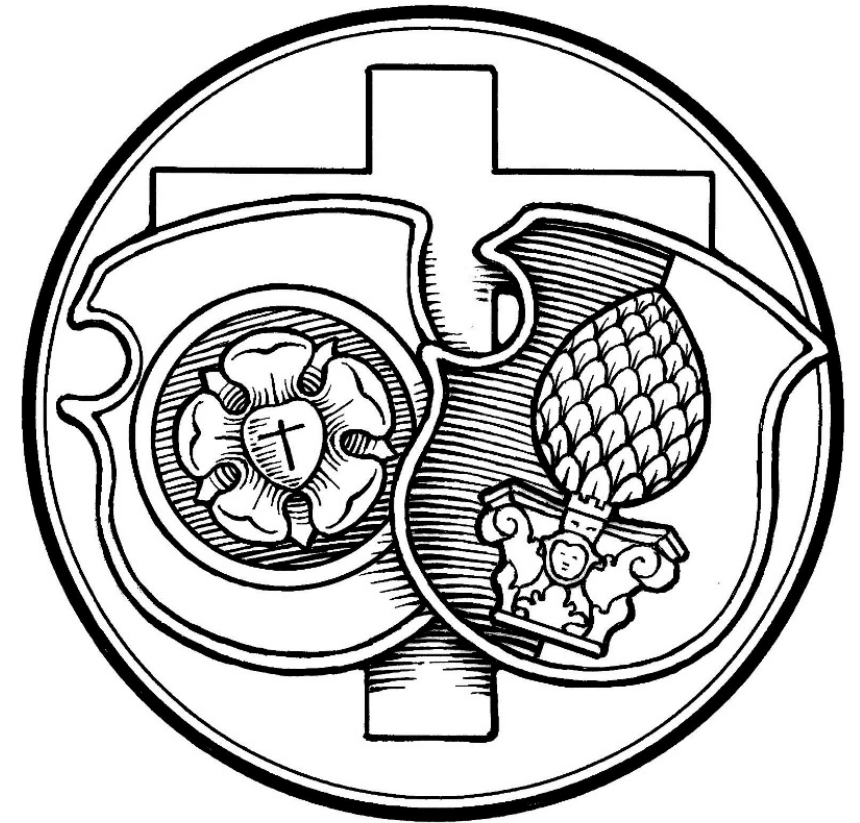
"Therefore whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, him I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.

☐ This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Presentation of the Augsburg Confession

✠ Sunday 25 June Anno ✠ Domini 2023 ✠



I will speak of Your testimonies before kings, and will not be ashamed.
—Psalm 119:46

Epiphany Lutheran Church

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

4219 Parklane/P.O. Box 245 • Dorr, Michigan 49323
www.epiphanydorr.org

Office: (616) 681-0791 • office@epiphanydorr.org
Pastor Beffrey: (216) 965-5959 (cell) • pastor@epiphanydorr.org