

The Theme of Today's Liturgy

True righteousness does not begin with the desire to do right, but with being united to the Righteous One. Those united to Christ Jesus by Baptism have been planted in His righteous death (*Epistle*). In this way, he also grants within you His own righteousness so that you can live an upright life (*Collect*). In this righteous life, you live not by your own self-interests, but for yourself and for others (*Old Testament*). For you live from Our Lord's saving strength (*Introit*). This, then, is the righteousness that exceeds that of the Pharisees (*Gospel*).

Introit

Psalm 28:1-2, 7; antiphon: Psalm 28:8-9



P The Lord is the Strength of His people; He is the saving Refuge of His appointed. *

Save Your people and bless Your heritage! Be their Shepherd and carry them forever.

P To You, O Lord, I call; my Rock, be not deaf to me, *

lest, if You be silent to me, I become like those who go down to the pit.

C Hear the voice of my pleas for mercy, when I cry to You for help, * when I lift up my hands toward You most holy sanctuary.

P The Lord is my Strength and my Shield; in Him my heart trusts and I am helped; *

my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to Him.

C Glory be to the Father and to the Son *

and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning, *

is now, and will be forever. Amen.

P The Lord is the Strength of His people; He is the saving Refuge of His appointed. *

Save Your people and bless Your heritage! Be their Shepherd and carry them forever.

Collect of the Day

Lord of all power and might, Author and Giver of all good things, graft into our hearts the love of Your name, increase in us true religion, nourish us with all goodness, and of Your great mercy keep us in 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

Exodus 20:1-17

In those days: God spoke all these words, saying: "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. You shall have no other gods before Me. You shall not make for yourself a carved image—any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth; you shall not bow down to them nor serve them. For I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me, but showing mercy to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments. You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes His name in vain. Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the LORD your God. In it you shall do no work: you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your male servant, nor your female servant, nor your cattle, nor your stranger who is within your gates. For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it. Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long upon the land which the LORD your God is giving you. You shall not murder. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, nor his male servant, nor his female servant, nor his ox, nor his donkey, nor anything that is your neighbor's."

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Psalm 90:13, 1, 2b

P Return, O Lord! | How long? *

Have pity on Your | servants!

C Lord, You have been our Dwelling Place in all generations. *
From everlasting to everlasting | You are God.

Epistle Reading

Romans 6:1-11

Brethren: As many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death. Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection, knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away

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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.

with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin. For he who has died has been freed from sin. Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him, knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, dies no more. Death no longer has dominion over Him. For the death that He died, He died to sin once for all; but the life that He lives, He lives to God. Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

- ☐ This is the Word of the Lord.
- ☑ Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel Reading

St Matthew 5:20-26

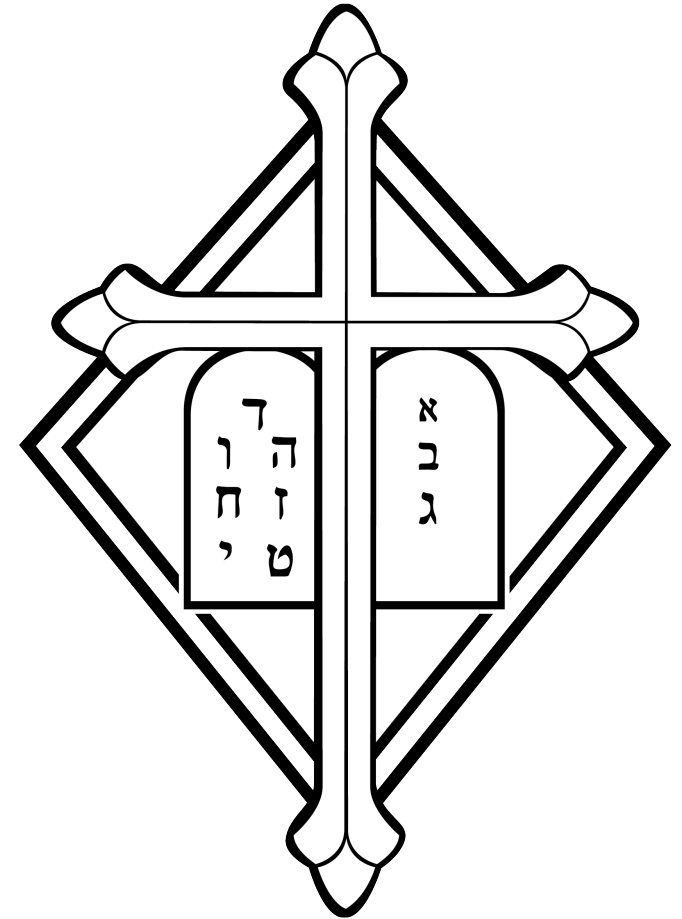
- ☐ The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew, the fifth chapter.
- ☑ (🎵) **Glory to You, O Lord.**

At that time Jesus said to His disciples: "Assuredly, I say to you, unless your righteousness exceeds the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven. You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not murder, and whoever murders will be in danger of the judgment.' But I say to you that whoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment. And whoever says to his brother, 'Raca!' shall be in danger of the council. But whoever says, 'You fool!' shall be in danger of hell fire. Therefore if you bring your gift to the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar, and go your way. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. Agree with your adversary quickly, while you are on the way with him, lest your adversary deliver you to the judge, the judge hand you over to the officer, and you be thrown into prison. Assuredly, I say to you, you will by no means get out of there till you have paid the last penny."

- ☐ This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- ☑ (🎵) **Praise to You, O Christ.**

The Sixth Sunday after Trinity

✠ Sunday 16 July Anno ✠ Domini 2023 ✠



Thus says the Lord, He who created you...: Fear not, for I have redeemed you, I have called you by name, you are Mine.

—Isaiah 43:1

Epiphany Lutheran Church

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

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