

The Theme of Today's Liturgy

A sinner is someone who knows and believes that he is desolate and afflicted without God's mercy (*Introit*), and so he begs God to increase and multiply His mercy (*Collect*). The sinner also does not rely on his own strength and spirituality, but freely and willingly humbles himself under the Lord's mighty and caring hand (*Epistle*). And Our Lord does not turn away or disappoint the hope of those who know and feel their sin. Instead, He gladly welcomes, receives, seeks out and eats with them (*Gospel*). In this way, Our Lord sustains, saves, and delivers sinners (*Gradual*).

Introit

Psalm 25:1-2a, 5b, 15, 20; antiphon: Psalm 25:16, 18



P Turn to me and be gracious to me, for I am lonely and afflicted. *
Consider my affliction and my trouble and forgive all my sins.

P To You, O Lord, I lift up my soul. *
O my God, in You I trust; let me not be put to shame.

C You are the God of my salvation; *
for You I wait all the day long.

P My eyes are ever toward the Lord, *
for He will pluck my feet out of the net.

C Oh, guard my soul, and deliver me! *
Let me not be put to shame, for I take refuge in You.

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 Turn to me and be gracious to me, for I am lonely and afflicted. *
Consider my affliction and my trouble and forgive all my sins.

Collect of the Day

O God, the Protector of all that trust in You, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy, increase and multiply upon us Your mercy that, You being our Ruler and Guide, we may so pass through things temporal that we finally lose not the things eternal; 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

Micah 7:18-20

In those days Micah said, "Who is a God like You, pardoning iniquity and passing over transgression for the remnant of His inheritance? He

does not retain His anger forever, because He delights in steadfast love. He will again have compassion on us; He will tread our iniquities underfoot. You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea. You will show faithfulness to Jacob and steadfast love to Abraham, as You have sworn to our fathers from the days of old."

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Psalm 55:22a, 16, 18a

P Cast your burden | on the Lord, *
and He will sus- | tain you.

C I call to God, and the Lord will | save me. *
He redeems my soul in | safety.

Epistle Reading

1 Peter 5:6-11

Beloved: Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time He may exalt you, casting all your anxieties on Him, because He cares for you. Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world. And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you. To Him be the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel Reading

St Luke 15:1-32

P The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke, the fifteenth chapter.

C (♪) Glory to You, O Lord.

At that time the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear Jesus. And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This Man receives sinners and eats with them."

So He told them this parable: "What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it? And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

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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.

"Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and seek diligently until she finds it? And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

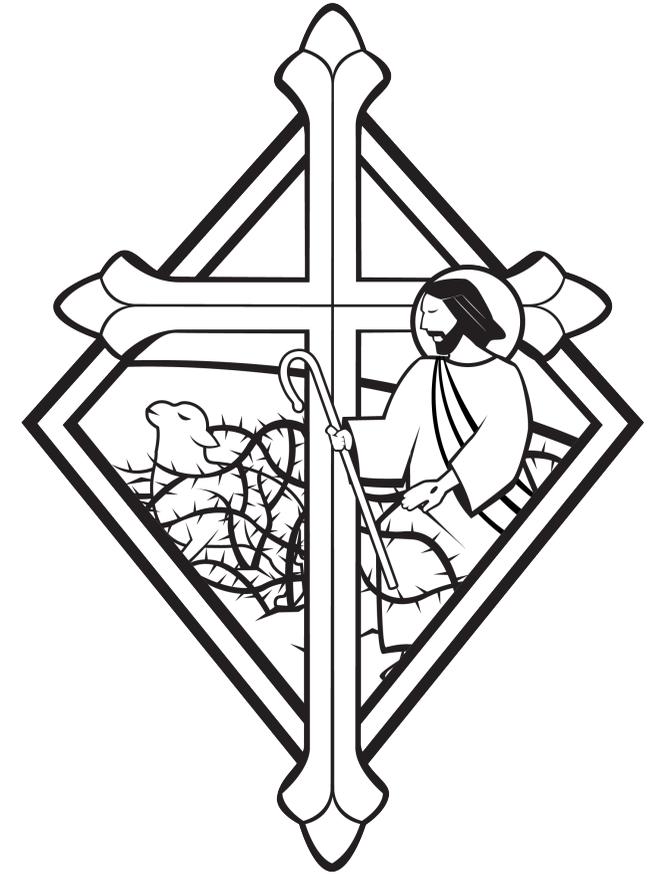
And He said, "There was a man who had two sons. And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.' And he divided his property between them. Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.

"But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants."' And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. And bring the fattened calf and kill it and let us eat and celebrate. For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to celebrate.

"Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.' But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, but he answered his father, 'Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!' And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.'"

Third Sunday after Trinity

✠ Sunday 3 July Anno ✠ Domini 2022 ✠



The Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.

—Luke 19:10

Epiphany Lutheran Church

A congregation of the English District,
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