

The Theme of Today's Liturgy

Because we believe and confess that we are not "sufficient of ourselves to think of anything as being from ourselves," (*Epistle*) we continually pray Our Lord to make haste to deliver us (*Introit*) from every evil. And our Jesus comes through for us—just as He came through for the deaf man. (*Gospel*) What else can we do, then, but bless the Lord at all times (*Gradual; Chief Hymn*)? For the gift of His healing lives in us so that we faithfully serve Our Lord in this life (*Collect*).

Introit

Psalm 70:2b, 4a, 5b; antiphon: Psalm 70:1-2a



P Make haste, O God, to deliver me! O Lord, make haste to | help me! *
Let them be put to shame and confusion who | seek my life!

P Let them be | turned back *
and brought to dishonor who de- | sire my hurt!

C **May all who seek | You rejoice *
and be | glad in You!**

P You are my Help and my De- | liverer; *
O Lord, do | not delay!

**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 Make haste, O God, to deliver me! O Lord, make haste to | help me! *
Let them be put to shame and confusion who | seek my life!

P Let them be | turned back *
and brought to dishonor who de- | sire my hurt!

Collect of the Day

Almighty and merciful God, by Your gift alone Your faithful people render You true and laudable service. Grant, we implore You, that we may so faithfully serve You in this life that we fail not to finally attain Your heavenly promises; 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 29:17-24

Thus says the LORD God: Is it not yet a very little while till Lebanon shall be turned into a fruitful field, and the fruitful field be esteemed as a forest? In that day the deaf shall hear the words of the book, and the eyes of the blind shall see out of obscurity and out of darkness. The

humble also shall increase their joy in the LORD, and the poor among men shall rejoice in the Holy One of Israel. For the terrible one is brought to nothing, the scornful one is consumed, and all who watch for iniquity are cut off—who make a man an offender by a word, and lay a snare for him who reproves in the gate, and turn aside the just by empty words. Therefore thus says the LORD, who redeemed Abraham, concerning the house of Jacob: "Jacob shall not now be ashamed, nor shall his face now grow pale; but when he sees his children, the work of My hands, in his midst, they will hallow My name, and hallow the Holy One of Jacob, and fear the God of Israel. These also who erred in spirit will come to understanding, and those who complained will learn doctrine," says the LORD Almighty.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual

Psalm 34:1-2

P I will bless the Lord at | all times; *
His praise shall continually be | in my mouth.

C **My soul makes its boast | in the Lord; *
let the humble hear | and be glad.**

Epistle Reading

2 Corinthians 3:4-11

Brethren: We have such trust through Christ toward God. Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think of anything as being from ourselves, but our sufficiency is from God, who also made us sufficient as ministers of the new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life. But if the ministry of death, written and engraved on stones, was glorious, so that the children of Israel could not look steadily at the face of Moses because of the glory of his countenance, which glory was passing away, how will the ministry of the Spirit not be more glorious? For if the ministry of condemnation had glory, the ministry of righteousness exceeds much more in glory. For even what was made glorious had no glory in this respect, because of the glory that excels. For if what is passing away was glorious, what remains is much more glorious.

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. Mark 7:31-37

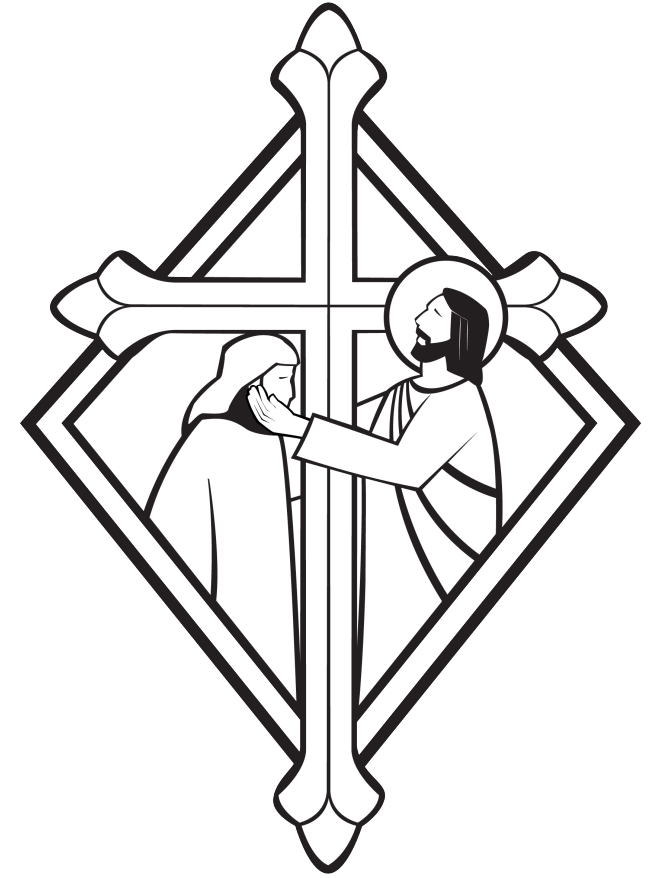
- ☐ The Holy Gospel according to Saint Mark, the seventh chapter.
- ☐ (🎵) **Glory to You, O Lord.**

At that time: Departing from the region of Tyre and Sidon, Jesus came through the midst of the region of Decapolis to the Sea of Galilee. Then they brought to Him one who was deaf and had an impediment in his speech, and they begged Him to put His hand on him. And He took him aside from the multitude, and put His fingers in his ears, and He spat and touched his tongue. Then, looking up to heaven, He sighed, and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." Immediately his ears were opened, and the impediment of his tongue was loosed, and he spoke plainly. Then He commanded them that they should tell no one; but the more He commanded them, the more widely they proclaimed it. And they were astonished beyond measure, saying, "He has done all things well. He makes both the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

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

The Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

✠ Sunday 27 August Anno ✠ Domini 2023 ✠



A bruised reed He will not break, and a smoldering wick He will not quench.

—Matthew 12:20

Epiphany Lutheran Church

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

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