The Theme of Today's Liturgy

Our prayer today is Daniel's prayer: "We do not present our supplications before You because of our righteousness, but because of Your great mercy." (Dn 9.18) Our desire is that we go to our homes justified by God. (Gospel) And our confidence is that God our Father will give us His mercy in an abundance that both forgives us our sins and gives us all things. (Collect) God demonstrates His mercy when He scatters our enemies (Introit) and when He raises Christ and us from sin and death. (Epistle) This is the grace of God that makes us what we are — beloved children of God.

Introit

Psalm 68:1, 3, 7a, 10b, 19; antiphon: Psalm 68:5b, 6a, 35b



- P God is in His holy habitation; [He] settles the solitary | in a home. *
 The God of Israel—He is the one who gives power and strength to
 His | people.
- P God shall arise, His enemies shall be | scattered; * and those who hate Him shall flee be- | fore Him!
- But the righteous shall be glad; they shall exult be- |fore God; * they shall be jubi- |lant with joy!
- P O God, when You went out before Your | people, * in Your goodness, O God, You provided for the | needy.
- Blessed be the Lord, who daily | bears us up; * God is our Sal- | vation.
- 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 God is in His holy habitation; [He] settles the solitary | in a home. *
 The God of Israel—He is the one who gives power and strength to
 His | people.

Collect of the Day

Almighty and everlasting God, who is always more ready to hear than we to pray and inclined to give more than either we desire or deserve, pour down upon us the abundance of Your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things which we are not worthy to ask, but through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ, Your Son, Our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Old Testament Reading

In those days Adam knew Eve his wife, and she conceived and bore Cain, saying, "I have gotten a man with the help of the Lord." And again, she bore his brother Abel. Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, and Cain a worker of the ground. In the course of time Cain brought to the Lord an offering of the fruit of the ground, and Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat portions. And the Lord had regard for Abel and his offering, but for Cain and his offering he had no regard. So Cain was very angry, and his face fell. The Lord said to Cain, "Why

are you angry, and why has your face fallen? If you do well, will you not

be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is crouching at the door. Its

desire is contrary to you, but you must rule over it."

Cain spoke to Abel his brother. And when they were in the field, Cain rose up against his brother Abel and killed him. Then the Lord said to Cain, "Where is Abel your brother?" He said, "I do not know; am I my brother's keeper?" And the Lord said, "What have you done? The voice of your brother's blood is crying to Me from the ground. And now you are cursed from the ground, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand. When you work the ground, it shall no longer yield to you its strength. You shall be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth." Cain said to the Lord, "My punishment is greater than I can bear. Behold, You have driven me today away from the ground, and from Your face I shall be hidden. I shall be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth, and whoever finds me will kill me." Then the Lord said to him, "Not so! If anyone kills Cain, vengeance shall be taken on him sevenfold." And the Lord put a mark on Cain, lest any who found him should attack him. Then Cain went away from the presence of the Lord and settled in the land of Nod, east of Eden.

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

Gradual Psalm 28:7b, 1a, 2a

- In [God] my heart trusts, and | I am helped; * my heart exults, and with my song I give | thanks to Him.
- To You, O Lord, I call; my Rock, be not | deaf to me, * hear the voice of my pleas for mercy, when I cry to | You for help.

Epistle Reading

1 *Corinthians* 15:1-10

Genesis 4:1-16

For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that He was buried, that He was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, and that He appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then He appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of

Divine Service, Setting Three

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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.

whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. Then He appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, He appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the Church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me.

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

Alleluia and Verse

Psalm 90:1



P Lord, You have been our Dwelling Place In all generations.



Holy Gospel Reading

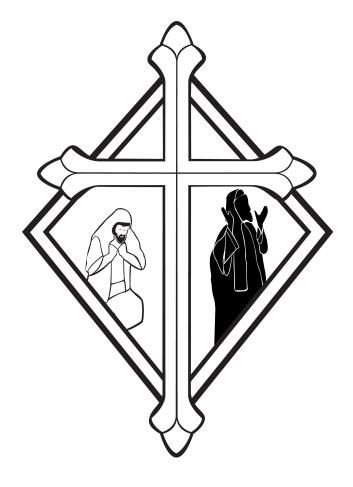
S. Luke 18:9-14

- **P** The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke, the eighteenth chapter.
- \square (\square) Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

At that time Jesus told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and treated others with contempt: "Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, prayed thus: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his house justified, rather than the other. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted."

- **P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- **©** (**♬**) Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Eleventh Sunday after Trinity



Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another.

—1 Peter 5:5

Epiphany Lutheran Church

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

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