

The Theme of Today’s Liturgy

Godly living begins by calling on God as the Helper who upholds your soul (*Introit*). The children of Israel serve as an example, not of godliness but of those who fell from godliness because they lusted after the things of this world (*Epistle*). In the same way, Our Lord tells of a dishonest steward (business manager) who relies not on the Lord but on his own cleverness (*Gospel*). But those who trust in the Lord can take comfort in the fact that Our Lord makes all their ways pure (*Old Testament*). Therefore, our prayer is that, in the humility of faith, we ask and do only those things that are well-pleasing in Our Lord’s sight (*Collect*).

Introit Psalm 54:1-3, 7; Antiphon: Psalm 54:4-5



- P** Behold, God is my Helper; the Lord is the Upholder | of my life.*
He will return the evil to my | enemies; in Your faithfulness, put an
| end to them.
- P** O God, save me | by Your name, *
and vindicate me | by Your might.
- C** O God, | hear my prayer; *
give ear to the words | of my mouth.
- P** For strangers have risen against me; ruthless men | seek my life; *
they do not set God be- | fore themselves.
- C** For He has delivered me from every | trouble, *
and my eye has looked in triumph on my | enemies.

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** Behold, God is my Helper; the Lord is the Upholder | of my life.*
He will return the evil to my | enemies; in Your faithfulness, put an
| end to them.

Collect of the Day

Let Your merciful ears, O Lord, be open to the prayers of Your humble servants, and that they may obtain their petitions, make them to ask such things as shall please You; 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

Proverbs 16:1-9

The preparations of the heart belong to man, but the answer of the tongue is from the Lord. All the ways of a man are pure in his own eyes, but the Lord weighs the spirits. Commit your works to the Lord, and your thoughts will be established. The Lord has made all for Him- self, yes, even the wicked for the day of doom. Everyone proud in heart is an abomination to the Lord; though they join forces, none will go un- punished. In mercy and truth atonement is provided for iniquity; and by the fear of the Lord one departs from evil. When a man’s ways please the Lord, He makes even his enemies to be at peace with him. Better is a little with righteousness, than vast revenues without justice. A man’s heart plans his way, but the Lord directs his steps.

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

Gradual

Psalm 8:1

- P** O | Lord, Our Lord, *
how majestic is Your name in | all the earth!
- C** You have set Your | glory *
above the | heavens.

Epistle Reading

1 Corinthians 10:6-13

Brethren: We should not lust after evil things as our fathers lusted. And do not become idolaters as were some of them. As it is written, “The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play.” Nor let us com- mit sexual immorality, as some of them did, and in one day twenty- three thousand fell; nor let us tempt Christ, as some of them also tempt- ed, and were destroyed by serpents; nor complain, as some of them also complained, and were destroyed by the destroyer. Now all these things happened to them as examples, and they were written for our admoni- tion, upon whom the ends of the ages have come. Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall. No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not al- low you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the tempta- tion will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.

- 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.

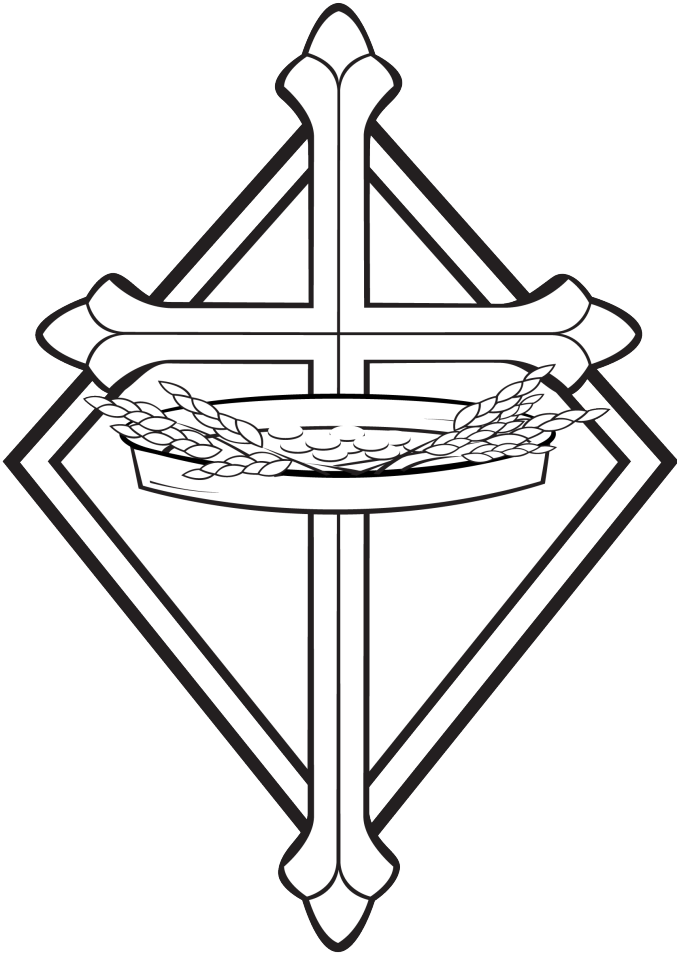
Holy Gospel Reading St Luke 16:1-9
P The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke, the sixteenth chapter.
C (J) Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

At that time Jesus spoke this parable to His disciples: “There was a certain rich man who had a steward, and an accusation was brought to him that this man was wasting his goods. So he called him and said to him, ‘What is this I hear about you? Give an account of your stewardship, for you can no longer be steward.’ Then the steward said within himself, ‘What shall I do? For my master is taking the stewardship away from me. I cannot dig; I am ashamed to beg. I have resolved what to do, that when I am put out of the stewardship, they may receive me into their houses.’ So he called every one of his master’s debtors to him, and said to the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’ And he said, ‘A hundred measures of oil.’ So he said to him, ‘Take your bill, and sit down quickly and write fifty.’ Then he said to another, ‘And how much do you owe?’ So he said, ‘A hundred measures of wheat.’ And he said to him, ‘Take your bill, and write eighty.’ So the master commended the unjust steward because he had dealt shrewdly. For the sons of this world are more shrewd in their generation than the sons of light. And I say to you, make friends for yourselves by unrighteous mammon, that when you fail, they may receive you into an everlasting home.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C (J) Praise to You, O Christ.

The Ninth Sunday after Trinity

✠ Sunday 6 August Anno ✠ Domini 2023 ✠



Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise, but as wise.
—Ephesians 5:15

Epiphany Lutheran Church
A congregation of the English District,
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