# The Theme of Today's Liturgy

We desire and earnestly pray that we may have "the Spirit to think and do always such things as are right." (*Collect*) That Spirit does not come from our heartfelt desire to do good. Rather, that Spirit is the Holy Spirit whom we have received – the Spirit which adopts us as children of God. (*Epistle*) It is the Spirit who delivers into us the sure strong Word (Jesus) who enables us to do the will of the Father. (*Gospel*) Not by heavy demands, but by the Lord's loving-kindness given in His Church (*Introit*) – that is how this healthful Spirit of grace works in us the good for which we pray.

#### Introit

Psalm 48:1, 3, 11, 14; antiphon: Psalm 48:9-10



- P We have thought on Your steadfast love, O God, in the midst of Your | temple. \*
  - As Your name, O God, so Your praise reaches to the ends of the earth. Your right hand is filled with | righteousness.
- P Great is the Lord and greatly | to be praised \* in the city of our God, His holy | mountain.
- P Within her | citadels \*
  God has made Himself known as a | fortress.
- P Let Mount Zion | be glad! \*
  Let the daughters of Judah rejoice because of Your | judgments!
- This is God, our God, forever and | ever. \*
  He will guide us for- | ever.
- 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 We have thought on Your steadfast love, O God, in the midst of Your | temple. \*
  As Your name, O God, so Your praise reaches to the ends of the earth.
  Your right hand is filled with | righteousness.

## **Collect of the Day**

Grant to us Lord, we implore You, the Spirit to think and do always such things as are right, that we, who cannot do anything that is good without You, may by You be enabled to live according to Your will; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, Our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the same Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

# **Old Testament Reading**

Jeremiah 23:16-29

Thus says the Lord of hosts: "Do not listen to the words of the prophets who prophesy to you, filling you with vain hopes. They speak visions of their own minds, not from the mouth of the Lord. They say continually to those who despise the Word of the Lord, 'It shall be well with you'; and to everyone who stubbornly follows his own heart, they say, 'No disaster shall come upon you.'"

For who among them has stood in the council of the Lord to see and to hear His Word, or who has paid attention to His Word and listened? Behold, the storm of the Lord! Wrath has gone forth, a whirling tempest; it will burst upon the head of the wicked. The anger of the Lord will not turn back until He has executed and accomplished the intents of his heart. In the latter days you will understand it clearly.

"I did not send the prophets, yet they ran; I did not speak to them, yet they prophesied. But if they had stood in My council, then they would have proclaimed My Words to My people, and they would have turned them from their evil way, and from the evil of their deeds.

"Am I a God at hand," declares the Lord, "and not a God far away? Can a man hide himself in secret places so that I cannot see him?" declares the Lord. "Do I not fill heaven and earth?" declares the Lord. "I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in My name, saying, 'I have dreamed, I have dreamed!' How long shall there be lies in the heart of the prophets who prophesy lies, and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart, who think to make My people forget My name by their dreams that they tell one another, even as their fathers forgot My name for Baal? Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let him who has My Word speak My Word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat?" declares the Lord. "Is not My Word like fire," declares the Lord, "and like a hammer that breaks the rock in pieces?"

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

Gradual Psalm 31:2b, 1a

- P Be a Rock of ref- | uge for me, \* a strong Fortress to | save me!
- In You, O Lord, do I take | refuge; \* let me never be | put to shame.

# 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.

#### **Epistle Reading**

Romans 8:12-17

So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!" The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with Him in order that we may also be glorified with Him.

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

#### **Alleluia and Verse**

Psalm 78:1



P Give ear, O My people to My teaching; Incline your ears to the Words of My mouth.



# **Holy Gospel Reading**

*St Matthew 7:15-23* 

- **P** The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew, the seventh chapter.
- **C** (**J**) Glory to You, O Lord.

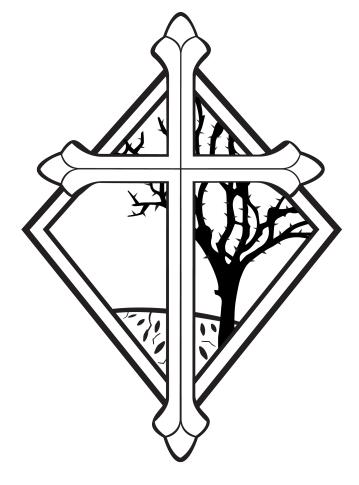
At that time Jesus said to the disciples, "Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves. You will recognize them by their fruits. Are grapes gathered from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? So, every healthy tree bears good fruit, but the diseased tree bears bad fruit. A healthy tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a diseased tree bear good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. Thus you will recognize them by their fruits.

"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of My Father who is in heaven. On that day many will say to Me, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and cast out demons in Your name, and do many mighty works in Your name?' And then will I declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you workers of lawlessness.'"

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

# **Eighth Sunday after Trinity**

+ Sunday 7 August Anno + Domini 2022 +



At one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord.

—Ephesians 5:8

### **Epiphany Lutheran Church**

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

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