

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY
FEBRUARY 27, 2011

LITURGY – LUTHERAN SERVICE BOOK
DIVINE SERVICE SETTING ONE PAGE 151

HYMNODY

ENTRANCE HYMN 901 *Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty*

HYMN OF THE DAY 819 *Sing Praise to God, the Highest Good*

DISTRIBUTION

628 *Your Table I approach*
752 *Be Still, My Soul*
709 *The King of Love My Shepherd Is*
725 *Children of the Heavenly Father*

HYMN TO DEPART 919 *Abide, O Dearest Jesus*

SERMON TEXT: MATTHEW 6:24-34

PRAYER UPON ENTERING WORSHIP



epiphany

Dearest Lord Jesus, on this day in time, we come together to speak of things of eternal consequence. Bless us as we gather at Your tender invitation to hear the saving Gospel. Calm our hearts and minds from the things of this world, so we might hear, and through the power of the Spirit, believe Your eternal Word of life. Amen.

Introit

P: Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before him;

C: God is a refuge for us.

P: For God alone my soul waits in silence;

C: from him comes my salvation.

P: He only is my rock and my salvation, my fortress;

C: I shall not be greatly shaken.

P: Once God has spoken; twice have I heard this:

C: that power belongs to God, and that to you, O Lord, belongs steadfast love.

P: For you will render to a man

C: according to his work.

ALL: 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.

Collect of the Day

O Lord, mercifully hear our prayers and having set us free from the bonds of our sins deliver us from every evil; 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 49:8–16a

⁸Thus says the LORD: “In a time of favor I have answered you; in a day of salvation I have helped you; I will keep you and give you as a covenant to the people, to establish the land, to apportion the desolate heritages, ⁹saying to the prisoners, ‘Come out,’ to those who are in darkness, ‘Appear.’ They shall feed along the ways; on all bare heights shall be their pasture; ¹⁰they shall not hunger or thirst, neither scorching wind nor sun shall strike them, for he who has pity on them will lead them, and by springs of water will guide them. ¹¹And I will make all my mountains a road, and my highways shall be raised up. ¹²Behold, these shall come from afar, and behold, these from the north and from the west, and these from the land of Syene.” ¹³Sing for joy, O heavens, and exult, O earth; break forth, O mountains, into singing! for the LORD has comforted his people and will have compassion on his afflicted. ¹⁴But Zion said, “The LORD has forsaken me; my Lord has forgotten me.”

¹⁵“Can a woman forget her nursing child, that she should have no compassion on the son of her womb? Even these may forget, yet I will not forget you. ¹⁶Behold, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands;

Epistle Reading 1 Corinthians 4:1–13

¹This is how one should regard us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God.

²Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found trustworthy. ³But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged by you or by any human court. In fact, I do not even judge myself. ⁴I am not aware of anything against myself, but I am not thereby acquitted. It is the Lord who judges me. ⁵Therefore do not pronounce judgment before the time, before the Lord comes, who will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Then each one will receive his commendation from God. ⁶I have applied all these things to myself and Apollos for your benefit, brothers, that you may learn by us not to go beyond what is written, that none of you may be puffed up in favor of one against another. ⁷For who sees anything different in you? What do you have that you did not receive? If then you received it, why do you boast as if you did not receive it? ⁸Already you have all you want! Already you have become rich! Without us you have become kings! And would that you did reign, so that we might share the rule with you! ⁹For I think that God has exhibited us apostles as last of all, like men sentenced to death, because we have become a spectacle to the world, to angels, and to men.

¹⁰We are fools for Christ’s sake, but you are wise in Christ. We are weak, but you are strong. You are held in honor, but we in disrepute. ¹¹To the present hour we hunger and thirst, we are poorly dressed and buffeted and homeless, ¹²and we labor, working with our own hands. When reviled, we bless; when persecuted, we endure; ¹³when slandered, we entreat. We have become, and are still, like the scum of the world, the refuse of all things.

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The Holy Gospel Matthew 6:24–34

²⁴[Jesus said:] “No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.

²⁵“Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? ²⁶Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? ²⁷And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? ²⁸And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, ²⁹yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. ³⁰But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? ³¹Therefore do not be anxious, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ ³²For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. ³³But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. ³⁴“Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.

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