

# **The Church of the Epiphany**

*The Fourth Sunday of Advent, Year A*

December 18, 2022

10:30 a.m.

## **Service of Holy Eucharist, Rite II**

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*This service leaflet is excerpted from the Book of Common Prayer (BCP), the red book located in the pew rack in front of you. If you prefer to use the BCP itself to aid your worship, all BCP page numbers are noted. Hymns and service music are from The Hymnal 1982, the blue book located in the pew rack in front of you. Service music is noted by an S in front of the number and can be found in the front of The Hymnal 1982, before the hymns.*

*(This service is live-streamed. Streaming and recording conclude at The Great Thanksgiving.  
Holy Communion is not recorded.)*

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Prelude: O come, O Come, Emmanuel - C. Callahan

Announcements

**THE WORD OF GOD**  
Book of Common Prayer, p. 355

*The people stand.*

Processional Hymn: 497 How bright appears the Morning Star

*The people standing, the Priest-Celebrant says*

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*People* **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever.  
Amen.**

*The people kneel.*

THE DECALOGUE

Enriching Our Worship 1

*Celebrant* Hear the commandments of God to his people:  
I am the Lord your God who brought you out of  
bondage. You shall have no other gods but me.

*People* **Lord, have mercy upon us,  
And incline our hearts to keep this law.**

*Celebrant* You shall not make for yourself any idol.

*People* **Lord, have mercy upon us,  
And incline our hearts to keep this law.**

*Celebrant* You shall not invoke with malice the Name of  
the Lord  
your God.

*People* **Lord, have mercy upon us,  
And incline our hearts to keep this law.**

*Celebrant* Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.

*People* **Lord, have mercy upon us,  
And incline our hearts to keep this law.**

*Celebrant* Honor your father and your mother.

*People* **Lord, have mercy upon us,  
And incline our hearts to keep this law.**

*Celebrant* You shall not commit murder.

*People* **Lord, have mercy upon us,  
And incline our hearts to keep this law.**

*Celebrant* You shall not commit adultery.

*People* **Lord, have mercy upon us,  
And incline our hearts to keep this law.**

*Celebrant* You shall not steal.

*People* **Lord, have mercy upon us,**

**And incline our hearts to keep this law.**

*Celebrant* You shall not be a false witness.

*People* **Lord, have mercy upon us,  
And incline our hearts to keep this law.**

*Celebrant* You shall not covet anything that belongs to  
your neighbor.

*People* **Lord, have mercy upon us,  
And write all these thy laws in our hearts,  
we beseech you.**

*The people stand.*

Kyrie: Lord, Have Mercy

Hymnal S-91

Lord, have mercy upon us.

***Christ, have mercy upon us.***

Lord, have mercy upon us.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

BCP 357

*The Priest-Celebrant says to the people*

The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*The Priest-Celebrant says the Collect for the Fourth Sunday of Advent.*

BCP 212

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation,  
that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a  
mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in  
the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

*People* **Amen.**

The Lessons

BCP 357

*The people sit.*

*Reader* A Reading from Isaiah [7:10-16]

Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test. Then Isaiah said: “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.”

*Silence*

*Reader* The Word of the Lord

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

Responsorial Psalm [80:1-7, 16-18]

BCP 702

*Reader* The Psalm for today is portions of Psalm 80. We will read the psalm responsively by whole verse.

Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; \*  
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

**In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh,\*  
stir up your strength and come to help us.**

Restore us, O God of hosts; \*  
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

**O LORD God of hosts, \*  
how long will you be angered  
despite the prayers of your people?**

You have fed them with the bread of tears; \*  
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.

**You have made us the derision of our neighbors, \*  
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.**

Restore us, O God of hosts; \*  
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be  
saved.

**Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, \*  
the son of man you have made so strong for  
yourself.**

And so will we never turn away from you; \*  
give us life, that we may call upon your Name.

**Restore us, O LORD God of hosts; \*  
show the light of your countenance, and we shall  
be saved.**

*Reader* A Reading from Romans [1:1-7]

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set  
apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand  
through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel  
concerning his Son, who was descended from David  
according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God  
with power according to the spirit of holiness by  
resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through  
whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring  
about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the  
sake of his name, including yourselves who are called to  
belong to Jesus Christ,

To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints:  
Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord  
Jesus Christ.

*Silence*

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

*The people stand.*

Sequence Hymn. Advent Alleluias

Luke Mayernik

*Then, all standing, the Priest-Celebrant reads the Gospel, first saying*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
According to Matthew [1:18-25].

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

“Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,  
and they shall name him Emmanuel,”

which means, “God is with us.” When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

*Silence*

*After the Gospel, the Priest-Celebrant says*

The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE HOMILY

Mtr. Kristin Wickersham

*Silence*

*The people stand. The Priest-Celebrant and people say*

THE NICENE CREED

BCP 358

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father.  
Through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the Prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE  
Form VI

BCP 392

*The Intercessor and people pray responsively*

*Intercessor* In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

*Silence*

*Intercessor* For all people in their daily life and work:

*People* **For our families, friends, and neighbors,  
and for those who are alone.**

*Intercessor* For this community, the nation, and the world;

*People* **For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

*Intercessor* For the just and proper use of your creation;

*People* **For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice,  
and oppression.**

*Intercessor* For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind  
of trouble;

*People* **For those who minister to the sick, the friendless,**



**and the needy.**

*Intercessor* For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

*People* **For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.**

*Intercessor* For Michael our Presiding Bishop,  
Mark our Bishop, Kristin our Priest; and  
all bishops, priests, deacons, and other ministers;

*People* **For all who serve God in his Church.**

*Intercessor* For the special needs and concerns of  
this congregation.

*Silence*

*The people may add their own petitions, either silently or aloud.*

*Intercessor* Hear us, Lord;

*People* **For your mercy is great.**

*Intercessor* We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this  
life.

*Silence*

*The people may add their own thanksgivings, either silently or aloud.*

*Intercessor* We will exalt you, O God our King;

*People* **And praise your Name for ever and ever.**

*Intercessor* We pray for all who have died, that they may  
have  
a place in your eternal kingdom.

*Silence*

*The people may add their own petitions.*

*Intercessor* Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

*People* **Who put their trust in you.**

*The Priest-Celebrant concludes with a suitable Collect.*

Hasten, O Father, the coming of thy kingdom; and grant that we thy servants, who now live by faith, may with joy behold thy Son at his coming in glorious majesty; even Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate. *Amen.*

CONFESSION OF SIN

BCP 359

*The Priest-Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*All kneel.*

*Silence is kept.*

*The Priest-Celebrant and people say*

**Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

*The Priest-Celebrant, stands and says*

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

THE PEACE

*All stand.*

*The Priest-Celebrant says to the people*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
*People* **And also with you.**

*Then the Priest-Celebrant and people may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

THE OFFERTORY

Offertory Sentences  
BCP 376

*The Priest-Celebrant says to the people*

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

*The people sit.*

*The people place their offerings and commitment/pledge cards into offering plates.  
The offerings are brought to the altar as an act of worship, and blessed by the Priest-Celebrant.*

Anthem: Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Coming – R. Price

THE HOLY COMMUNION

*The people stand.*

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*Eucharistic Prayer B*  
BCP 367

*The Priest-Celebrant faces the people and says*

The Lord be with you.  
*People* **And also with you.**  
*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

*People* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People* **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*The Priest-Celebrant proceeds*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

*The Priest-Celebrant and people sing*

Sanctus  
S-130

Hymnal

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

*The people kneel.*

*Then the Priest-Celebrant continues*

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your

Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life. On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

*The Priest-Celebrant and people say*

**We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory;**

*The Priest-Celebrant continues*

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with the Blessed Virgin Mary and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your

sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

*People* **AMEN.**

*The Priest-Celebrant continues*

And now, as our Savior  
Christ has taught us,  
we are bold to say,

*The Priest-Celebrant and people say*

BCP 364

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
Hallowed be thy Name,  
Thy kingdom come,  
Thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
As we forgive those  
who trespass against us  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

*The Priest-Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.*

*A period of silence is kept.*

*Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
*People* **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

*the Priest-Celebrant says the following Invitation*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

*The Priest-Celebrant and ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.*

*How to Receive Communion and An Invitation to Baptism*

*All baptized Christians are invited to receive communion. If you do not wish to receive, you may come forward for a blessing, indicating this by crossing your arms over your chest. If you desire to be Baptized and thereby enter into membership in the mystical Body of Christ, please contact the Priest-in-Charge.*

*At the altar rail, to receive the bread, lay your right hand in your left hand, palm open. To receive the wine, as the priest brings the chalice to your lips, gently touch the base of the chalice and help guide it to your lips.*

*We do not allow the practice of intinction, or dipping the bread into the consecrated wine. If you do not wish to receive the consecrated wine, please indicate this by crossing your arms over your chest. Although we encourage reception in both kinds, the grace of God present in the holy sacrament is fully available in the bread or the wine alone.*

*If you would like communion brought to you in your pew, please tell an usher and the priest will come to you.*

*The Priest-Celebrant and ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.*

*The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words*

BCP 365

*Celebrant* The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven.  
*Communicant* **Amen.**





As you run the race of this present life,  
may he make you firm in faith,  
joyful in hope and active in charity.

*People* **Amen.**

So that, rejoicing now with devotion  
at the Redeemer's coming in the flesh,  
you may be endowed with the rich reward of eternal life  
when he comes again in majesty.

*People* **Amen.**

And may the blessing of almighty God,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
come down on you and remain with you forever.

*People* **Amen.**

*The Priest-Celebrant dismisses the people.*

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

Post-Communion Hymn: 56 O come, O come, Emmanuel  
( Stanza 1–3, & 8)

*The people depart after the conclusion of the hymn and carry the Good News into the world.*

*The flowers on the altar this morning are given to the Glory of God by George & Suzanne Elmore in memory of her parents, Jesse & Margaret Cook.*

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## **An Outline of the Faith commonly called the Catechism**

The Old Covenant

- Q. What is meant by a covenant with God?  
A. A covenant is a relationship initiated by God, to which a body of people responds in faith.
- Q. What is the Old Covenant?  
A. The Old Covenant is the one given by God to the Hebrew people.
- Q. What did God promise them?  
A. God promised that they would be his people to bring all the nations of the world to him.
- Q. What response did God require from the chosen people?  
A. God required the chosen people to be faithful; to love justice, to do mercy, and to walk humbly with their God.
- Q. Where is this Old Covenant to be found?  
A. The covenant with the Hebrew people is to be found in the books which we call the Old Testament.
- Q. Where in the Old Testament is God's will for us shown most clearly?  
A. God's will for us is shown most clearly in the Ten Commandments.
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**The Church of the Epiphany**

*An Episcopal Church and member of the worldwide Anglican Communion*

8000 Hermitage Road  
Richmond, Virginia 23228  
(804) 266-2503

Office Hours:  
Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday  
9:00 a.m. – noon

The Rev. Kristin P. R. Wickersham, SOSc, Priest-in-Charge  
Mrs. Anita Williams, Minister of Music  
Mrs. Lucy Whitlock, Parish Administrator  
Mr. Timon Kenyi, Sexton

Marty Shephard, Treasurer

The Vestry

Gray Corbett (Sr. Warden), Randy Holden (Jr. Warden),  
Becky Card (Register), Scott Blackwell, Cory Isemann, Stacy Mitchell, John  
Norris, John Sarvay, Jeri Townley

**COMMUNICATION CARD**  
December 18, 2022

Welcome! You have blessed us with your presence. Please tell us how we can best serve you by completing the Communication Card.

*Please place in the offering basket, hand it to an usher, or place on the table in the vestibule.*

I'm looking for a church home  
 I'd like to speak with a clergy member  
 I'm ready to become a member  
 I'm just visiting today

**Name & Address**  Please update

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Phone** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Children's names and ages**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Please give me more information about:**

Children's / Youth Programs  
 Social events  
 Outreach opportunities  
 Classes and Small Group Studies  
 Baptism or Confirmation  
 How I can get involved

**How did you hear about Epiphany?**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(over)

**FOR YOUR PRAYERS**

**New to the Prayer List:**

**Parishioners:** Dottie Strabley, Mike Young, Bob Jimerson, Fran LaVigne, Buddy Dunn, Milton Jenkins, David Skinner, Chip Dunn, Herb Williams, Marion Magruder, Martha Jenkins, George Baynes, Nancy Sonne, Jeannie Riddick

**Homebound:** Ray Hampton, Dot Hudson, Charlotte Lovelace, Joyce Melton, Ina Stickel, Betty Van Valkenburg, and Irene Morris

**Family & Friends:** Joyce Matchunis—Irene Morris' daughter-in-law, Dave Schulte—friend of Wayne & Lucy Whitlock, Nancy Baynes Rojas—daughter of George & Joy Baynes, Johnny Jorstad—Martha Jenkins son & Marty Shephard & Sandy Tignor's brother, Buster & Janet Magruder—Marion Magruder's son & daughter-in-law, Carolyn Hall—friend of Kathy Jimerson, Lynn Selfe—friend of Gray & Frosine Corbett, Deb—cousin of Jeri Anne Townley, David Thabet, Elizabeth Mickel,—relatives of Denise Russell and Sandy Ruder, Christian Devol—friend of Cheryl Lineberry, Easton Guyer—Cheryl Lineberry's grandson, Mike Marcial—friend of Cory Isemann, Kelly & Steve Schaaf, Emily, Stephen Bruke—son of Scott Blackwell's friend, Karen Rood—Jeri Anne Townley's sister, Melissa Matthews—friend of Kim Ludwig, Jack Nance, friend of Cheryl Lineberry, Judy Watson—Martha Jenkins niece & Marty Shephard & Sandy Tignor's cousin, Janie Dunnlevy—friend of Lucy & Wayne, Billy Callahan—friend of Karen Holden, Joanita Senoga—friend of Jeri Townley, Joan Church—friend of Gail Wood, Jean McDonough—Kim Ludwig & Karen Tucker's aunt, Sandra—friend from community

**Prayers for the departed:**

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**CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY**

Today's Ministers  
**10:30 AM—Worship Service**

**Weekly Worship**  
Sundays at 8:15 & 10:30 a.m.

**Contact info:**  
The Rev. Kristin P. R. Wickersham, SOSc  
Priest in Charge  
Cell Phone: 804-502-1891

8000 Hermitage Road  
804-266-2503

Office hours:  
Tuesday—Thursday 9am-12noon  
www.epiphanyepiscopal.com

**Ushers:** Lee Poates, Gray Corbett  
**Acolytes:** Kim Ludwig, Kiden Kenyi  
**Lessons:** Stephanie Norris  
**Prayers of the People:** Stephanie Norris  
**Sun. School Helper:** Jennifer Jefcoats  
**Altar Guild:** Kathy Jimerson, Fran LaVigne, Carol McElhinney  
**Coffee Hour:** Crystal & Jessica  
**Counters:** Gray Corbett, Kim Ludwig



**The Church of the Epiphany**  
ANNOUNCEMENTS

**The Fourth Sunday of Advent**  
December 18, 2022

Welcome—we are glad you are here! Know that whoever you are, and where ever you are in your spiritual journey, you have a place here. If you are new, or haven't yet given us your contact information, please complete the attached communication card and place it in the plate so that you can learn more about Epiphany's community.

*Introducing the Lessons*

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Isaiah 7:10-16

In the first lesson we hear that the prophet Isaiah insists that King Ahaz of Judah will receive a sign from God, whether he wants it or not, the sign of a young woman bearing a son to be called Emmanuel. Ahaz was more inclined to depend on political alliances than on the Lord. Isaiah prophesied that, by the time the infant began to make his own choices, the Lord would destroy Judah's immediate enemies. Christians have seen the ultimate fulfillment of these prophetic words in the birth of Jesus.

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Romans 1:1-7

Paul greets the new disciples in Rome and summarizes the gospel message. The prophecies concerning one to be descended from King David in human terms, and declared Son of God through the power of the Holy Spirit by resurrection from the dead, have been fulfilled. The Lord Jesus Christ has given grace and the commission of apostleship to bring peoples of all nations to faith and obedience.

The Gospel: Matthew 1:18-25

The gospel tells the story of the birth of Jesus. While she was betrothed to Joseph, Mary finds that she is bearing a child. But an angel tells Joseph not to fear: this is the work of the Holy Spirit. The baby is to be named Jesus, which means "The Lord saves". The evangelist perceives this birth to be the fulfillment of an ancient prophecy which told of a virgin who would bear a son. The narrative makes clear the divine origin of this child who will save the people from their sins.

**On the Calendar and Coming up**

**Sun. Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>**  
8:15 am—Holy Eucharist  
10:30am—Holy Eucharist

7:30 pm—AA Meeting in parish hall

**Tue. Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>**  
7:00 pm—JRRingers

**Wed. Dec. 21<sup>st</sup>**  
6:00 — 7:30 pm—Bible Study

**Thur. Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup>**  
6:15 pm—Chancel Choir Rehearsal  
7:30 pm—Handbell Rehearsal

**Fri. Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup>**  
7:30pm —AA meeting in the parish hall

**Sat. Dec. 24<sup>th</sup>**  
**Christmas Eve**  
4:00 pm—Holy Eucharist  
10:30 pm—Holy Eucharist

**Sun. Dec. 25<sup>th</sup>**  
**Christmas Day**  
10:30am—Holy Eucharist—quiet service

7:30pm —AA meeting in the parish hall

**Poinsettias:** Time to place your order—\$15.00. Please give me the names of who they are in memory of or thanksgiving for by Monday, December 19<sup>th</sup>.

**There is still time to turn in your pledge card** and if you have lost or misplaced yours there are some on the table in the narthex.

**Due to the busy bustle of the holidays** we are cancelling the Noon Service for the month of December. We will be resuming again after the first of the year!

**Here's the upcoming kitchen news.**

Dec. 25 and Jan 1: No coffee hour

Jan. 8: Feast of the Epiphany, this is a pot luck event. Bring your favorite dish to share. The church will provide chicken tenders.

Feb. 12: Pasta Bar

Feb. 21: Pancake Supper

**Christmas Eve services will be at 4:00 pm and 10:30 pm.**

Attendance: December 11, 2022  
8:15 am 3  
10:30 am 62

**Outreach Opportunities**



The diaper ministry continues to hold diaper distribution on the third Saturday of each month from 10 am to 12:00 noon. This inspirational ministry has been touching families lives in our community since 2018 and continues to welcome new families each month. This ministry offers the parish an outreach opportunity to share God's love and develop relationships within our community. The most recent diaper distribution was held on December 17<sup>th</sup>. The next diaper distribution day is on **January 21<sup>st</sup>**. A sign-up sheet is on the outreach board in the parish hallway for anyone interested in volunteering. Donations of diapers (sizes 5 & 6) and wipes are also appreciated. Thank you again to everyone for your continued support of this ministry!



A copy of the **2023 homeless lunch schedule** is available on the bulletin board in the parish hallway if anyone would like a copy. If anyone is interested in taking part in this ministry, ALL are welcome! Contact Mary Sam Abernathy (msabernathy88@gmail.com) or the team lead, for the team you are interested in helping. **The next lunches are scheduled to be prepared and delivered by the Yellow Team on January 7<sup>th</sup>**. The year 2023 will be the 24<sup>th</sup> year that our parish has taken part in the homeless lunch ministry! A big THANK YOU to everyone who continues to support this ministry. Donations of paper lunch bags, sandwich bags or napkins are always welcome as well and can be dropped at the church office. Additionally, if you have further questions or concerns, I am always available to answer any questions. Crystal Sarvay, Outreach Coordinator ([crystalsarvay@gmail.com](mailto:crystalsarvay@gmail.com)).



**Thank you all so much** to everyone who donated to the Salvation Army Angel tree, to the "Coats for Kids" drive, brought in the "warm and fuzzies" for our annual warm and fuzzy tree and for the clothing and toy items donated to the three families in our community who requested clothes for their children during this special season! Our outreach projects have been a blessing to so many families and are truly a special gift sent into our community from our parish!



There are some needs within our elementary schools currently. They are requesting these items for their clinics for those students who may come in and find a special need during the day, which oftentimes does occur. These items include **boys and girl's pants with elastic waists, sizes 5 through 14 (sweat pant type) and children underwear sizes 5 through 14**. If anyone would like to donate any of these items, I will have a box in the parish hallway for them. These can be donated up through February 28<sup>th</sup>. Thank you so much!

The love and kindness that our parish shares are beyond amazing!  
*Love lives here!* ♡

**COMMUNICATION CARD**

December 18, 2022  
Our Communication Card is for **all people at The Church of the Epiphany** so that you can share your thoughts and prayers, and request information.

If you are new, please complete the opposite side so we also have your contact information.

I'd like more information about an upcoming event or program

I am RSVPing or signing up for:

I am interested in learning more about how to be part of the following ministries or programs:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Music          | <input type="checkbox"/> Greeters      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Altar Guild    | <input type="checkbox"/> Pastoral Care |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Office help    | <input type="checkbox"/> Readers       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Christian Ed   | <input type="checkbox"/> Prayer Team   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Outreach       | <input type="checkbox"/> Ushers        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chalice Bearer | <input type="checkbox"/> _____         |

**Prayer Requests / Comments**

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