

**The Church of the Epiphany**  
**Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany, Year A**  
**February 5, 2023**  
**10:30 a.m.**

**The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two**

*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.*

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

Prelude: O Spirit of Life - R. Hobby

Welcome and Announcements

**THE WORD OF GOD**

THE ENTRANCE RITE

BCP 355

*The people stand.*

Processional Hymn: 381 Thy strong word

*The people standing, the Priest-Celebrant joins the people in facing the Holy Altar and says*

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

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

*The Priest-Celebrant says the Collect for Purity*

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known,  
and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our  
hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may

perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name;  
through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*The Gloria in Excelsis is sung by all, standing.*

Hymnal S-280

**Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

*The Priest-Celebrant says to the people*

The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*The Priest-Celebrant faces the Holy Altar and says the Collect of the Day.*

BCP 215

Set us free, O God, from the bondage of our sins, and give us  
the liberty of that abundant life which you have made known to  
us in your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with

you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

THE LESSONS

BCP 357

*The people sit.*

*The Lessons, as appointed, are read. A Psalm, hymn, or anthem may follow each Reading.*

*Reader*    A Reading from Isaiah [58:1-12]

Shout out, do not hold back!  
Lift up your voice like a trumpet!  
Announce to my people their rebellion,  
to the house of Jacob their sins.  
Yet day after day they seek me  
and delight to know my ways,  
as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness  
and did not forsake the ordinance of their God;  
they ask of me righteous judgments,  
they delight to draw near to God.  
“Why do we fast, but you do not see?  
Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?”  
Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day,  
and oppress all your workers.  
Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight  
and to strike with a wicked fist.  
Such fasting as you do today  
will not make your voice heard on high.  
Is such the fast that I choose,  
a day to humble oneself?  
Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush,  
and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?  
Will you call this a fast,  
a day acceptable to the LORD?

Is not this the fast that I choose:  
to loose the bonds of injustice,  
to undo the thongs of the yoke,  
to let the oppressed go free,  
and to break every yoke?  
Is it not to share your bread with the hungry,  
and bring the homeless poor into your house;  
when you see the naked, to cover them,  
and not to hide yourself from your own kin?  
Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,  
and your healing shall spring up quickly;  
your vindicator shall go before you,  
the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.  
Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer;  
you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

If you remove the yoke from among you,  
the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,  
if you offer your food to the hungry  
and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,  
then your light shall rise in the darkness  
and your gloom be like the noonday.  
The LORD will guide you continually,  
and satisfy your needs in parched places,  
and make your bones strong;  
and you shall be like a watered garden,  
like a spring of water,  
whose waters never fail.

Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;  
you shall raise up the foundations of many  
generations;  
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,  
the restorer of streets to live in.

*Silence*

*Reader* The Word of the Lord

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

*Reader* The Psalm for today is a portion of Psalm 112 [1-9].  
We will read responsively by whole verse.

1 Hallelujah!

BCP 755

Happy are they who fear the Lord \*  
and have great delight in his commandments!

**2 Their descendants will be mighty in the land; \*  
the generation of the upright will be blessed.**

3 Wealth and riches will be in their house, \*  
and their righteousness will last for ever.

**4 Light shines in the darkness for the upright; \*  
the righteous are merciful and full of  
compassion.**

5 It is good for them to be generous in lending \*  
and to manage their affairs with justice.

**6 For they will never be shaken; \*  
the righteous will be kept in everlasting  
remembrance.**

7 They will not be afraid of any evil rumors; \*  
their heart is right;  
they put their trust in the Lord.

**8 Their heart is established and will not shrink, \*  
until they see their desire upon their enemies.**

9 They have given freely to the poor, \*  
and their righteousness stands fast for ever;  
they will hold up their head with honor.

*Reader* A Reading from 1 Corinthians [1:1-16]

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come  
proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or  
wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except  
Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I came to you in

weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written,

“What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,  
nor the human heart conceived,  
what God has prepared for those who love him”—

these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual.

Those who are unspiritual do not receive the gifts of God's Spirit, for they are foolishness to them, and they are unable to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. Those who are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else's scrutiny.

“For who has known the mind of the Lord  
so as to instruct him?”

But we have the mind of Christ.

*Silence*

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

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

*The people stand.*

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Song of Gladness

Tune: Hymn 559.

Words: Hymn 122 v. 1 as follows:

**Alleluia, song of gladness,  
voice of joy that cannot die;  
alleluia is the anthem  
ever raised by choirs on high;  
in the house of God abiding  
thus they sing eternally.** *Repeat.*

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

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
According to Matthew [5:13-20].

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

Jesus said, “You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

“You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

“Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is

accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

*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  
Intercessions for Year A

Church Publishing

*The Intercessor and people pray responsively*

*Intercessor* In the offering of our prayers, let us draw upon God's  
holy and life-giving waters to refresh our hearts,  
responding, "Hear us, God of Glory."

*Silence*

For the courage to live with integrity, that what is visible  
in our outward actions reveals the Holy Spirit of God  
residing within our souls; let us pray.

*People* **Hear us, God of Glory.**

*Intercessor* That we may discover the light that is within us, placing  
it upon the lamp stands of the world, offering a way of  
hope for those who live under the burden of poverty,  
abuse, oppression, and degradation of every kind; let us  
pray.

*People* **Hear us, God of Glory.**

*Intercessor* That the commandments of God may be the pathways  
upon which we walk, acknowledging their wisdom and

fashioning our lives after their challenges, that through them the whole community of God's people may prosper and live in mutual trust and goodness; let us pray.

*People* **Hear us, God of Glory.**

*Intercessor* That the leaders of the Church may be strengthened by the crosses they are called to bear, the burdens of petty concerns and the weight of serious discord, all in the Name of Christ, whose cross leads the faithful to a risen life; let us pray.

*People* **Hear us, God of Glory.**

*Intercessor* For those in positions of public trust, that they may have a vision of the global good over political gain, and the welfare of the whole over the special interests of the few; let us pray.

*People* **Hear us, God of Glory.**

*Intercessor* In thanksgiving for those whose lives enriched our own, and who now live in the communion of saints, in whose company we may one day reside; let us pray.

*People* **Hear us, God of Glory.**

*Intercessor* From the depths of weakness and trembling that live in every human heart, let us continue our prayers and thanksgivings.

*Silence*

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

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

BCP 395

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. *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 Priest-Celebrant says to the people*

BCP 376

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, which are brought to the altar as an offering to God, and blessed by the Priest-Celebrant.*

Offertory Voluntary: Thou, Whose Almighty Word - F. Peeters

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*Eucharistic Prayer A*

BCP 367

*The people stand.*

*The Priest-Celebrant faces them 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.**

*Then, facing the Holy Altar, 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 in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

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 SANCTUS

Hymnal S-124

*Priest-Celebrant and People*

**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*

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

*At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or to lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.*

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Priest-Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

*The Priest-Celebrant continues*

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: 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 LORD'S PRAYER

BCP 364

*People and Priest-Celebrant*

**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.**

*Facing the people, 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, the Church, 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.*

*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 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.**

*Celebrant* The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation.  
*Communicant* **Amen.**

*The people join the choir in singing the hymns during Communion.*

Hymns During Communion:

Hymn 488 Be thou my vision

Hymn 126 The people who in darkness walked

*After Communion, the Priest-Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*Priest-Celebrant and People*

BCP 365

**Eternal God, heavenly Father,  
you have graciously accepted us as living members  
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,  
and you have fed us with spiritual food  
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.  
Send us now into the world in peace,  
and grant us strength and courage  
to love and serve you  
with gladness and singleness of heart;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*The Priest-Celebrant blesses the people.*

Book of Occasional Services

May Christ, the Son of God, be manifest in you, that your lives  
may be a light to the world; and the blessing of almighty God,  
the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, come down on you  
and remain with you for ever.

*People* **Amen.**

Post-Communion Hymn 372 Praise to the living God!

THE DISMISSAL

*The Priest-Celebrant dismisses the people.*



Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
*People* **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude: How Blest are Those Who Fear the Lord – E. Canning

*The flowers on the altar this morning are given to the Glory of God in celebration of the life and love of Charlotte S. Lovelace by her family.*

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## An Outline of the Faith commonly called the Catechism

### The Holy Scriptures

Q. What are the Holy Scriptures?

A. The Holy Scriptures, commonly called the Bible, are the books of the Old and New Testaments; other books, called the Apocrypha, are often included in the Bible.

Q. What is the Old Testament?

A. The Old Testament consists of books written by the people of the Old Covenant, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, to show God at work in nature and history.

Q. What is the New Testament?

A. The New Testament consists of books written by the people of the New Covenant, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, to set forth the life and teachings of Jesus and to proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom for all people.

Q. What is the Apocrypha?

A. The Apocrypha is a collection of additional books written by people of the Old Covenant, and used in the Christian Church.

Q. Why do we call the Holy Scriptures the Word of God?

A. We call them the Word of God because God inspired their human authors and because God still speaks to us through the Bible.

Q. How do we understand the meaning of the Bible?

A. We understand the meaning of the Bible by the help of the Holy Spirit, who guides the Church in the true interpretation of the Scriptures.

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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'd Kristin P. R. Wickersham, 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 Iseman, Stacy Mitchell, John  
Norris, John Sarvay, Jeri Townley

COMMUNICATION CARD

February 5, 2023

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:

Mike Young, Bob Jimerson, Fran LaVigne, Buddy Dunn, Milton Jenkins, Chip Dunn, Herb Williams, Marion Magruder, Martha Jenkins

Homebound:

Ray Hampton, Dot Hudson, Joyce Melton, Ina Stickel, and Irene Morris

Family & Friends:

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, Kelly & Steve Schaaf, Emily, 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—Gail Wood's stepmother, Jean McDonough—Kim Ludwig & Karen Tucker's aunt, John, Marchelle Clarke—April Craver's mother, Donna Ludwig—Dwight Ludwig's mom, David Muse, Johnny Jorstad—Martha Jenkins son & Marty Shephard & Sandy Tignor's brother,

Prayers for the departed:

Charlotte Lovelace, George Baynes

CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY

Today's Ministers

10:30 PM—Worship Service

Ushers:

Becky Card, Frosine Corbett

Acolytes:

Eric Ludwig, Ezra Axselle

Lessons:

Ann Poates

Prayers of the People:

Ann Poates

Chalice:

Stacy Mitchell

Sun. School Helper:

Cony Barrett

Altar Guild:

Jean Riddick, Melba Shumaker

Coffee Hour:

Pasta Bar Lunch

Counters:

Becky Card, Denise Russell

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

The Church of the Epiphany

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

February 5, 2023



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 58:1-12

This passage is a denunciation of the injustices of those who only act at their religion. There is a promise of the Lord's favor for those who genuinely repent and care for the needy. Fasts and many prayers are of no purpose and may be misused if they do not involve the liberation of the oppressed and help for the weak and afflicted. When there is justice and sharing, then the light of the Lord will rise out of darkness and all the ruins will be rebuilt.

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: 1 Corinthians 2:1-16

In this lesson Paul teaches the Corinthians that the wisdom of God is very different from the wisdom in which humans pride themselves. Some of the Corinthians were apparently boasting of their Christianity as though it were powerful in terms of worldly wisdom. They even made fun of Paul for his lack of eloquence. The true power of God is, however, hidden from the ruling forces of the world, for it is discovered in a crucified Lord. This is revealed through God's own Spirit.

The Gospel: Matthew 5:13-20

In the gospel lesson we learn that disciples are like salt and as light to the world. They are to live even more righteously than the pious scribes and Pharisees. Like a city set on a hill or a lamp on a stand, Jesus' followers must show forth their good works to the glory of God. Jesus has not come to abolish the law and the prophets but to fulfill their purpose. Only those who go beyond the keeping of the law and are wholly committed to God's will can enter the kingdom of heaven.

### On the Calendar and Coming up

**Sun. Feb. 5<sup>th</sup>**  
8:15 am Holy Eucharist  
10:30am—Holy Eucharist

Pasta Bar Luncheon

7:30 pm—AA Meeting in parish hall

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

**Wed. Feb. 8<sup>th</sup>**  
12:00 noon—Holy Eucharist  
6:00 pm—Bible Study

**Thur. Feb. 9<sup>th</sup>**  
6:15 pm—Chancel Choir Rehearsal  
7:30 pm—Handbell Rehearsal

**Fri. Feb. 10<sup>th</sup>**  
7:30 pm—AA meeting in the parish hall

**Sat. Feb. 11<sup>th</sup>**  
6:00 pm—Big Night Out featuring dinner, dancing & fellowship!

**Sun. Feb. 12<sup>th</sup>**  
8:15 am Holy Eucharist  
10:30 am—Holy Eucharist

7:30pm—AA meeting in the parish hall

**Great News Epiphany.** You can forget about the stress of making Valentine's Day plans because we have something better in mind. If you haven't heard by now, Big Night Out is Back— February 11<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm. What could be better than an evening out enjoying dinner, dancing, fellowship and the awesome music of the Kozy Cats. All this helps to support Epiphany's diaper ministry. The men's group has everything covered. All you have to do is show up and have a good time. Reach out to Lucy, Scott Blackwell or Darel Gallagher and let us know if you wish to attend and how many guests you want to bring with you.

**The prayers & sympathy** of the congregation are extended to Joy Baynes and family on the death of her husband, George Baynes who died on Friday, January 20<sup>th</sup>. May his soul and the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace.

**News from the kitchen:**  
Please check the board and sign up for an upcoming coffee hour. We have the following dates open: Feb. 19, and 26 and all of March!

Join us today for Second Sunday lunch—Pasta Bar!

We are also bringing back the pancake supper. This will be held on Feb. 21<sup>st</sup> from 5—7:30. Looking for volunteers. Let Diana know if you are able to help.

***I have the 2023 Envelopes and if you want to pick yours up, please let me know in the office and I can get them for you.***

Attendance: January 29, 2023  
8:15 am 5  
10:30 am 55

### 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 January 21<sup>st</sup> and we welcomed 42 families and continue to see new families. The next diaper distribution day is on February 18<sup>th</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 and a BIG thank you to the Green team for volunteering to take on the last month of 2023 for the homeless lunches that was open. . 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 Chapters 4 & 5 on February 4th.** The year 2023 is the 24<sup>th</sup> year that our parish has taken part in the homeless lunch ministry! A huge THANK YOU to everyone who continues to support this ministry. Donations of paper lunch bags, sandwich bags and 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)).



There are currently some needs within our elementary schools. 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!



Additionally, if anyone has found more coats since our coat drive that they would like to give away, please bring them in to church to donate. There are many children in need of warm coats within our county schools who would greatly appreciate them. Thank you so much!

*The love and kindness that our parish share is beyond amazing!*

**Love live here!**



### COMMUNICATION CARD

February 5, 2023

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**