

The Church of the Epiphany

The Third Sunday of Easter, Year A

April 23, 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: *Baptized in Water* - A. Moore

Welcome and Announcements

THE WORD OF GOD

The people stand.

Processional Hymn: 483 *The head that once was crowned with thorns*

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

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

BCP 355

People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

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 Priest-Celebrant says to the people

The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

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

BCP 222

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The people sit.

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

Reader A Reading from Acts [2:14(a), 36-41]

Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd, “Let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, “Brothers, what should we do?” Peter said to them, “Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.” And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

Reader The Word of the Lord

People **Thanks be to God.**

Silence follows

Reader The Psalm for today is portions of

Psalm 116 [*Dilexi, quoniam*]

We will read responsively by whole verse.

BCP 116

1 I love the LORD, because he has heard the voice of my
supplication,*
because he has inclined his ear to me whenever I
called upon him.

**2 The cords of death entangled me;
 the grip of the grave took hold of me; *
 I came to grief and sorrow.**

3 Then I called upon the Name of the LORD: *
 "O LORD, I pray you, save my life."

**10 How shall I repay the LORD *
 for all the good things he has done for me?**

11 I will lift up the cup of salvation *
 and call upon the Name of the LORD.

**12 I will fulfill my vows to the LORD *
 in the presence of all his people.**

13 Precious in the sight of the LORD *
 is the death of his servants.

**14 O LORD, I am your servant; *
 I am your servant and the child of your
 handmaid;
 you have freed me from my bonds.**

15 I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving *
 and call upon the Name of the LORD.

**16 I will fulfill my vows to the LORD *
 in the presence of all his people,**

17 In the courts of the LORD'S house, *
 in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.
 Hallelujah!

Reader A Reading from 1 Peter [1:17-23]

If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God.

Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Silence follows

The people stand.

Gospel Acclamation for Eastertide
Alleluias

James Biery

Sung through three, six, or nine times.



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

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
According to Luke [24:13-35].

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

Now on that same day two of Jesus' disciples were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word

before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him.” Then he said to them, “Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?” Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, “Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.” So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?” That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!” Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

After the Gospel, the Priest-Celebrant says

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Silence follows

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

The Intercessor and people pray responsively

Intercessor Silver and gold did not buy us our freedom, but the self-sacrificing love of the Lamb. In thanksgiving for this blessed gift, we offer our prayers, responding to each petition by saying, “Hear us, O risen Christ.”

Open our ears and eyes to hear your word in the midst of the daily routine, to see in others your holy presence, discovering through the voices of the poor and downtrodden your cry for justice; let us pray.

People **Hear us, O risen Christ.**

Intercessor Enlarge our ministry to welcome the uninitiated to receive the sacrament of baptism, opening the door for them to share in the death and resurrection of Christ, and the freedom to begin life anew; let us pray.

People **Hear us, O risen Christ.**

Intercessor Imbue our souls with your Body and Blood, the gladness and joy that fill our souls, and from which our love for one another overflows in mercy; let us pray.

People **Hear us, O risen Christ.**

Intercessor Release the gift of peace wherever it is entombed in fear, that resources spent to create armaments for war may instead be given for medical centers, schools, agricultural development, and employment opportunities; let us pray.

People **Hear us, O risen Christ.**

Intercessor Encourage the Church to develop new ways of communicating its message, receiving guidance from the past as new expressions are developed to speak to the present age and the generations to come; let us pray.

People **Hear us, O risen Christ.**

Intercessor Give the dying an assurance of eternal life, bring comfort to the grieving, and grant the freedom of redemption to those who have entered into their eternal rest; let us pray.

People **Hear us, O risen Christ.**

Intercessor Dear people of God, let us remember that gold and silver are false treasures compared to the risen Christ, in whom we continue our prayers.

Silence follows

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

The Priest-Celebrant concludes with a suitable Collect.

BCP 395

COLLECT AT THE PRAYERS

Almighty God, to whom our needs are known before we ask. Help us to ask only what accords with your will; and those good things which we dare not, or in our blindness cannot ask, grant us for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **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 SENTENCE

The Priest-Celebrant says to the people

BCP 376

Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and blessing.
Revelation 5:12

Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord.

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.

Anthem: *Taste and See* - J. Moore, Jr.

The people stand.

Hymn 174 *At the Lamb's high feast we sing, vv. 1,2, and 4*

THE HOLY COMMUNION

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 every- where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

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-130

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 stand or 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 Blessed Mary, the Mother of God, 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 AGNUS DEI

Hymnal S-161

Priest-Celebrant and People

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
grant us peace.**

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: 343 *Shepherd of souls, refresh and bless*

Taizé Chant

**Eat this bread, Drink this cup
Come to Him and never be hungry.
Eat this bread, Drink this cup,
Trust in Him and you will not thirst.**

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.

Planning for Rites and Rituals

May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us his children through the resurrection of his Son our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of his blessing.

People **Amen.**

May God, who through the water of baptism has raised us from sin into newness of life, make you holy and worthy to be united with Christ for ever.

People **Amen.**

May God, who has brought us out of bondage to sin into true lasting freedom in the Redeemer, bring you to your eternal inheritance.

People **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

Post-Communion Hymn 296 *We know that Christ is raised*

THE DISMISSAL

The Priest-Celebrant dismisses the people.

Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

People **Thanks be to God, Alleluia, Alleluia.**

Postlude.: *That Easter Day with Joy was Bright* – N. Rawsthorne

The flowers on the altar this morning are given to the Glory of God in thanksgiving for the Life of Gayla Renee Strabley.

An Outline of the Faith commonly called the Catechism

Other Sacramental Rites
BCP 860

Q. What other sacramental rites evolved in the Church under the guidance of the Holy Spirit?

A. Other sacramental rites which evolved in the Church include confirmation, ordination, holy matrimony, reconciliation of a penitent, and unction.

Q. How do they differ from the two sacraments of the Gospel?

A. Although they are means of grace, they are not necessary for all persons in the same way that Baptism and the Eucharist are.

Q. What is Confirmation?

A. Confirmation is the rite in which we express a mature commitment to Christ, and receive strength from the Holy Spirit through prayer and the laying on of hands by a bishop.

Q. What is required of those to be confirmed?

A. It is required of those to be confirmed that they have been baptized, are sufficiently instructed in the Christian Faith, are penitent for their sins, and are ready to affirm their confession of Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord.

Q. What is Ordination?

A. Ordination is the rite in which God gives authority and the grace of the Holy Spirit to those being made bishops, priests, and deacons, through prayer and the laying on of hands by bishops.

Q. What is Holy Matrimony?

A. Holy Matrimony is Christian marriage, in which the woman and man enter into a life-long union, make their vows before God and the Church, and receive the grace and blessing of God to help them fulfill their vows.

Q. What is Reconciliation of a Penitent?

A. Reconciliation of a Penitent, or Penance, is the rite in which those who repent of their sins may confess them

to God in the presence of a priest, and receive the assurance of pardon and the grace of absolution.

Q. What is Unction of the Sick?

A. Unction is the rite of anointing the sick with oil, or the laying on of hands, by which God's grace is given for the healing of spirit, mind, and body.

Q. Is God's activity limited to these rites?

A. God does not limit himself to these rites; they are patterns of countless ways by which God uses material things to reach out to us.

Q. How are the sacraments related to our Christian hope?

A. Sacraments sustain our present hope and anticipate its future fulfillment.

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 Isemann, Stacy Mitchell,
John Norris, John Sarvay, Jeri Townley

COMMUNICATION CARD
April 23, 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: Alex Kieber—Benjamin Holden's brother in-law, John Henry Rice—son of Fr. John & Mackie Rice, the family of Brian Taggart—nephew of Ellie Tuck 

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: 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, Marchelle Clarke—April Craver's mother, Donna Ludwig—Dwight Ludwig's mom, Johnny Jorstad—Martha Jenkins son & Marty Shephard & Sandy Tignor's brother, Phyllis Lowell—Nancy Sonne's sister, Tom Devol—friend of Cheryl Lineberry, Jean Stone—John Stone's mother, Dave Nichols—friend of Karen Holden, Christian Devol—Cheryl Lineberry's friend, David Thabet and Elizabeth Mickel—relatives of Sandy Ruder & Denise Russell, Maratha Kadi—Timon's mother, Bill McCarty—Ann Poates' brother, Kim Prince—friend of Lim Ludwig

Prayers for the departed: Gayla Renee Strabley; Doug Mitchell

CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY Today's Ministers

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
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Office hours:
Tuesday—Thursday 9am-12noon
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Ushers: Gray & Frosine Corbett

Acolytes: Kim Ludwig, Maura Whitlock, Ezra Axelle

Lessons: Stephanie Norris

Prayers of the People: Stephanie Norris


Chalice: Cory Isemann

Sun. School Helper: Conny Barrett

Altar Guild: Kathy Jimerson, Carol McElhinney

Coffee Hour: Conny Barrett & Becky Card

Counters: Gray Corbett



The Church of the Epiphany

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Third Sunday of Easter

April 23, 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

1st Reading: Acts 2:14a, 36-41

This reading is a summary of the preaching and other activities of the early Christian community in Jerusalem. The crucified one, Jesus, has been made Lord and Christ. Now is the time for repentance, forgiveness and the gift of the Spirit. There are many signs and healings as the church grows. The new disciples share fully with one another and meet for teaching, eucharistic meals, and prayers.

2nd Reading: 1 Peter 1:17-23

In this lesson we hear that the price of Christian freedom from the old ways of futility has been paid with the sacrificial blood of Christ. Although now we await the judgment of God the Father in awe, we have the faith and hope of people who have been born anew. The letter from which this passage comes was addressed to former pagans, and may first have been read at an Easter baptismal service. Having been purified by Christ's imperishable offering, disciples are now to love one another from the heart.

The Gospel: Luke 24:13-35

Our gospel is the story of how two disciples were met by a stranger on the road to Emmaus. That evening, as he breaks bread with them, they know the stranger to be Jesus. While they are walking together, Jesus interprets the scriptures to them, showing that it was necessary that Christ should suffer. Later he disappears from their sight. While their Lord is no longer physically present, the church now knows that Jesus will disclose himself in scripture and the breaking of bread, and sometimes through a stranger.

On the Calendar and Coming up

Sun. April 23rd
8:15 am—Holy Eucharist
10:30 am—Holy Eucharist

7:30 pm—AA Meeting in parish hall

Tue. April 25th
7:00 pm—JRRingers

Wed. April 26th
Noon Service
6:00 pm—Bible Study

Thur. April 27th
6:15 pm—Choir rehearsal
7:30 pm—Handbell Rehearsal

Fri. April 28th
7:30 pm —AA meeting in the parish hall

Sat. April 29th
8:30 am—Outreach Bag Lunches—Green Team (5th Saturday)

Sun. April 30th
8:15 am—Holy Eucharist
10:30 am—Holy Eucharist

7:30pm —AA meeting in the parish hall

"Shout out to all women of Epiphany — The women's breakfast is coming up on May 7th following the 8:15 am service. Come and enjoy breakfast in the parish hall prepared & served by the men, Chapter 11. Come enjoy good food, fellowship with friends and the amazing speaker from Hope for Humanity. There is a sign up sheet on the table in the narthex. Hope to see you all there!"

The prayers and sympathy of the congregation are extended to the Strabley & Holden families on the death of Gayla Renee Strabley who died on Friday, April 14th. A Celebration of Life was held here yesterday, April 22nd with burial in the Memorial Garden. May her soul and the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace.

Mark your calendars for Sunday, June 4th Acolyte Appreciation Day!

If you need to borrow equipment including tables & chairs from the church, you need to first check with the office and see if they are available. Then you can sign them out on our loaning log. Thank you!

Attendance: April 16, 2023
8:15 am 3
10:30 am 56

Outreach Opportunities



The diaper ministry continues to hold diaper distribution on the third Saturday of every month from 10 am to 12 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 Saturday, April 15th and **the next diaper distribution day is on May 20th**. A sign-up sheet is on the outreach board in the parish hallway for anyone interested in volunteering. Donations of diapers (sizes 5 and 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 Green Team on April 29th**. Thank you to the Vestry who prepared and delivered lunches on April the 1st. This ministry is currently in its 24th year! **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).



Lambs Basket continues to need donations of food items, particularly cereals, peanut butter, jams, jellies, and canned foods. Please, bring in your donations and leave them in the parish hallway in the red wagon. Thank you for your continued support of this project. **If anyone has any outreach projects or needs, they are aware of in the community, please share them!** See Crystal Sarvay, Outreach Coordinator, or email at epiphanyrvaparishnurse@gmail.com.

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

COMMUNICATION CARD

April 23, 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
