

Church of the Epiphany

The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany
Septuagesima Sunday
January 28, 2024, 10:30 a.m.

The Holy Eucharist

according to

THE BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER 1979

Rite II

and The Hymnal, 1982

Welcome to the Church of the Epiphany. The Anglican tradition values common prayer. Praying together shapes our faith, binds us together, and helps us grow closer to God. We invite you to pray with us today. Page numbers refer to the Book of Common Prayer, 1979 (the red book). Hymn numbers refer to The Hymnal, 1982 (the blue book). Hymns noted with an S are Service Music and are located in the frontmost section of The Hymnal.

*The half-hour before the Mass is a time of quiet prayer and preparation.
Please wait quietly for the service to begin.*

Please silence or turn off your electronic devices.

Prelude: Deck Thyself, my Soul, with Gladness – J.S. Bach

Welcome and Announcements

THE WORD OF GOD

THE ENTRANCE RITE

BCP 355

The people stand.

Hymn 569 God the Omnipotent! King, who ordainest

The people standing, the Celebrant joins the people in facing the altar and says

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever.
Amen.**

The 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 Celebrant says to the people

The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

The Celebrant faces the altar and says the Collect.

BCP 215

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, you govern all things both in
heaven and on earth: Mercifully hear the supplications of your
people, and in our time grant us your peace; through Jesus Christ

our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

LITURGY OF THE WORD

BCP 357

All sit for the Readings.

Reader A Reading from Deuteronomy [18:15-20]

Moses said: The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. This is what you requested of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: “If I hear the voice of the Lord my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die.” Then the Lord replied to me: “They are right in what they have said. I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak—that prophet shall die.”

Reader The Word of the Lord

People **Thanks be to God.**

Silence.

Directions for Reciting the Psalter

*The Psalm is read Responsively, the minister alternating with the congregation, verse by verse. An asterisk divides each verse into two parts. In reading, a **distinct pause should be made at the asterisk**. The pause is long enough to take a breath as one silently says the Name of Jesus. Commas in Psalms are not observed with a pause; a pause is observed at semi-colons. The Psalms are best able to be said when the readers both lower the pitch and volume of their voice.*

BCP 583

Reader The Psalm for today is a portion of
Psalm 111, *Confitebor tibi*
We will read responsively
by whole verse, pausing at the asterisks.

BCP 754

1 Hallelujah!

I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart,

* *(pause)*

in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.

2 Great are the deeds of the Lord! * *(pause)*

they are studied by all who delight in them.

3 His work is full of majesty and splendor, * *(pause)*

and his righteousness endures for ever.

4 He makes his marvelous works to be remembered;

* *(pause)*

the Lord is gracious and full of compassion.

5 He gives food to those who fear him; * *(pause)*

he is ever mindful of his covenant.

6 He has shown his people the power of his works *

(pause)

in giving them the lands of the nations.

7 The works of his hands are faithfulness and justice; *

(pause)

all his commandments are sure.

8 They stand fast for ever and ever, * *(pause)*

because they are done in truth and equity.

9 He sent redemption to his people;

he commanded his covenant for ever; * *(pause)*

holy and awesome is his Name.

10 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom;

* *(pause)*

those who act accordingly have a good

understanding;

his praise endures for ever.

At the end of the Psalms is sung or said by All

THE GLORIA PATRI

BCP 406

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Reader A Reading from 1 Corinthians [8:1-13]

Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that “all of us possess knowledge.” Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; but anyone who loves God is known by him.

Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that “no idol in the world really exists,” and that “there is no God but one.” Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords—yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. “Food will not bring us close to God.” We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

Reader **The Word of the Lord.**

People **Thanks be to God.**

Silence.

The people stand for the Gospel procession

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 Deacon or a Priest reads the Gospel, first saying

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
According to Mark [1:21-28].

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

Jesus and his disciples went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God." But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, "What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him." At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

After the Gospel, the Reader says

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE SERMON

Mthr. Kristin Wickersham

Silence.

On Sundays and other Major Feasts there follows, all standing, said by all

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
Planning for Rites and Rituals, Year B

Prayer is offered with intercession for The Universal Church, its members, and its mission; The Nation and all in authority; The welfare of the world; The concerns of the local community; Those who suffer and those in any trouble; The departed (with commemoration of a saint when appropriate).

The Celebrant may introduce the Prayers with a sentence of invitation related to the occasion, or the season, or the Proper of the Day.

The Intercessor and people pray responsively

Celebrant In the name of Jesus of Nazareth, let us pray for all who need the cleansing power of the Holy One of God.

Intercessor For the church and all who seek the truth of God. For Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Mark, our Bishop Diocesan; Kristin, our Priest; Florian, our Deacon-Intern; and all who minister in Christ.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Intercessor For prophets in every land who rebuke the spirits of greed and violence, oppression and despair.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Intercessor For those requiring ongoing care, for those burdened by anguish or illness, and for those who care for them with love and healing.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Intercessor For all those seeking a deeper faith that they may experience the liberation of the spirit.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Intercessor For those who have died and are in the presence of God's holy power.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Intercessor For the many blessings of our lives, for this community, and all those we love.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Remembering the Mary, mother of our Lord, Thomas

Aquinas, and all the saints, let us offer ourselves and one another to the living God through Christ.

People **To you, O Lord our God.**

The Priest-Celebrant concludes with a suitable Collect.

Almighty God, who has enriched your church with the singular learning and holiness of your servant Thomas Aquinas: Enlighten us more and more, we pray, by the disciplined thinking and teaching of Christian scholars, and deepen our devotion by the example of saintly lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

CONFESSION OF SIN

BCP 359

A Confession of Sin is said here if it has not been said earlier. On occasion, the Confession may be omitted.

The Deacon or Celebrant says

BCP 360

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All kneel.

Silence is kept.

Minister and People

**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 Bishop, when present, or the Priest, stands and pronounces absolution.

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 Celebrant says to the people

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

Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Celebrant may begin the Offertory with some sentence of Scripture.

During the Offertory, a hymn, psalm, or anthem may be sung.

BCP 361

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

At the offertory, we gratefully offer back to God a portion of what God has given us, symbolically in the Bread and Wine and in the money we give. An offering is received to support Epiphany's ministry of sharing God's love. All are invited to make a thank offering as the plate is passed. The offerings are then brought to the altar to be blessed by the priest.

The people sit

Voluntary: My Soul, Now Praise Your Maker - D. Buxtehude

Representatives of the congregation bring the people's offerings to the deacon or celebrant.

The people stand while the offerings are presented and placed on the Altar.

BCP 361

Hymn 493 O for a thousand tongues to sing

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer A

BCP 361

The people remain standing.

The Celebrant, whether bishop or priest, faces them and sings or 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 Table, the 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.

Here a Proper Preface is sung or said on all Sundays, and on other occasions as appointed.

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:

Celebrant and People

Hymnal S-124

**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 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:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The 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 Celebrant continues

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

People and Celebrant

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 Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread

A period of silence is kept.

Then may be sung or said

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

In place of, or in addition to, the preceding, some other suitable anthem may be used.

Celebrant and People

Hymnal S-164

Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer, redeemer of the world:
Give us your peace, give us your peace.

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds and then immediately deliver it to the people.

THE ADMINISTRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

All baptized Christians who come seeking the Body and Blood of Christ, who earnestly repent of their sins, are in love and charity with their neighbors, and intend to lead a new life following the commandments of God are welcome to receive Holy Communion.

All are welcome to come to the altar rail and receive a blessing from the priest. Indicate this at the rail by crossing both arms over your chest.

The Sacrament is celebrated using wheat bread and fermented grape wine.

We do not permit the practice of intincting the Holy Sacrament, or dipping the bread into the consecrated wine. If, for any reason, you do not wish to receive the bread or the wine, please cross your arms as the minister approaches. Although we encourage reception in both kinds, the grace of God present in the Holy Sacrament is fully available in the Body or Blood alone.

You may stand or kneel to receive Communion. The consecrated Bread is received in the hand, the right hand laid flat and placed on top of the left. To receive the consecrated Wine, grasp only the base of the chalice and guide it to your lips.

If you would like Communion brought to you in your pew, please inform an usher.

If you have not been baptized and find yourself drawn to Jesus Christ and life in him, please let our clergy know. We would be honored to have a conversation with you about baptism or answer any other questions. Baptism and life in the Body of Christ is open to all.

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.

Hymn 339 Deck thyself, my soul, with gladness

Taizé Chant. The Lord is my light.

**The Lord is my light, my light and salvation:
in God I trust, in God I trust.**

**The Lord is my light, my light and salvation:
in God I trust, in God I trust. *(repeat)***

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

The people stand or kneel.

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 people stand for the blessing.

The Bishop when present, or the Priest, may bless the people.

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep
your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God,
and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of
God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be
upon you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

The people remain standing for the dismissal.

The Deacon, or the Celebrant, dismisses the people with these words

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn 530 Spread, O spread, thou mighty word

Postlude: Thee Will I Love, my Strength and Savior – D.
Cherwien

An Outline of the Faith commonly called the Catechism

Prayer and Worship

Q. What is prayer?

A. Prayer is responding to God, by thought and by deeds, with or without words.

Q. What is Christian Prayer?

A. Christian prayer is response to God the Father, through Jesus Christ, in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Q. What prayer did Christ teach us?

A. Our Lord gave us the example of prayer known as the Lord's Prayer. See page [364](#).

Q. What are the principal kinds of prayer?

A. The principal kinds of prayer are adoration, praise, thanksgiving, penitence, oblation, intercession, and petition.

Q. What is adoration?

A. Adoration is the lifting up of the heart and mind to God, asking nothing but to enjoy God's presence.

Q. Why do we praise God?

A. We praise God, not to obtain anything, but because God's Being draws praise from us.

- Q. For what do we offer thanksgiving?
- A. Thanksgiving is offered to God for all the blessings of this life, for our redemption, and for whatever draws us closer to God.
- Q. What is penitence?
- A. In penitence, we confess our sins and make restitution where possible, with the intention to amend our lives.
- Q. What is prayer of oblation?
- A. Oblation is an offering of ourselves, our lives and labors, in union with Christ, for the purposes of God.
- Q. What are intercession and petition?
- A. Intercession brings before God the needs of others; in petition, we present our own needs, that God's will may be done.
- Q. What is corporate worship?
- A. In corporate worship, we unite ourselves with others to acknowledge the holiness of God, to hear God's Word, to offer prayer, and to celebrate the sacraments.

Church of the Epiphany

An Episcopal Parish in the Diocese of Virginia
and part of the worldwide Anglican Communion

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

Office Hours:
Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Clergy and Staff

The Rt. Rev'd E. Mark Stevenson, D. Min. *h.c.*, Bishop Diocesan
The Rev'd Kristin P. R. Wickersham, Priest-in-Charge
The Rev'd Canon John F. Rice, D. Min., Retired Priest in Residence
Mr. Florian Jones-Stamm, Deacon Intern
Mrs. Anita Williams, Director of Music Ministries
Mrs. Lucy Whitlock, Parish Administrator
Mrs. Crystal Sarvay, R.N., Parish Nurse
Mr. Timon Kenyi, Sexton
Marty Shephard, Treasurer

Vestry

John Sarvay (Sr. Warden)
Randy Holden (Jr. Warden)
Jeri Townley (Register)
Scott Blackwell, Gray Corbett, John Norris,
Mirendy Smith, Billy Tucker

Ministers

The ministers of the Church are all lay people, bishops, priests, and deacons.

COMMUNICATION CARD
January 28, 2024

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: Judy Watson—cousin of Marty Shephard & Sandy Tignor 

Parishioners: Ray Hampton, Dot Hudson, Martha & Milton Jenkins, Fran LaVigne, Marion Magruder, Joyce Melton, Ina Stickel, Irene Morris, Mike Young, Shirley Hughson, Dottie Strabley, Chris Tignor, Jeannie Riddick, Oscar Aderholt, John Sarvay

Family & Friends: Marie Patterson—Crystal Sarvay's mother, Jean Stone—John Stone's mother, Melanie Goodpasture—Carol McElhinney's daughter, Ed Morrow—friend of Kathy Jimerson, Rush Middleton—friend of Kim & Dwight Ludwig, Karen Rood—sister of Jeri Townley, John Henry Rice—son of Fr. John & Mackie Rice, Johnny Jorstad—Martha Jenkins son & Marty Shephard & Sandy Tignor's brother, Linda Whitlock—sister-in-law of Wayne & Lucy Whitlock, Caitlin & Fr. Kyle Bomare & their family

Prayers for the departed: Bob Jimerson, Barbara Doty—friend of Susan Fenn,

Weekly Worship

CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY Today's Ministers

Sundays at 8:15 & 10:30 a.m.

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

8000 Hermitage Road
804-266-2503

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

Ushers: Gray & Frosine Corbett

Acolytes: Jason Ludwig, Faith Bingat

Lessons: Stephanie Norris

Prayers of the People: Stephanie Norris


Chalice: Cory Isemann

Sun. School Helper: Rejoice Pita

Altar Guild: Lucy Whitlock, Ann Poates

Coffee Hour: Cindy & Jim Schoonover

Counters: Kim Ludwig, Gray Corbett



The Church of the Epiphany

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany
January 28, 2024

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 Lesson

1st Reading: Deuteronomy 18:15-20

In our opening reading Moses promises the people that, after his death, God will raise up another prophet for them. The people cannot face God directly but need an intermediary to speak God's words. To him they must listen, for the false prophet who presumes to speak in the Lord's name will die. In later centuries this oracle was interpreted to mean that God would raise up one final prophet to succeed Moses. Some early Christians believed Jesus to be this new Moses.

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 8:1-13

In this lesson Paul gives counsel to the Corinthians who are unsure whether it is permissible to eat the meat of animals that have been sacrificed in pagan temples. Since there is only one true God, such sacrifices are really meaningless, and the meat can be eaten in good conscience. Yet this understanding of the issue must not be treated as superior *knowledge* with respect to those whose consciences are still troubled. Out of love it is better for those who believe themselves enlightened to avoid eating such meat than to encourage weaker members to do what they regard as sinful and so perhaps to be led back into paganism.

The Gospel: Mark 1:21-28

In our gospel Jesus both teaches and acts with authority. His teaching was more than interpretation of the law. It was a proclamation of the new possibilities of God's kingdom. He backed his words with his actions. Unclean spirits recognized him and submitted to his power to deliver a man from his disorder.

On the Calendar and Coming up

Sun. Jan. 28th

8:15 am—Holy Eucharist, Rite 1
9:30 am Adult Forum & Sun. School
10:30 am—Holy Eucharist, Rite 2

7:30 pm — AA Meeting in parish hall

Wed. Jan. 31st

6:00 pm — Bible Study

Thur. Feb. 1st

No Chancel Choir or Handbell Rehearsals.

Fri. Feb. 2nd

7:30 pm — AA meeting in the parish hall

Sat. Feb. 3rd

8:30 AM—Outreach Bag Lunches — Vestry Team

Sun. Feb. 4th

8:15 am—Holy Eucharist—Rite 1
9:30—Children’s Sunday School & Adult Forum
10:30 am—Holy Eucharist, Rite 2

7:30 pm — AA Meeting in parish hall

The flowers on the altar this morning are given to the Glory of God by the family of Bob Jimerson.

We welcome Sharon Freude to our organ bench this morning while Anita is on a well needed vacation in Florida, getting warm! We appreciate her time with us today!

The prayers & sympathy of the congregation are extended to Kathy Jimerson & family on the death of her husband, Bob Jimerson who died on Friday, January 19. A funeral service was held here at the church on Friday, January 26 at 11 am. Interment was in Mount Calvary Cemetery. May his soul and the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace.

The Bible Study will meet on Wednesdays from 6—7:30 PM. They will be reading *Falling into Grace: Exploring Our Inner Life With God* by the Rev. John Newton. All are invited to join. This week, we continue Chapter 1: Grace.

Our 2nd Sunday Lunch next month will be on Tuesday, February 13 which is the Pancake Supper before Ash Wednesday. It is free to all who would like to join us. We welcome guests to any and all meals! Mark your calendars for 2024.

Feb. 13 — Pancake Supper (Tue. Night)
April 14 — Breakfast Bar
May 19 — Sloppy Joes
June 9 — Church Picnic
The menu is subject to change, and meals will have a vegetarian option.

Adult Forum Sundays at 9:30 am. They are discussing Sunday’s lessons, focusing on the readings from the Gospel of Mark. Please join us for coffee, cookies and some great conversation about how the Word of God speaks to us today.

Save the Date: Saturday, April 13 from 6—9pm. Chapter 11’s Big Night Out! Stay tuned for more information!

Attendance: January 21, 2024
8:15 am 5
10:30 am 58

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 next diaper distribution will be on **February 17th**. A sign-up sheet is on the outreach board in the parish hallway for anyone interested in volunteering. Donations of diapers (sizes 4, 5 and 6) and wipes are also appreciated. Thank you again to everyone for your continued support of this ministry!

Homeless Lunches: 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 Vestry Team on February 3, 2024.** *The 2024 homeless lunch schedule is now up on the outreach board.* We will be entering our 25th 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 Sarvary, Outreach Coordinator (crystalsarvary@gmail.com).

Coming soon is our long awaited “Blessing Box” and “Little Library.” Be on the lookout for upcoming information and ways that you can help contribute!

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.

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



Care Notes Corner: *The parish nurse ministry continues to promote a healthier faith community through spiritual support and healthy life choices, while supporting ministries already in place within the church. If there are any special needs that can be accommodated through the parish nurse ministry, please contact Crystal Sarvary, MSN., RN at epiphanyrvaparishnurse@gmail.com*

COMMUNICATION CARD

January 28, 2024

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
