

Church of the Epiphany

The Fifth Sunday in Lent, Year B
March 17, 2024, 10:30 a.m.

The Holy Eucharist Rite II

according to

THE BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER 1979

Enriching Our Worship 1

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). Hymns noted with an S are in the frontmost section of The Hymnal, 1982 (the blue book).

*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: When I Survey the Wondrous Cross – C.S. Lang

Welcome and Announcements

Hymn 709 O God of Bethel,

The people standing, the Celebrant says

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People **His mercy endures for ever.**

The people kneel.

THE DECALOGUE

Enriching Our Worship 1

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

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

Celebrant You shall not make for yourself any idol.

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

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

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

Celebrant Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.

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

Celebrant Honor your father and your mother.

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

Celebrant You shall not commit murder.

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

Celebrant You shall not commit adultery.

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

Celebrant You shall not steal.

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

Celebrant You shall not be a false witness.

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

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

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

The Kyrie is sung, all standing.

Kyrie: Lord, Have Mercy

Hymnal S-86

Setting: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd

Kyrie eleison (repeat 3 times)

Christe eleison (repeat 3 times)

Kyrie eleison (repeat 3 times)

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Celebrant says to the people

The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

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

BCP 219

Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and 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 Jeremiah [31:31-34]

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of

Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the Lord,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

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 51, *Miserere mei, Deus*

We will read responsively

by whole verse, pausing at the asterisks.

BCP 746

1 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving-kindness; * *(pause)*

in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

2 Wash me through and through from my wickedness * *(pause)* and cleanse me from my sin.

3 For I know my transgressions, * *(pause)* and my sin is ever before me.

4 Against you only have I sinned * *(pause)* and done what is evil in your sight.

5 And so you are justified when you speak * *(pause)* and upright in your judgment.

**6 Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth, * (pause)
a sinner from my mother's womb.**

7 For behold, you look for truth deep within me, * (pause)
and will make me understand wisdom secretly.

**8 Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure; * (pause)
wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.**

9 Make me hear of joy and gladness, * (pause)
that the body you have broken may rejoice.

**10 Hide your face from my sins * (pause)
and blot out all my iniquities.**

11 Create in me a clean heart, O God, * (pause)
and renew a right spirit within me.

**12 Cast me not away from your presence * (pause)
and take not your holy Spirit from me.**

13 Give me the joy of your saving help again * (pause)
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.

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 Hebrews [5:5-10]

Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him,

“You are my Son,
today I have begotten you”;
as he says also in another place,

“You are a priest forever,
according to the order of Melchizedek.”

In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned

obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The people stand for the Gospel procession

Hymn 439 What wondrous love is this

Then, all standing, the Deacon or Priest reads the Gospel, first saying

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
According to John [12:20-33].

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

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor. “Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—‘Father, save me from this hour?’ No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

After the Gospel, the Reader says

The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON

The Rev'd Kristin Wickersham

Silence.

The people stand. The 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 the Christian People

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 The hour has come; now is the time to glorify God's name. Let us intercede for the church and for all God's creation, turning to God and saying: Lord, your kingdom come.

Intercessor You are our God: may those who are poor and those who are rich, those near and those far, welcome your covenant of peace. We pray:

People ***Lord, your kingdom come.***

Intercessor We are your people: be with Debrah and those who will receive your promise in baptism at Easter. We pray:

People ***Lord, your kingdom come.***

Intercessor You honor those who choose to serve: help us to be true followers of your servant Son. We pray:

People ***Lord, your kingdom come.***

Intercessor We know that we must die so that we may truly live: strengthen all who suffer in mind or body. We pray:

People ***Lord, your kingdom come.***

Intercessor You draw all people to yourself: bring us out of our slavery to possessions and away from the desire for wealth. We pray:

People ***Lord, your kingdom come.***

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

Almighty God, in your providence you chose your servant Patrick to be the apostle to the Irish people, to bring those who were wandering in darkness and error to the true light and knowledge of you: Grant us so to walk in that way that we may come at last to the light of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Lord God, show us the way of obedience through patient endurance and the way of glory through the law written in our hearts. Hear our prayers and come to our aid, we pray; through Christ our Lord. **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.

One of the sentences from the Penitential Order may be said.

BCP 359

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. *1 John 1:8,9*

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 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 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

“Jesus said, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit’.” *John 12:23*

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

Antem: Amazing Grace – J. Coates

*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 686 Come, thou fount of every blessing

Nettleton

*The people remain standing.
The 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 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.

You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you.

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

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 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 Patrick and 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,

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BCP 364

People and 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 Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

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

THE AGNUS DEI

Hymnal S-161

Setting: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd

**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 Celebrant says the following Invitation

Celebrant 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 in repentance seeking the Body and Blood of Christ 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 fortified fermented grape wine.

We do not permit 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 474 When I survey the wondrous cross

Taizé Chant: Eat This Bread

**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 Celebrant says

Let us pray.

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.**

SOLEMN PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE Book of Occasional Services p. 10

In Lent, in place of a seasonal blessing, a solemn Prayer over the People is used, as follows

Celebrant Bow down before the Lord.

The people kneel.

Celebrant Look down in mercy, Lord, on your people who kneel before you; and grant that those whom you have nourished by your Word and Sacraments may bring forth fruit worthy of repentance; through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The people stand for the dismissal.

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

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn 448 O love, how deep, how broad, how high

An Outline of the Faith
commonly called the Catechism

The Ministry

Q. Who are the ministers of the Church?

A. The ministers of the Church are lay persons, bishops, priests, and deacons.

Q. What is the ministry of the laity?

A. The ministry of lay persons is to represent Christ and his Church; to bear witness to him wherever they may be; and, according to the gifts given them, to carry on Christ's work of reconciliation in the world; and to take their place in the life, worship, and governance of the Church.

Q. What is the ministry of a bishop?

A. The ministry of a bishop is to represent Christ and his Church, particularly as apostle, chief priest, and pastor of a diocese; to guard the faith, unity, and discipline of the whole Church; to proclaim the Word of God; to act

in Christ's name for the reconciliation of the world and the building up of the Church; and to ordain others to continue Christ's ministry.

- Q. What is the ministry of a priest or presbyter?
- A. The ministry of a priest is to represent Christ and his Church, particularly as pastor to the people; to share with the bishop in the overseeing of the Church; to proclaim the Gospel; to administer the sacraments; and to bless and declare pardon in the name of God.
- Q. What is the ministry of a deacon?
- A. The ministry of a deacon is to represent Christ and his Church, particularly as a servant of those in need; and to assist bishops and priests in the proclamation of the Gospel and the administration of the sacraments.
- Q. What is the duty of all Christians?
- A. The duty of all Christians is to follow Christ; to come together week by week for corporate worship; and to work, pray, and give for the spread of the kingdom of God.

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, SCP, 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

The Rev'd Kristin P. R. Wickersham, Presider
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
March 17, 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:

Parishioners: Ray Hampton, Dot Hudson, Martha & Milton Jenkins, Fran LaVigne, Marion Magruder, Joyce Melton, 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, Judy Watson—cousin of Marty Shephard & Sandy Tignor, John Burkhardt — Brother-in-law of Chris & Sandy Tignor, Jeri Ligon—David Skinner's sister, Dan & Donna Ludwig—Dwight Ludwig's parents

Prayers for the departed: William Coccodrilli— friend of Thelma Smith

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, SOCS
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 Corbett, Kim Ruder
Acolytes: Jason Ludwig, Ezra Axselle
Lesson: Jeri Townley
Prayers of the People: Florian Jones-Stamm
Chalice: Florian Jones-Stamm
Sun. School Helper: Stephanie Norris
Altar Guild: Cheri & Scott Blackwell
Coffee Hour: Carol McElhinney, Kathy Jimerson, Rosemary Arneson
Counters: Kim Ludwig, John Sarvay

The Church of the Epiphany

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 17, 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: Jeremiah 31:31-34

In our opening reading the prophet Jeremiah foresees a new covenant which God will make with the people, a covenant written not on tablets of stone but on human hearts. Israel and Judah have broken the covenant made when the Lord brought them out of slavery in Egypt. Now they are about to go into exile. Yet the days are coming when their sins will be forgiven, and God will establish a new relationship with them. This covenant will be based not on external law but on an inner knowing of the Lord.

2nd Reading: Hebrews 5:5-10

In this New Testament lesson we hear how through his obedience and suffering Christ reached the perfection of his destiny and was designated by God to be the eternal high priest. The high priesthood of Jesus is the great theme of the Letter to the Hebrews. Like the high priests of the old covenant, Christ is chosen from among human beings and so has sympathy with human weakness. But he is the Son and has now been named high priest forever. He succeeds Melchizedek, a royal and priestly figure from antiquity.

The Gospel: John 12:20-33

In this gospel passage Jesus presents teaching concerning the meaning of his death. After his prayer to God a voice from heaven is heard. Greeks wish to see Jesus, but he will not draw all others to himself until after he has died and has risen. Then, like a seed which falls into the earth, he will bear much fruit. Disciples must also learn to serve Jesus by following him in this way. Now is the hour for the Son of Man to be glorified—glorified both by his willingness to be lifted up on the cross to die for others, and afterward to be lifted up to heaven.

On the Calendar and Coming up

Sun. Mar. 17th

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

Wed. Mar. 19th

6:00 pm —Vestry Mtg.

Wed. Mar. 20th

6:00 pm—Bible Study

Thur. Mar. 21st

6:15 pm — Chancel Choir Rehearsal
7:30 pm — Handbell Rehearsals.

Fri. Mar. 22nd

7:30 pm — AA meeting in the parish hall

Sat. Mar. 23rd

10-2 —Al-Anon Workshop

Sun. Mar. 24th

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

7:30 pm — AA Meeting in parish hall

Faith and fitness. Like many things in life, being good at them requires practice. Practice, in many cases, requires both mental and physical fitness. Now that the pledging season of stewardship has passed, let’s begin a workout schedule for other stewardship endeavors. We can start with a simple heart-healthy exercise. Begin with strengthening your gratitude. Slow down and savor the small, ordinary moments of your life. Keep a gratitude journal and write down things you appreciate throughout your day. Write thank-you notes to people you appreciate. Reframe your life: reflect on the difficult times and consider what you learned from them or how you grew.

“Speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.” Ephesians 4:15, 16

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

Due to the different pricing for Easter flowers this year we are asking for donations to the flower fund. If you would like them in memory or thanksgiving for a loved one, please put a note on my desk. Thank you all for the great support to the flower fund!

Holy Week Schedule:
Palm Sunday—1 service at 10:30 am
Mon.—Wed. 6:00 pm Holy Eucharist

Maundy Thursday—6:00 PM—Holy Eucharist
7:00 PM—Gethsemane Watch

Good Friday—12:00 PM—Liturgy of the Day
6:00 PM—Stations of the Cross

Saturday—9:00 AM—Liturgy of the Word
7:31 PM (Sunset) The Great Vigil

Sunday School teachers are asking for your help in donating candy for the Easter Egg Hunt. There will be a bin outside the office to leave the candy in for the next two weeks. Thank you!

Attendance: March 10, 2024
8:15 am 5
10:30 am 55

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 **April 20th**. 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 Chapter 4 & 5 on March 30th**. The 2024 homeless lunch schedule is now up on the outreach board and we will be entering our 25th year of participating in 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).

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.

A new opportunity to help our community: Lakeside Elementary School needs individually wrapped **healthy snacks and juices**. A box/basket will be in the parish hallway to collect these items. There are many students whose families cannot afford to send snacks to school with their children. Students during the day between breakfast and lunch need snacks and those who stay later in the afterschool program. Snacks are not provided by the school, although they do participate in the lunch program. If you have any questions, please contact Crystal.

Also, Please be on the look out for the **“Blessing Box”** and **“Little Library.”** They are in the works and will be here soon!

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

COMMUNICATION CARD

March 17, 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
