

The Church of the Epiphany

The Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost
Proper 24

October 22, 2023, 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). 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 silence or turn off your electronic devices.

Prelude. God, whose giving knows no ending

W. Held

Welcome and Announcements

All stand for the entrance procession.

THE GREAT LITANY

BCP 148

To be said in procession; before Eucharist.

The priest and the people pray responsively.

O God the Father, Creator of heaven and earth,
Have mercy upon us.

O God the Son, Redeemer of the world,
Have mercy upon us.

O God the Holy Ghost, Sanctifier of the faithful,
Have mercy upon us.

O holy, blessed, and glorious Trinity, one God,
Have mercy upon us.

Remember not, Lord Christ, our offenses, nor the offenses
of our forefathers; neither reward us according to our sins.
Spare us, good Lord, spare thy people, whom thou hast
redeemed with thy most precious blood, and by thy mercy
preserve us, for ever.

Spare us, good Lord.

From all evil and wickedness; from sin; from the crafts
and assaults of the devil; and from everlasting damnation,
Good Lord, deliver us.

From all blindness of heart; from pride, vainglory,
and hypocrisy; from envy, hatred, and malice; and from all want
of charity,

Good Lord, deliver us.

From all inordinate and sinful affections; and from all the
deceits of the world, the flesh, and the devil,
Good Lord, deliver us.

From all false doctrine, heresy, and schism; from hardness
of heart, and contempt of thy Word and commandment,
Good Lord, deliver us.

From lightning and tempest; from earthquake, fire, and
flood; from plague, pestilence, and famine,
Good Lord, deliver us.

From all oppression, conspiracy, and rebellion; from
violence, battle, and murder; and from dying suddenly and
unprepared,
Good Lord, deliver us.

By the mystery of thy holy Incarnation; by thy holy Nativity
and submission to the Law; by thy Baptism, Fasting, and

Temptation,
Good Lord, deliver us.

By thine Agony and Bloody Sweat; by thy Cross and Passion;
by thy precious Death and Burial; by thy glorious Resurrection
and Ascension; and by the Coming of the Holy Ghost,
Good Lord, deliver us.

In all time of our tribulation; in all time of our prosperity; in
the hour of death, and in the day of judgment,
Good Lord, deliver us.

We sinners do beseech thee to hear us, O Lord God; and that
it may please thee to rule and govern thy holy Church
Universal in the right way,
We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to illumine all bishops, priests, and
deacons, with true knowledge and understanding of thy
Word; and that both by their preaching and living, they may
set it forth, and show it accordingly,
We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to bless and keep all thy people,
We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to send forth laborers into thy
harvest, and to draw all mankind into thy kingdom,
We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to give to all people increase of grace
to hear and receive thy Word, and to bring forth the fruits of
the Spirit,
We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to bring into the way of truth all such
as have erred, and are deceived,
We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to give us a heart to love and fear thee, and diligently to live after thy commandments,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee so to rule the hearts of thy servants, the President of the United States, and all others in authority, that they may do justice, and love mercy, and walk in the ways of truth,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to make wars to cease in all the world; to give to all nations unity, peace, and concord; and to bestow freedom upon all peoples,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to show thy pity upon all prisoners and captives, the homeless and the hungry, and all who are desolate and oppressed,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to give and preserve to our use the bountiful fruits of the earth, so that in due time all may enjoy them,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to inspire us, in our several callings, to do the work which thou givest us to do with singleness of heart as thy servants, and for the common good,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to preserve all who are in danger by reason of their labor or their travel,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to preserve, and provide for, all women in childbirth, young children and orphans, the widowed, and all whose homes are broken or torn by strife,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to visit the lonely; to strengthen all who suffer in mind, body, and spirit; and to comfort with thy presence those who are failing and infirm,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to support, help, and comfort all who are in danger, necessity, and tribulation,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to have mercy upon all mankind,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to give us true repentance; to forgive us all our sins, negligences, and ignorances; and to endue us with the grace of thy Holy Spirit to amend our lives according to thy holy Word,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to forgive our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers, and to turn their hearts,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to strengthen such as do stand; to comfort and help the weak-hearted; to raise up those who fall; and finally to beat down Satan under our feet,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to grant to all the faithful departed eternal life and peace,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to grant that, in the fellowship of all the saints, we may attain to thy heavenly kingdom,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Son of God, we beseech thee to hear us.

Son of God, we beseech thee to hear us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,

Have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
Have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
Grant us thy peace.

O Christ, hear us.
O Christ, hear us.

Kyrie eleison.
Christe eleison.
Kyrie eleison.

*The Litany concludes here, and the Eucharist begins with the Salutation and the Collect of the Day.
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 of the Day

BCP 234

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, in Christ you have revealed your glory among the nations: Preserve the works of your mercy, that your Church throughout the world may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of your Name; 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 Isaiah [45:1-7]

Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus,
whose right hand I have grasped
to subdue nations before him
and strip kings of their robes,

to open doors before him--
 and the gates shall not be closed:
 I will go before you and level the mountains,
 I will break in pieces the doors of bronze
 and cut through the bars of iron,
 I will give you the treasures of darkness
 and riches hidden in secret places,
 so that you may know that it is I, the Lord,
 the God of Israel, who call you by your name.
 For the sake of my servant Jacob,
 and Israel my chosen,
 I call you by your name, I surname you, though you do
 not know me.
 I am the Lord, and there is no other;
 besides me there is no god.
 I arm you, though you do not know me,
 so that they may know, from the rising of the sun
 and from the west, that there is no one besides me;
 I am the Lord, and there is no other.
 I form light and create darkness,
 I make weal and create woe;
 I the Lord do all these things.

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 Psalm 96, *Cantate Domino*
 We will read responsively by whole verse,
 pausing at the asterisks.

BCP 725

- 1 Sing to the Lord a new song; * *(pause)*
sing to the Lord, all the whole earth.
- 2 **Sing to the Lord and bless his Name; * *(pause)***
proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.
- 3 Declare his glory among the nations * *(pause)*
and his wonders among all peoples.
- 4 **For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; * *(pause)***
he is more to be feared than all gods.
- 5 As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; * *(pause)*
but it is the Lord who made the heavens.
- 6 **Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence! * *(pause)***
Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary!
- 7 Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples; * *(pause)*
ascribe to the Lord honor and power.
- 8 **Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name; * *(pause)***
bring offerings and come into his courts.
- 9 Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; * *(pause)*
let the whole earth tremble before him.
- 10 **Tell it out among the nations: "The Lord is King! * *(pause)***
he has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved;
he will judge the peoples with equity."
- 11 Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;
let the sea thunder and all that is in it; * *(pause)*
let the field be joyful and all that is therein.
- 12 **Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy**
before the Lord when he comes, * *(pause)*
when he comes to judge the earth.
- 13 He will judge the world with righteousness * *(pause)*
and the peoples with his truth.

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 Thessalonians [1:1-10]

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the
Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

Grace to you and peace.

We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead-- Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Silence.

The people stand for the Gospel procession

Laudate Dominum

Songs from Taizé

The people and choir sing.

**Laudate Dominum,
Laudate Dominum
Omnes gentes, alleluia!
Laudate Dominum,**

**Laudate Dominum
Omnes gentes, alleluia!**

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

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
According to Matthew [22:15-22].

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

The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap Jesus in what he said. So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?” But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, “Whose head is this, and whose title?” They answered, “The emperor’s.” Then he said to them, “Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

After the Gospel, the Reader says

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE SERMON

The Rev’d Kristin P. R. Wickersham, SCP

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 BIDDING PRAYERS

BCP 359

Deacon, or other Leader

Almighty God our heavenly Father, guide the nations of the world into the way of justice and truth, and establish among them that peace which is the fruit of righteousness, that they may become the kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Let us remember before God those who have been commended to our prayers, and let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life to Christ our God.

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

Silence.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

Heavenly Father, you have promised to hear what we ask in the Name of your Son: Accept and fulfill our petitions, we pray, not as we ask in our ignorance, nor as we deserve in our sinfulness, but as you know and love us in your Son Jesus 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.

The people kneel.

The Deacon or Celebrant says

BCP 359

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence.

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

BCP 360

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

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2*

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 sacrificial 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: Just a closer walk with Thee – arr. B. Greer
Epiphany Handbell Choir

*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 424. For the fruit of all creation (v. 3)

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.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of 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:

Celebrant and People

Hymnal S-125

**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 people kneel.

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. **AMEN.**

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

BCP 364

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.**

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.**

During the ministration of Communion, hymns, psalms, or anthems are sung by all.

Hymn 315 Thou, who at thy first Eucharist didst pray

Taizé Chant. Come and fill

Come and fill our hearts with your peace.

You alone, O Lord, are holy.

Come and fill our hearts with your peace, alleluia!

CONCLUDING RITES

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

*The people kneel.
Celebrant and People*

BCP 366

**Almighty and everliving God,
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
And now, Father, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.***

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 Spirit, be
upon you, and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

*The people stand.
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 522 Glorious things of thee are spoken

Postlude: Jubilate – J. Larson
Epiphany Handbell Choir

An Outline of the Faith commonly called the Catechism

God the Father

- Q. What do we learn about God as creator from the revelation to Israel?
- A. We learn that there is one God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.
- Q. What does this mean?
- A. This means that the universe is good, that it is the work of a single loving God who creates, sustains, and directs it.
- Q. What does this mean about our place in the universe?
- A. It means that the world belongs to its creator; and that we are called to enjoy it and to care for it in accordance with God's purposes.
- Q. What does this mean about human life?
- A. It means that all people are worthy of respect and honor, because all are created in the image of God, and all can respond to the love of God.
- Q. How was this revelation handed down to us?
- A. This revelation was handed down to us through a community created by a covenant with 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. – 1:00 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
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, senior warden
Randy Holden, junior warden
Jeri Townley, register
Scott Blackwell, Gray Corbett, John Norris,
Mirendy Smith, Billy Tucker

Ministers of the Church

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

COMMUNICATION CARD
October 22, 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: Jim & Carole Godwin—son & daughter-in-law of Carol Cullinan 

Parishioners: Ray Hampton, Dot Hudson, Martha & Milton Jenkins, Fran LaVigne, Marion Magruder, Joyce Melton, Ina Stickel, Irene Morris, Mike Young, Bob Jimerson, Timon Kenyi, Shirley Hughson, Chris Tignor, Jeannie Riddick, Chuck & Dottie Strabley

Family & Friends: Ed Morrow—friend of Bob & Kathy Jimerson, Dave & Melanie Erwin—friends of Dwight & Kim 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, Judy Watson—Martha Jenkins niece & Marty Shephard & Sandy Tignor's cousin, Karen Tatti—friend of Jennifer Tucker, Pamela Carr—Nancy Sonne's niece, Marie Patterson—Crystal Sarvay's mother, Jean Stone—John Stone's mother, Sebastian Strong—Jennifer Whitlock's grandson, Keri Roberts—friend of Becky Card, Caitlin & Dcn. Kyle Bomare & their family, for all those called up to Military Service in Israel, especially Adam, Ethan, Evan, Jared, Omri—nephews of Joy Baynes son-in-law, Brian, the family of Emma Greenman—friends of Kim & Dwight Ludwig, family of Frosine Corbett living in Jerusalem

Prayers for the departed:

CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY

Today's Ministers

Ushers: Gray & Frosine Corbett
Acolytes: Jason Ludwig, Kiden Kenyi
Lessons: Carol Cullinan
Prayers of the People: Carol Cullinan
Chalice: Florian Jones-Stamm
Sun. School Helper: Conny Baret
Altar Guild: Cheri & Scott Blackwell
Coffee Hour: No one has signed up
Counters: Kim Ludwig, Becky Card

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

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

8000 Hermitage Road
804-266-2503

Office hours:



The Church of the Epiphany
ANNOUNCEMENTS
Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost
October 22, 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 Lesson

1st Reading: Isaiah 45:1-7
In this Hebrew Bible reading the Lord anoints Cyrus, King of Persia, to be God's agent in freeing the chosen people from exile. The time is more than five centuries before the birth of Christ. The prophet perceives that God is working through a foreign king who does not even know the Lord. But God enables Cyrus to conquer Babylonia and then to set Israel free. Boldly the prophet speaks in the Lord's name: the Creator is responsible for everything that happens in the world, whether it seems a blessing or a disaster.

2nd Reading: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10
In company with Silvanus and Timothy, Paul greets the new Christians of Thessalonica, giving thanks for their faith and their conversion from idols to the worship of the true and living God. This letter was written not long after Paul's first missionary visit to this city in the country we know today as Greece. Evidently the converts were all former pagans. The apostle refers to the troubles and persecution that are also reported in the Acts of the Apostles. But the gospel, empowered by the activity of the Holy Spirit, has inspired a faith which has become widely known.

The Gospel: Matthew 22:15-22
In our gospel lesson Jesus answers a question about taxation by teaching that people should pay what belongs to the emperor to the emperor and the things of God to God. The question was meant as a trap. If Jesus advised the paying of taxes to the occupying Roman powers, many Jews would have considered him a collaborator. Had he counseled non-payment, the Herodian servants of the Romans could accuse him of sedition. On one level Jesus' answer is a masterstroke of clever ambiguity, but it also causes his hearers to reflect more deeply on their responsibility to God and the state. Perhaps the saying suggests that government has its legitimate yet limited claims. It must not be given the highest allegiance.

On the Calendar and Coming up

Sun. Oct. 22nd

8:15 am—Holy Eucharist, Rite One
10:30 am—Holy Eucharist, Rite Two

7:30 pm — AA Meeting in parish hall

Wed. Oct. 25th

6:00 pm — Bible Study

Thur. Oct. 26th

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

Fri. Oct. 27th

7:30 pm — AA meeting in the parish hall

Sat. Oct. 28th

2:00 pm—Fall Festival—Trunk Or Treat

Sun. Oct. 29th

8:15 am—Holy Eucharist, Rite One
10:30 am—Holy Eucharist, Rite Two

The Rev. Fred Huntington will be our preacher & celebrant while Mother Kristin is away.

7:30pm —AA meeting in the parish hall

The flowers on the altar this morning are given to the Glory of God by Lee & Ann Poates in thanksgiving for their two daughters, Betty Shannon & Rebecca Frances & their families.

Adult Christian Formation meets on Wednesdays. This small group meets after work, at 6:00 pm in the parlor. We will continue our focus on the Gospel According to John. Send an email to Mtr. Kristin if you would like to be included in this small group.

2nd Sunday Lunch! These lunches are free to all who would like to join us. We welcome guests to any and all lunches! Mark your calendars thru December:

Nov. 12 — Chicken & mashed potatoes
Dec. 17 — Soup & Bread Lunch

The menu is subject to change, and meals will have a vegetarian option.

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 and this past month we have met several new families. The most recent diaper distribution was held Saturday, September 21st. The next diaper distribution will be on October 16th. 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!

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 Chapter 11 on November 4th.** Thank you to the green team who prepared and delivered lunches on October 7th. 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).

Join us for our first annual Trunk or Treat and Fall Festival on Saturday, October 28th starting at 2 pm. Come out and join the fun by decorating your car and filling your trunk with candy and /or goodies to hand out to the community children. For those who don’t know what a trunk or treat is...We will have individuals park their cars on the grass in front of the church and all children can go car to car or “trunk to trunk” for candy/treats, in a safe and fun community atmosphere, rather than going door to door. There is a sign up sheet on the outreach board. Sign up if you want to be one of the “cars” supplying treats or volunteer to run a game!. ALL are welcome! There will also be games, face painting, crafts, and prizes. Volunteer to run one of the games! If you cannot attend, you could donate some candy, prizes or treats. Don’t miss this fun community event! It will be held on the front lawn & driveway in front of the church. If you need further information, please contact Crystal Sarvay.

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! 

Attendance: October 15, 2023
8:15 am 3
10:30 am

COMMUNICATION CARD

October 22, 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

