

# The Church of the Epiphany

Proper 5, Year A

The Second Sunday after Pentecost

June 11, 2023

10:30 a.m.

## The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

*Welcome to Epiphany. All the words of our worship service appear in this service leaflet. The Episcopal tradition values common prayer; we invite you to pray with us today. If we can pray for you, please let the priest know or put a note in the offering plate when it is passed. Parts of the service which the people pray aloud appear in **bold**. Page numbers referenced in this leaflet correspond to page numbers in our Book of Common Prayer, the red book in the pew rack in front of you.*

*Hymns with an S in front of them are our service music. These hymns are in the blue Hymnal 1982 in the frontmost section. Other hymns, noted simply by their number, are from the rear portion of the hymnal. Please join in the singing; you don't need to be a stellar vocalist – simply sing joyfully!*

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

*Please silence your cell phones and electronic devices*

Prelude: 'There's a Wideness in God's Mercy – E. Weiss

Welcome and Announcements

### THE WORD OF GOD

*The people stand*

Processional Hymn: 401 The God of Abraham praise

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

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. BCP 355

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

*The Priest-Celebrant says the Collect for Purity*

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known,  
and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our  
hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may  
perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name;  
through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

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

Hymnal S-280

**Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.  
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.  
For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

*The Priest-Celebrant says to the people*

The Lord be with you.

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

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

BCP 225

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

O God, from whom all good proceeds: Grant that by your  
inspiration we may think those things that are right, and by your

merciful guiding may do them; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

THE LESSONS

BCP 357

*The people sit*

*Reader* A Reading from Hosea [5:15-6:6]

Thus says the Lord: "I will return again to my place until they acknowledge their guilt and seek my face. In their distress they will beg my favor: 'Come, let us return to the Lord; for it is he who has torn, and he will heal us; he has struck down, and he will bind us up. After two days he will revive us; on the third day he will raise us up, that we may live before him. Let us know, let us press on to know the Lord; his appearing is as sure as the dawn; he will come to us like the showers, like the spring rains that water the earth.' What shall I do with you, O Ephraim? What shall I do with you, O Judah? Your love is like a morning cloud, like the dew that goes away early. Therefore I have hewn them by the prophets, I have killed them by the words of my mouth, and my judgment goes forth as the light. For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice, the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings."

*Reader* The Word of the Lord

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

*Silence follows*

*Reader* The Psalm for today is portions of  
Psalm 50 [7-15] [*Deus deorum*]

We will read responsively by whole verse.

BCP 654

7 Hear, O my people, and I will speak:  
"O Israel, I will bear witness against you; \*  
for I am God, your God.

**8 I do not accuse you because of your sacrifices; \*  
your offerings are always before me.**

9 I will take no bull-calf from your stalls, \*  
nor he-goats out of your pens;

**10 For all the beasts of the forest are mine, \*  
the herds in their thousands upon the hills.**

11 I know every bird in the sky, \*  
and the creatures of the fields are in my sight.

**12 If I were hungry, I would not tell you, \*  
for the whole world is mine and all that is in it.**

13 Do you think I eat the flesh of bulls, \*  
or drink the blood of goats?

**14 Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving \*  
and make good your vows to the Most High.**

15 Call upon me in the day of trouble; \*  
I will deliver you, and you shall honor me."

*Reader* A Reading from Romans [4:13-25]

The promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations") —in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall

your descendants be.” He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah’s womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore his faith “was reckoned to him as righteousness.” Now the words, “it was reckoned to him,” were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

*Reader*    **The Word of the Lord.**

*People*     **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence follows*

*The people stand*

Gospel Acclamation  
Laudate Dominum

Songs from Taizé

*Sung through three, six, or nine times*

Laudate Dominum,  
Laudate Dominum  
Omnes gentes, alleluia!

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

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
According to Matthew [9:9-13, 18-26].

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

As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth; and he said to him, “Follow me.” And he got up and followed him. And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came and were sitting with him and his disciples. When the Pharisees saw

this, they said to his disciples, “Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?” But when he heard this, he said, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. Go and learn what this means, ‘I desire mercy, not sacrifice.’ For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners.”

While he was saying these things to them, suddenly a leader of the synagogue came in and knelt before him, saying, “My daughter has just died; but come and lay your hand on her, and she will live.” And Jesus got up and followed him, with his disciples. Then suddenly a woman who had been suffering from hemorrhages for twelve years came up behind him and touched the fringe of his cloak, for she said to herself, “If I only touch his cloak, I will be made well.” Jesus turned, and seeing her he said, “Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well.” And instantly the woman was made well. When Jesus came to the leader’s house and saw the flute players and the crowd making a commotion, he said, “Go away; for the girl is not dead but sleeping.” And they laughed at him. But when the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took her by the hand, and the girl got up. And the report of this spread throughout that district.

*After the Gospel, the Priest-Celebrant says*

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE SERMON

The Rev’d Kristin Wickersham

*Silence follows*

*The people stand. The Priest-Celebrant and people say*

THE NICENE CREED

BCP 358

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
 the only Son of God,  
 eternally begotten of the Father,  
 God from God, Light from Light,  
 true God from true God,  
 begotten, not made,  
 of one Being with the Father.  
 Through him all things were made.  
 For us and for our salvation  
     he came down from heaven:  
 by the power of the Holy Spirit  
     he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
     and was made man.  
 For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
     he suffered death and was buried.  
 On the third day he rose again  
     in accordance with the Scriptures;  
     he ascended into heaven  
     and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
 He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
     and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
 who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
 With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
 He has spoken through the Prophets.  
 We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
 We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
 We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
     and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Intercessions for Year A

*The Intercessor and people pray responsively*

*Intercessor* Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make your  
 vows to the Most High. Call on the Lord, saying, “O  
 God, we long to see your face; *show us your favor.*”  
 Forgive us, O God. You desire steadfast love and yet too  
 often our hearts are fickle. You long for us to be people  
 of mercy and yet it is much easier to simply go through  
 the motions. Help your Church, O God.

*Silence follows*

O God, we long to see your face;  
*People* **Show us your favor.**

*Intercessor* God of Abraham, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth. Restore us to unity. Help your people, O God.

*Silence follows*

O God, we long to see your face;  
*People* **Show us your favor.**

*Intercessor* Most High, every wild animal of the forest is yours, all that moves in the field is yours. The world and all that is in it is yours. Make us good stewards of your creation. Help us, O God.

*Silence follows*

O God, we long to see your face;  
*People* **Show us your favor.**

*Intercessor* Mighty God, come to us like the spring rains that water the earth. Restore this community; refresh its people. Help our city, O God.

*Silence follows*

O God, we long to see your face;  
*People* **Show us your favor.**

*Intercessor* Holy Jesus, you have come to heal the sick. Heal us. Bind us up. Help those who are suffering, O God.

*Silence follows*

O God, we long to see your face;  
*People* **Show us your favor.**

*Intercessor* Living God, your Holy Child was raised for our



justification. We pray for the dead. Raise them up on the last day, that they may live before you in eternity. Help the dying and the dead, O God.

*Silence follows*

O God, we long to see your face;  
*People* **Show us your favor.**

*Silence follows*

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

*The Priest-Celebrant concludes with a Collect.*

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles, "Peace I give to you; my own peace I leave with you:" Regard not our sins, but the faith of your Church, and give to us the peace and unity of that heavenly City, where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, now and for ever. **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN

*The Priest-Celebrant reads one of the sentences from the Penitential Order*

BCP 352

Since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. *Hebrews 4:14,16*

*The Priest Celebrant then says*

BCP 359

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence*

*The Priest and People say*

**Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;**

**we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

*The Priest 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 Priest-Celebrant says to the people*

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

*Then the Priest-Celebrant and people may greet one another in the name of the Lord*

THE OFFERTORY SENTENCE

*The Priest-Celebrant says to the people*

BCP 376

I will offer in his dwelling an oblation with great gladness; I will sing and speak praises to the Lord. *Psalm 27:6*

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

*The people sit*

*The people are invited to place their offerings and commitment/pledge cards into offering plates, which are brought to the altar as an offering to God, blessed by the Priest-Celebrant, and used for the ministries of the Church*

Offertory Voluntary: There is a Balm in Gilead – R. Nelson

Hymn 424 For the fruit of all creation

Traditional Welsh melody – tune name: AR HYD Y NOS

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*Eucharistic Prayer A*

BCP 361

*The people stand.*

*The Priest-Celebrant faces them and says*

The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

*People* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People* **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*Then, facing the Holy Altar, the Priest-Celebrant proceeds*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every-where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. 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-125

*Priest-Celebrant and People*

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

*The people kneel*

*Then the Priest-Celebrant continues*

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

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

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

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Priest-Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

*The Priest-Celebrant continues*

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

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

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

*People*     **AMEN.**

*The Priest-Celebrant continues*

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BCP 364

*People and Priest-Celebrant*

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy Name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
    on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
    as we forgive those  
    who trespass against us  
And lead us not into temptation,  
    but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
    and the power, and the glory  
    for ever and ever. *Amen.***

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

*The Priest-Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread*

*A period of silence is kept*

*Celebrant* Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
*People* **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

THE AGNUS DEI

Hymnal S-161

*Priest-Celebrant and People*

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

*Facing the people, the Priest-Celebrant says the following Invitation*

*Celebrant* The Gifts of God for the People of God.

*The Priest-Celebrant and ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people*

### *An Invitation to Baptism*

*The altar table is open. All baptized Christians, regardless of their denomination, are invited to receive communion at Epiphany. If you would like to be Baptized, thereby entering into membership in the mystical Body of Christ, the Church, please contact the Priest-in-Charge.*

### *For Those Who Wish a Blessing*

*All are welcome to come to the altar and receive a blessing from the priest. If you would like a blessing, please indicate this by crossing your arms over your chest.*

### *How to Receive Communion*

*To receive the bread, lay your right hand in your left hand, palm open. To receive the wine, as the priest brings the chalice to your mouth, gently touch the base of the chalice and help guide it to your lips. The proper response after receiving is to say, "Amen."*

*We do not allow the practice of intinction, or dipping the bread into the consecrated wine. If you do not wish to receive the consecrated wine, please cross your arms over your chest as the chalice bearer approaches. Although we encourage reception in both kinds, the grace of God present in the holy sacrament is fully available in the bread or the wine alone.*

*If you would like communion brought to you in your pew, please tell an usher and the priest will come to you.*

*The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words*

BCP 365

*Celebrant*           The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven.

*Communicant*       **Amen.**

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

*Communicant*       **Amen.**

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

Hymns During Communion

Hymn: 676   There is a balm in Gilead

*Taizé Chant*

Come and fill our hearts with your peace.

You alone, O Lord, are holy.

Come and fill our hearts with your peace, alleluia!

*After Communion, the Priest-Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*Priest-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 Priest-Celebrant blesses the people.*

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

Post-Communion Hymn: 493 O for a thousand tongues to sing

THE DISMISSAL

*The Priest-Celebrant dismisses the people.*

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

Postlude: Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee – C. Callahan.

*The flowers on the altar this morning are given to the Glory of God by  
Jennifer Jefcoats in loving memory of her mother, Penny Jefcoats.*

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## An Outline of the Faith commonly called the Catechism

The Old Covenant BCP 846

Q. What is meant by a covenant with God?

A. A covenant is a relationship initiated by God, to which a  
body of people responds in faith.

Q. What is the Old Covenant?

A. The Old Covenant is the one given by God to the  
Hebrew people.

Q. What did God promise them?



- A. God promised that they would be his people to bring all the nations of the world to him.
- Q. What response did God require from the chosen people?
- A. God required the chosen people to be faithful; to love justice, to do mercy, and to walk humbly with their God.
- Q. Where is this Old Covenant to be found?
- A. The covenant with the Hebrew people is to be found in the books which we call the Old Testament.
- Q. Where in the Old Testament is God's will for us shown most clearly?
- A. God's will for us is shown most clearly in the Ten Commandments.
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**The Church of the Epiphany**

*An Episcopal Church and member of the worldwide Anglican Communion*

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

Office Hours:

Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday  
9:00 a.m. – noon

The Rev'd Kristin P. R. Wickersham, Priest-in-Charge  
Mrs. Anita Williams, Minister of Music  
Mrs. Lucy Whitlock, Parish Administrator  
Mr. Timon Kenyi, Sexton  
Marty Shephard, Treasurer

The Vestry

Scott Blackwell, Gray Corbett, Randy Holden, John Norris, John Sarvay,  
Mirendy Smith, Jeri Townley, Billy Tucker,

**COMMUNICATION CARD**  
June 11, 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:** Buddy Dunn, Timon Kenyi

**Parishioners:** Mike Young, Bob Jimerson, Milton Jenkins, Herb Williams, Martha Jenkins

**Homebound:** Ray Hampton, Dot Hudson, Fran LaVigne, Marion Magruder, Joyce Melton, Ina Stickel, and Irene Morris

**Family & Friends:** David Thabet and Elizabeth Mickel—relatives of Sandy Ruder & Denise Russell, Maratha Kadi—Timon's mother, Bill McCarty—Ann Poates' brother, Kim Prince—friend of Lim Ludwig, Alex Kieber—Benjamin Holden's brother-in-law, John Henry Rice—son of Fr. John & Mackie Rice, the family of Brian Taggart—nephew of Ellie Tuck, Johnny Jorstad—Martha Jenkins son & Marty Shephard & Sandy Tignor's brother, Jennie Gundersen—friend of Irene Temple, Judy Watson—Martha Jenkins niece & Mary Shephard & Sandy Tignor's cousin, William Higgins—Harrison Higgins' grandson, Helen Adams—friend of Gina Richardson, Virginia Barrett—Conny Barrett's daughter-in-law, Jean Stone—John Stone's mother

**Prayers for the departed:** Bev Kilgalen—friend of Gina Richardson

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**CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY**

**Weekly Worship**

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

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

8000 Hermitage Road  
804-266-2503

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

**Today's Ministers**

**Ushers:** Scott Blackwell, Frosine Corbett

**Acolytes:** Kim Ludwig, Ceanna Cloyes

**Lessons:** Carol Cullinan

**Prayers of the People:** Carol Cullinan

**Chalice:** Gray Corbett

**Sun. School Helper:** Conny Barrett

**Altar Guild:** Karen & Randy Holden

**Coffee Hour:** Church Picnic

**Counters:** Carol Cullinan, Gray Corbett

**The Church of the Epiphany**  
**ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
**Second Sunday after Pentecost**  
**June 11, 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**

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Hosea 5:15-6:6

Our opening lesson is a dialogue between God and the people: the Lord desires a faithful love and knowledge of God rather than fleeting emotions and ritual offerings. Israel and Judah have strayed far from the Lord's service and have worshiped other gods. For this they have suffered. Now they presume that a brief repentance will restore them to God's favor.

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Romans 4:13-25

In this lesson Paul explains that the new relationship with God is open to everyone who follows in the way of Abraham's faith. This means that righteousness before God comes through God's free gift and the response of faith—not because of obedience to the law. This was first true in the case of Abraham, who trusted in God's promise before the law even existed. This faith was "reckoned to him as righteousness". Now it is true for all who have faith and so show themselves to be among Abraham's descendants from many nations.

The Gospel: Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26

In the gospel story Jesus calls Matthew the tax collector to be his follower, heals a woman with hemorrhages, and raises a young girl from death. Tax collectors at this time were looked down upon as extortionists and collaborators with the occupying Roman enemy. Yet it is not those who are considered well who require Jesus' acceptance of them, but those who are in need of healing. Jesus remembers God's words spoken through the prophet Hosea, "I desire mercy, not sacrifice". Jesus is then shown acting in mercy through the healing of the woman who had been suffering from hemorrhages (which would have rendered her unclean), and in the raising of the daughter of the synagogue official.

**On the Calendar and Coming up**

**Sun. June 11<sup>th</sup>**  
 8:15 am — Holy Eucharist  
 10:30 am — Holy Eucharist

Parish Picnic

7:30 pm — AA Meeting in parish hall

**Wed. June 14<sup>th</sup>**  
 Noon Holy Eucharist  
 6:00 pm — Bible Study

**Fri. June 16<sup>th</sup>**  
 7:30 pm — AA meeting in the parish hall

**Sat. June 17<sup>th</sup>**  
 10–noon — Diaper Ministry

**Sun. June 18<sup>th</sup>**  
 8:15 am—Holy Eucharist  
 10:30 am—Holy Eucharist

7:30pm —AA meeting in the parish hall

*The flowers on the altar this morning are given to the Glory of God by Jennifer Jefcoats in loving memory of her mother, Penny Jefcoats.*

**Today is the Church Picnic** after the 10:30 am Service. The men's group are preparing hamburgers & hot dogs and the kitchen is providing the buns and fixings. Everyone is invited to join in the fun, good food & fellowship!

**Congratulations** to our graduating Acolytes: **Eric Ludwig, Sam Tucker and Camryn Whittlesey!**

**I have some open flower dates** if anyone is interested. July 9, 16, 23; August 13; October 15, 22, 29; November 26; December 3.

Attendance: June 4, 2023  
 8:15 am 6  
 10:30 am 64

**Outreach Opportunities**



The diaper ministry continues to hold diaper distribution on the third Saturday of every month from 10 am to 12 noon. This inspirational ministry has been touching families lives in our community since 2018 and continues to welcome new families each month. This ministry offers the parish an outreach opportunity to share God's love and develop relationships within our community. The most recent diaper distribution was held Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup> and **the next diaper distribution day is on June 17<sup>th</sup>**. A sign-up sheet is on the outreach board in the parish hallway for anyone interested in volunteering. Donations of diapers (sizes 5 and 6) and wipes are also appreciated. Thank you again to everyone for your continued support of this ministry!



A copy of the **2023 homeless lunch schedule** is available on the bulletin board in the parish hallway if anyone would like a copy. If anyone is interested in taking part in this ministry, ALL are welcome! Contact Mary Sam Abernathy (msabernathy88@gmail.com) or the team lead, for the team you are interested in helping. **The next lunches are scheduled to be prepared and delivered by the Yellow Team on July 1<sup>st</sup>**. This ministry is currently in its 24<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:crystalsarvay@gmail.com)).



**Lambs Basket** continues to need donations of food items, particularly cereals, peanut butter, jams, jellies, and canned foods. Please, bring in your donations and leave them in the parish hallway in the red wagon. Thank you for your continued support of this project.

**If anyone has any outreach projects or needs, they are aware of in the community, please share them!** See Crystal Sarvay, Outreach Coordinator, or email at [epiphanyrparishnurse@gmail.com](mailto:epiphanyrparishnurse@gmail.com).

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

**COMMUNICATION CARD**

June 11, 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:

- Music
- Altar Guild
- Office help
- Christian Ed
- Outreach
- Ushers
- Chalice Bearer
- Greeters
- Pastoral Care
- Readers
- Prayer Team
- \_\_\_\_\_

**Prayer Requests / Comments**

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