

The Church of the Epiphany

Proper 6, Year A

The Third Sunday after Pentecost

June 18, 2023

Bernard Mizeki, Martyr and Catechist, 1896

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. We hope the act of praying together in community will shape your faith and help you grow closer to God. 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: Prelude on “Gethsemane” – C.S. Lang

Welcome and Announcements

THE WORD OF GOD

The people stand

Hymn 391 Before the Lord's eternal throne

The people standing, the Priest-Celebrant joins the people in facing God's holy 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 230

Celebrant Let us pray.

Keep, O Lord, your household the Church in your steadfast faith and love, that through your grace we may proclaim your truth with boldness, and minister your justice with compassion; for the sake of our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

THE LESSONS

BCP 357

The people sit

Reader A Reading from Exodus [19:2-8a]

The Israelites had journeyed from Rephidim, entered the wilderness of Sinai, and camped in the wilderness; Israel camped there in front of the mountain. Then Moses went up to God; the Lord called to him from the mountain, saying, “Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the Israelites: You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles’ wings and brought you to myself. Now therefore, if you obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession out of all the peoples. Indeed, the whole earth is mine, but you shall be for me a priestly kingdom and a holy nation. These are the words that you shall speak to the Israelites.”

So Moses came, summoned the elders of the people, and set before them all these words that the Lord had commanded him. The people all answered as one: “Everything that the Lord has spoken we will do.”

Reader The Word of the Lord

People **Thanks be to God.**

Silence follows

Reader The Psalm for today is Psalm 100 [*Jubilate Deo*]

We will read responsively by whole verse.

BCP 729

- 1 Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; *
serve the Lord with gladness
and come before his presence with a song.
- 2 **Know this: The Lord himself is God; ***
he himself has made us, and we are his;
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.
- 3 Enter his gates with thanksgiving;
go into his courts with praise; *
give thanks to him and call upon his Name.
- 4 **For the Lord is good;**
his mercy is everlasting; *
and his faithfulness endures from age to age.

Reader A Reading from Romans [5:1-8]

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person-- though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Silence follows

The people stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION
Laudate Dominum

Songs from Taizé

The people and choir sing.

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 [9:35-10:23].

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

Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.”

Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness. These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him.

These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: “Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans, but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. As you go, proclaim the good news, ‘The kingdom of heaven has come near.’ Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment. Take no gold, or silver, or copper in your belts, no bag for your journey, or two tunics, or sandals, or a staff; for laborers deserve their food. Whatever town or village you enter, find out who in it

is worthy, and stay there until you leave. As you enter the house, greet it. If the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it; but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you. If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet as you leave that house or town. Truly I tell you, it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah on the day of judgment than for that town.

“See, I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. Beware of them, for they will hand you over to councils and flog you in their synagogues; and you will be dragged before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them and the Gentiles. When they hand you over, do not worry about how you are to speak or what you are to say; for what you are to say will be given to you at that time; for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death; and you will be hated by all because of my name. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. When they persecute you in one town, flee to the next; for truly I tell you, you will not have gone through all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes.”

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 Gracious God, give us boldness, justice, and compassion
 as we offer our prayers, responding, “Kyrie eleison.”

Silence follows

Open our eyes to see the stranger in our midst, offering
 hospitality and companionship, believing that the Holy

Spirit visits us through those we do not know; let us pray.

People **Kyrie eleison.**

Intercessor Reveal the fruits of suffering to all who are heavy laden with despair, that they may receive your endurance, grow in character, and live in hope; let us pray.

People **Kyrie eleison.**

Intercessor Strengthen our hands and voices to proclaim the good news of Christ both aloud through our words and through the daily events of our lives; let us pray.

People **Kyrie eleison.**

Intercessor Increase vocations to the various ministries of our Church, especially our Religious Communities, whose members hold the Church, her mission, and people in prayer, and who work for the joy of the gospel. We pray especially for the Society of St. John the Evangelist. Let us pray.

People **Kyrie eleison.**

Intercessor Bless our nation, our president, and members of Congress, give them wisdom in their deliberations that legislation and programs may serve the best interests of the common good and the needs of the global community; let us pray.

People **Kyrie eleison.**

Intercessor Hold in your arms of mercy those who are ill, and grant to those who have died a room prepared by your own hands; let us pray.

People **Kyrie eleison.**

Intercessor Let us endure faithfully in the practice of intercession as we continue our petitions.

Silence follows

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

The Priest-Celebrant concludes with a Collect.

Almighty and everlasting God, who kindled the flame of your love in the heart of your holy martyr Bernard Mizeki: Grant unto us your servants a like faith and power of love, that we, who rejoice in his triumph, may profit by his example; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

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.

All who truly and earnestly repent of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbors, and intend to lead a new life, following the commandments of God, and walking in God's holy ways: Draw near with faith, and make your humble confession to Almighty God, devoutly kneeling.

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 ABSOLUTION

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 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.

All 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, and used for the ministries of the Church

Offertory Voluntary: O Spirit of the Living God – C.S. Lang

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. For you are the source of light and life; you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

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.

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 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."

A Note About Intinction

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.

Hymn 321 My God, thy table now is spread

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.**

Hymn 535 Ye servants of God, your Master proclaim

THE DISMISSAL

The Priest-Celebrant dismisses the people.

Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude: Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow – J.C. Bach

The flowers on the altar this morning are given to the Glory of God by the Whitlock family in loving memory of their parents, Pete & Joyce Whitlock and their brother, Carl Whitlock.

An Outline of the Faith commonly called the Catechism

Q. What are the Ten Commandments?

A. The Ten Commandments are the laws given to Moses and the people of Israel.

Q. What do we learn from these commandments?

A. We learn two things: our duty to God, and our duty to our neighbors.

Q. What is our duty to God?

A. Our duty is to believe and trust in God;

I To love and obey God and to bring others to know him;

II To put nothing in the place of God;

III To show God respect in thought, word, and deed;

IV And to set aside regular times for worship, prayer, and the study of God's ways.

- Q. What is our duty to our neighbors?
- A. Our duty to our neighbors is to love them as ourselves, and to do to other people as we wish them to do to us;
- V To love, honor, and help our parents and family; to honor those in authority, and to meet their just demands;
 - VI To show respect for the life God has given us; to work and pray for peace; to bear no malice, prejudice, or hatred in our hearts; and to be kind to all the creatures of God;
 - VII To use our bodily desires as God intended;
 - VIII To be honest and fair in our dealings; to seek justice, freedom, and the necessities of life for all people; and to use our talents and possessions as ones who must answer for them to God;
 - IX To speak the truth, and not to mislead others by our silence;
 - X To resist temptations to envy, greed, and jealousy; to rejoice in other people's gifts and graces; and to do our duty for the love of God, who has called us into fellowship with him.

Q. What is the purpose of the Ten Commandments?

A. The Ten Commandments were given to define our relationship with God and our neighbors.

Q. Since we do not fully obey them, are they useful at all?

A. Since we do not fully obey them, we see more clearly our sin and our need for redemption.

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 18, 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: Timon Kenyi, Shirley Hughson, Donna Nuttal & family—niece of Gina Richardson, Theodore Osborne—friend of Mtr. Kristin, Renee Stone—friend of Jennifer & Billy Tucker

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

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: Carmelita Peters—friend of Mtr. Kristin

CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY

Today's Ministers

Weekly Worship

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

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

8000 Hermitage Road
804-266-2503

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

Ushers: Becky Card, Kim Ruder
Acolytes: Ginny Tucker, Ezra Axselle
Lessons: Jennifer Jefcoats
Prayers of the People: Jennifer Jefcoats
Chalice: Crystal Sarvay
Sun. School Helper: Kathy Jimerson
Altar Guild: Cheri & Scott Blackwell
Coffee Hour: Hostess
Counters: Gray Corbett, Becky Card



The Church of the Epiphany
ANNOUNCEMENTS
Third Sunday after Pentecost
June 18, 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: Exodus 19:2-8a

In our Hebrew scripture story the people of Israel arrive at Mount Sinai after being brought out of Egypt. Through Moses the Lord offers to make a covenant with them. If they will obey God and keep the covenant, they will be to God a special nation. They will become a priestly people, holy and dedicated for God's service.

2nd Reading: Romans 5:1- 8

In this reading Paul bids the disciples to rejoice in the reconciliation and hope which are theirs because of the sacrifice of Christ on behalf of sinners. Through faith we have justification: we are given a right relationship with God. Now even our sufferings can lead to endurance, and this is a perseverance which strengthens our hope. God has shown great love for us in that, while we were still God's enemies because of sin, Christ died for us.

The Gospel: Matthew 9:35-10:23

In our gospel reading Jesus continues his mission of preaching, teaching, and healing, and he commissions his twelve disciples in this ministry with him. The need for this work is great. The twelve are constituted as a kind of new Israel, and their healing acts and proclamation tell that God's ruling power has drawn near. At first this ministry will be concentrated on the Jewish nation. Later wit will teach to all peoples. The disciples are to meet every circumstance with confidence and trust in God.

On the Calendar and Coming up

Sun. June 18th
 8:15 am — Holy Eucharist
 10:30 am — Holy Eucharist

7:30 pm — AA Meeting in parish hall

Mon. June 19th
 Office Closed — Juneteenth Holiday

Wed. June 21st
 Noon Holy Eucharist
 6:00 pm — Bible Study

Fri. June 23rd
 7:30 pm — AA meeting in the parish hall

Sun. June 25th
 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 the Whitlock family in loving memory of their parents, Pete & Joyce Whitlock and their brother, Carl Whitlock.

I have some open flower dates if anyone is interested. July 9, 16; October 15, 22, 29; November 26; December 3. Cost is \$37.00.

Happy Father's Day!

Attendance: June 11, 2023
 8:15 am 3
 10:30 am 62

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, June 17th and **the next diaper distribution day is on July 15th**. 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 1st**. This ministry is currently in its 24th year! **Donations of paper lunch bags, sandwich bags and napkins** are always welcome as well and can be dropped at the church office. Additionally, if you have further questions or concerns, I am always available to answer any questions. Crystal Sarvay, Outreach Coordinator (crystalsarvay@gmail.com).



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

If anyone has any outreach projects or needs, they are aware of in the community, please share them! See Crystal Sarvay, Outreach Coordinator, or email at epiphanyrvaparishnurse@gmail.com.

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

COMMUNICATION CARD

June 18, 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
