

Church of the Epiphany

Feast of the Epiphany, Year A

(Observed)

January 8, 2023

10:30 a.m.

The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

This service leaflet is excerpted from the Book of Common Prayer (BCP), the red book located in the pew rack in front of you. If you prefer to use the BCP itself to aid your worship, all BCP page numbers are noted. Hymns and service music are from The Hymnal 1982, the blue book located in the pew rack in front of you. Service music is noted by an S in front of the number and can be found in the front of The Hymnal 1982, before the hymns.

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

Prelude: Adeste Fidelis – G. Krapf

Welcome and Announcements

THE WORD OF GOD

THE ENTRANCE RITE

BCP 355

The people stand.

Processional Hymn: 381 Thy strong word did cleave the darkness

The people standing, the Priest-Celebrant faces the Holy Altar and says

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

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, all standing.
280

Hymnal S-

**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 COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Priest-Celebrant says to the people

The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

The Priest-Celebrant faces the Holy Altar and says the Collect of the Day.
BCP 214

O God, by the leading of a star you manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: Lead us, who know you now by faith, to your presence, where we may see your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

People **Amen.**

THE LESSONS

BCP 357

The people sit. The Lessons, as appointed, are read, the Reader first saying

Reader A Reading from Isaiah [60:1-6]

Arise, shine; for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

For darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples;

but the Lord will arise upon you,
and his glory will appear over you.

Nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

Lift up your eyes and look around;
they all gather together, they come to you;

your sons shall come from far away,
and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses'
arms.

Then you shall see and be radiant;
your heart shall thrill and rejoice,

because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you,
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.

A multitude of camels shall cover you,
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;
all those from Sheba shall come.

They shall bring gold and frankincense,
and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.

Silence

Reader The Word of the Lord

People **Thanks be to God.**

BCP 685

Reader The Psalm for today is portions of Psalm 72.
We will read responsively by whole verse.

Give the King your justice, O God, *
and your righteousness to the King's Son;

**That he may rule your people righteously *
and the poor with justice;**

That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, *
and the little hills bring righteousness.

**He shall defend the needy among the people; *
he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.**

He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, *
from one generation to another.

**He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, *
like showers that water the earth.**

In his time shall the righteous flourish; *
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be
no more.

**The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay tribute, *
and the kings of Arabia and Saba offer gifts.**

All kings shall bow down before him, *
and all the nations do him service.

**For he shall deliver the poor who cries out in distress, *
and the oppressed who has no helper.**

He shall have pity on the lowly and poor; *
he shall preserve the lives of the needy.

He shall redeem their lives from oppression and violence,

*

and dear shall their blood be in his sight.

Reader A Reading from Ephesians [3:1-12]

This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles-- for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

Silence

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The people stand.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Song of Gladness

Tune: Hymn 559.

Words: Hymn 122 v. 1 as follows:

**Alleluia, song of gladness,
voice of joy that cannot die;
alleluia is the anthem
ever raised by choirs on high;
in the house of God abiding
thus they sing eternally. Repeat.**

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

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
According to Matthew [2:1-12].

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

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

‘And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of
Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler
who is to shepherd my people Israel.’”

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that

they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Silence

After the Gospel, the Priest-Celebrant says

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE EPIPHANY PROCLAMATION OF THE DATE OF EASTER AND THE OTHER MOVABLE FEASTS

Brothers and sisters,
the glory of the Lord has shone upon us,
and shall ever be manifest among us,
until the day of his return.

Through the rhythms of times and seasons let us celebrate the mysteries of salvation.

Let us recall the year's culmination,
the Paschal Triduum of the Lord:
his last supper, his crucifixion, his burial,
and his rising will be celebrated
between the evening of the sixth day of April
and the evening of the eighth day of April.

Each Easter – as on each Sunday –
the Holy Church makes present the great and saving deed
by which Christ has for ever conquered sin and death.
From Easter are reckoned all the days we keep holy.

Ash Wednesday, and the beginning of
the fast of the most sacred Lenten season,
will fall on the twenty-second day of February.

The Ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ
will be commemorated on the twenty-first day of May.

Pentecost, the joyful conclusion of the season of Easter,
will be celebrated on the twenty-eighth day of May.

And, this year, the First Sunday of Advent will be on the third
day of December.

Likewise the pilgrim Church proclaims the passover of Christ
in the feasts of the holy Mother of God,
in the feasts of the Apostles and Saints,
and in the commemoration of the faithful departed.

To Jesus Christ, who was, who is, and who is to come,
Lord of time and history,
be endless praise, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

THE HOMILY

Mtr. Kristin Wickersham

Silence

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

Church Publishing

The Intercessor and people pray responsively

Intercessor It is in following the Light that we discover the truth. With the love of God to guide our footsteps, let us journey to the new Bethlehem and offer our prayers to the Holy Child, responding, "Hear us, God of Glory."

Silence

For the light of hope which illumines the depths of reality and releases our hearts to offer the treasures of our souls; let us pray,

People **Hear us, God of Glory.**

Intercessor For the fragile stirrings of peace sown in troubled places throughout the world, that freedom may flourish, and its fruits bring hope to those most in need; let us pray,

People **Hear us, God of Glory.**

Intercessor For the forgiveness of our sins: our greed and narrow-mindedness, our selfishness and misuse of power, our misjudgment of one another, that we may acknowledge our faults and turn to the all-merciful love of God; let us pray,

People **Hear us, God of Glory.**

Intercessor That we may be humbled in the presence of the poor, opening our hearts to those who have no defender, and to those whose economic and person distress pains us to encounter; let us pray.

People **Hear us, God of Glory.**

Intercessor For those who are suffering with illness and for those who bear a private grief, that the Holy Comforter may bring them relief from their burdens; let us pray.

People **Hear us, God of Glory.**

Intercessor For all that is to be revealed to us during this new year: the joys, the disappointments, the struggles, the new directions and insights; that through all our journeys we may know the Messiah as our constant companion; let us pray.

People **Hear us, God of Glory.**

Intercessor For a generosity of spirit, that through the delight of giving treasures rich and rare, we may share a common bounty and support a shared mission; let us pray.

People **Hear us, God of Glory.**

Intercessor In thanksgiving for the Body and Blood of Christ, a foretaste of that heavenly banquet upon which the faithful departed continually feast; let us pray.

People **Hear us, God of Glory.**

Intercessor In companionship with the angels of light, we continue our prayers.

Silence

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

The Priest-Celebrant concludes with a suitable Collect.

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever, *Amen*.

CONFESSION OF SIN

BCP 359

The Priest-Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All kneel.

Silence is kept.

The Priest-Celebrant 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-Celebrant stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

THE PEACE

All stand.

The 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

Offertory Sentences
BCP 376

The Priest-Celebrant says to the people

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

The people sit.

The people place their offerings and commitment/pledge cards into offering plates, which are brought to the altar as an offering to God, and blessed by the Priest-Celebrant.

Offertory Involuntary: O Jesulein Suss – F. Ritter

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING
Eucharistic Prayer B
BCP 367

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 everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth; because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

Priest-Celebrant and People

Hymnal S-124

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

Hosanna in the highest.

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

Hosanna in the highest.

The people kneel.

Then the Priest-Celebrant continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

Priest-Celebrant and People

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

The Priest-Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of

Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with the Blessed Virgin Mary and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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,

People and Priest-Celebrant

BCP 364

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

for ever and ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Priest-Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept.

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

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

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.

How to Receive Communion and An Invitation to Baptism

All baptized Christians are invited to receive communion. If you do not wish to receive, you may come forward for a blessing, indicating this by crossing your arms over your chest. If you desire to be Baptized and thereby enter into membership in the mystical Body of Christ, the Church, please contact the Priest-in-Charge.

At the altar rail, 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 lips, gently touch the base of the chalice and help guide it.

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 indicate this by crossing your arms over your chest. 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

297 Descend, O Spirit, purging flame

339 Deck thyself, my soul, with gladness

After Communion, the Priest-Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Priest-Celebrant and People

BCP 365

**Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

THE EPIPHANY BLESSING OF CHALK

Celebrant May God, who provided a safe dwelling place
for the eternal Word, bless this chalk, the homes of the faithful,

and the people who dwell or visit there, through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Priest-Celebrant blesses the people.

Book of Occasional

Services

May God, who has called you out of darkness into his wonderful light, pour out in kindness his blessing upon you and make your hearts firm in faith, hope, and charity.

People **Amen.**

And since in all confidence you follow Christ, who today appeared in the world as a light shining in darkness, may God make you, too, a light for your brothers and sisters.

People **Amen.**

And so when your pilgrimage is ended, may you come to him whom the Magi sought as they followed the star and whom they found with great joy, the Light from Light, who is Christ the Lord.

People **Amen.**

And may the blessing of almighty God, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, come down on you and remain with you for ever.

People **Amen.**

Post-Communion Hymn: 448 O love, how deep, (stanza 1-3, 6)

The Priest-Celebrant dismisses the people.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude: In Dulci Jubilo – J.S. Bach

The flowers on the altar this morning are given to the Glory of God by the Whitlock family in memory of their brother, Carl Whitlock.

An Outline of the Faith
commonly called the Catechism

God the Son

- Q. What do we mean when we say that Jesus is the only Son of God?
- A. We mean that Jesus is the only perfect image of the Father, and shows us the nature of God.
- Q. What is the nature of God revealed in Jesus?
- A. God is love.
- Q. What do we mean when we say that Jesus was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and became incarnate from the Virgin Mary?
- A. We mean that by God's own act, his divine Son received our human nature from the Virgin Mary, his mother.
- Q. Why did he take our human nature?
- A. The divine Son became human, so that in him human beings might be adopted as children of God, and be made heirs of God's kingdom.
- Q. What is the great importance of Jesus' suffering and death?
- A. By his obedience, even to suffering and death, Jesus made the offering which we could not make; in him we are freed from the power of sin and reconciled to God.
- Q. What is the significance of Jesus' resurrection?
- A. By his resurrection, Jesus overcame death and opened for us the way of eternal life.

- Q. What do we mean when we say that he descended to the dead?
- A. We mean that he went to the departed and offered them also the benefits of redemption.
- Q. What do we mean when we say that he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father?
- A. We mean that Jesus took our human nature into heaven where he now reigns with the Father and intercedes for us.
- Q. How can we share in his victory over sin, suffering, and death?
- A. We share in his victory when we are baptized into the New Covenant and become living members of Christ.
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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
Don Moro, Guest Organist
Mrs. Lucy Whitlock, Parish Administrator
Mr. Timon Kenyi, Sexton
Marty Shephard, Treasurer

The Vestry

Gray Corbett (Sr. Warden), Randy Holden (Jr. Warden),

Becky Card (Register), Scott Blackwell, Cory Isemann, Stacy Mitchell, John
Norris, John Sarvay, Jeri Townley

COMMUNICATION CARD
January 8, 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:

Parishioners: Dottie Strabley, Mike Young, Bob Jimerson, Fran LaVigne, Buddy Dunn, Milton Jenkins, David Skinner, Chip Dunn, Herb Williams, Marion Magruder, Martha Jenkins, George Baynes, Nancy Sonne, Jeannie Riddick

Homebound: Ray Hampton, Dot Hudson, Charlotte Lovelace, Joyce Melton, Ina Stickel, and Irene Morris

Family & Friends: Joyce Matchunis—Irene Morris' daughter-in-law, Dave Schulte—friend of Wayne & Lucy Whitlock, Nancy Baynes Rojas—daughter of George & Joy Baynes, Johnny Jorstad—Martha Jenkins son & Marty Shephard & Sandy Tignor's brother, Buster & Janet Magruder—Marion Magruder's son & daughter-in-law, Carolyn Hall—friend of Kathy Jimerson, Lynn Selfe—friend of Gray & Frosine Corbett, Deb—cousin of Jeri Anne Townley, David Thabet, Elizabeth Mickel,—relatives of Denise Russell and Sandy Ruder, Christian Devol—friend of Cheryl Lineberry, Easton Guyer—Cheryl Lineberry's grandson, Mike Marcial—friend of Cory Isemann, Kelly & Steve Schaaf, Emily, Stephen Bruke—son of Scott Blackwell's friend, Karen Rood—Jeri Anne Townley's sister, Melissa Matthews—friend of Kim Ludwig, Jack Nance, friend of Cheryl Lineberry, Judy Watson—Martha Jenkins niece & Marty Shephard & Sandy Tignor's cousin, Janie Dunnlevy—friend of Lucy & Wayne, Billy Callahan—friend of Karen Holden, Joanita Senoga—friend of Jeri Townley, Joan Church—friend of Gail Wood, Jean McDonough—Kim Ludwig & Karen Tucker's aunt, Sandra—friend from community

Prayers for the departed: Betty Van Valkenburg

CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY


Today's Ministers
10:30 PM—Worship Service

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

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

8000 Hermitage Road
804-266-2503

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



The Church of the Epiphany
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Feast of Epiphany, Year A
(Observed)
January 8, 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 Lessons

1st Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6

In our Hebrew scripture lesson the prophet envisions the end of exile and the glorious restoration of Jerusalem. Although darkness covers the earth, the Lord will be a light making God's people shine. To this radiance shall come the nations. Rich treasures will be brought from afar to honor God.

2nd Reading: Ephesians 3:1-12

Here is set forth the great theme of Paul's apostolic commission: the revealed mystery that Christ's salvation extends beyond Judaism to include all peoples. The apostle is near the end of his ministry and in prison at the time of the writing of this letter. Now it is recognized as God's eternal purpose that the Gentiles are to be members of the same body. The wisdom of God is made known through the church even in transcendental realms.

The Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

Our gospel is the story of the wise men from the east, who, guided by a star, come to worship the child born to be king. Despite the wicked plotting of Herod, the Magi are able to bring their gifts to Jesus without betraying his exact location. Early Christians found in the rich symbolism and motifs of the story the fulfillment of both Hebrew scripture prophecy and the dreams of many peoples. The meaning of this birth, and terrifyingly human circumstance, enlightens and transcends human history.

**On the Calendar
and Coming up**

**Sun. Jan. 8th
Celebrating Epiphany**

8:15 am Holy Eucharist
10:30am—Holy Eucharist

Pot Luck Luncheon

7:30 pm—AA Meeting in parish hall

Tue. Jan. 10th

7:00 pm—JRRingers

Wed. Jan. 11th

12:00 noon —Holy Eucharist
6:00 pm—Bible Study

Fri. Jan. 13th

7:30pm —AA meeting in the parish hall

Sun. Jan. 15th

8:15 am Holy Eucharist
10:30am—Holy Eucharist

7:30pm —AA meeting in the parish hall

We welcome Don Moro to our organ bench this morning while Anita is away, packing and moving to their new place.

There is still time to turn in your pledge card and if you have lost or misplaced yours there are some on the table in the narthex.

The prayers & sympathy of the congregation are extended to the family and friends of Betty Van Valkenburg who died on Friday, December 30. May her soul and the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace.

We are looking for 1 or 2 volunteers to co-ordinate the Women's breakfast on Sunday, May 7th. We would like to bring back this lovely tradition, so please let us know in the office, if you would be interested.

The Bible study will resume on Wednesday, January 11 at 6:00 pm, studying the gospel of John. If you are interested, please join us in the parlor at 6!

Today is the pot luck luncheon after the service. Join us in the parish hall for good food and fellowship!

The Wednesday noon Holy Eucharist will be starting back on Wednesday, January 11 at noon!

No Chancel Choir or Handbell choir rehearsals during January. The next rehearsal will be Chancel Choir on February 5 @ 6:15 pm.

I have the 2023 Envelopes and if you want to pick yours up, please let me know in the office and I can get them for you.

Attendance: January 1, 2023
8:15 am 8
10:30 am 37

Outreach Opportunities



The diaper ministry continues to hold diaper distribution on the third Saturday of each month from 10 am to 12:00 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 on December 17th. The next diaper distribution day is on **January 21st**. A sign-up sheet is on the outreach board in the parish hallway for anyone interested in volunteering. Donations of diapers (sizes 5 & 6) and wipes are also appreciated. **Thank you so much to Chapter 5 for their recent donation to the diaper ministry!** Additionally, thank you to everyone for your continued support of this ministry throughout the years! This has been a true blessing to the families in our community! Be on the lookout for our next diaper drive!



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. **Thank you to the Yellow Team who prepared and delivered lunches on January 7th**. The year 2023 will be the 24th year that our parish has taken part in the homeless lunch ministry! A big THANK YOU to everyone who continues to support this ministry. **Donations of paper lunch bags, sandwich bags or 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).



There are some needs within our Henrico County elementary schools currently. They are requesting these items for their clinics for those students who oftentimes come in and find a special need during the day. These items include **boys and girl's pants with elastic waists, sizes 5 through 14 (sweat pant type) and children underwear sizes 5 through 14**. If anyone would like to donate any of these items, there is a box in the parish hallway for them. These can be donated up through February 28th. Thank you so much!

Our outreach projects have been a blessing to so many families and re truly a special gift sent into our community from our parish! The love and kindness that our parish share is beyond amazing! If you know of any special needs or outreach projects tht our parish could assist with, please reach out to me! Thank you so much!

Love truly does live here!

COMMUNICATION CARD

January 8, 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