

# Church of the Epiphany

The Second Sunday of Easter  
April 7, 2024 (Year B), 10:30 a.m.

## The Holy Eucharist

according to

THE BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER 1979

### Rite II

and The Hymnal, 1982

*Welcome to the Church of the Epiphany. The Anglican tradition values common prayer. Praying together shapes our faith, binds us together, and helps us grow closer to God. We invite you to pray with us today. Page numbers refer to the Book of Common Prayer, 1979 (the red book). Hymns noted with an S are in the frontmost section of The Hymnal, 1982 (the blue book).*

*The half-hour before the Mass is a time of quiet prayer and preparation.*

*Please silence or turn off your electronic devices.*

Prelude: Prelude on Two Easter Hymntunes – C. Callahan

Welcome and Announcements

PREPARATION RITES

BCP 355

Hymn 192 This joyful Eastertide

*Vruechten*

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

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

BCP 355

*People* **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

*The 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 Celebrant says to the people*

The Lord be with you.

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

*The Celebrant faces the altar and says the Collects.*

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

BCP 172

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

BCP 357

*All sit for the Readings.*

*Reader* A Reading from Acts [4:32-35]

Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord

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

*Directions for Reciting the Psalter*

*The Psalm is read Responsively, the minister alternating with the congregation, verse by verse. An asterisk divides each verse into two parts. In reading, a **distinct pause should be made at the asterisk**. The pause is long enough to take a breath as one silently says the Name of Jesus. Commas in Psalms are not observed with a pause; a pause is observed at semi-colons. The Psalms are best able to be said when the readers both lower the pitch and volume of their voice.*

BCP 583

*Reader* The Psalm for today is Psalm 133, *Ecce, quam bonum!*

We will read responsively

by whole verse, pausing at the asterisks.

BCP 787

1 Oh, how good and pleasant it is, \* *(pause)*  
when brethren live together in unity!

**2 It is like fine oil upon the head \* *(pause)*  
that runs down upon the beard,**

3 Upon the beard of Aaron, \* *(pause)*  
and runs down upon the collar of his robe.

**4 It is like the dew of Hermon \* *(pause)*  
that falls upon the hills of Zion.**

5 For there the Lord has ordained the blessing: \* *(pause)*  
life for evermore.

*At the end of the Psalms is sung or said by All*

THE GLORIA PATRI

BCP 406

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

*Reader* A Reading from 1 John [1:1-2:2]

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life-- this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us-- we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

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

*Silence.*

*The people stand for the Gospel procession*

Hymn 711 Seek ye first the kingdom of God *Seek Ye First*

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

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
According to John [20:19:-31].

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

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that

you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

*After the Gospel, the Reader says*

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE SERMON

The Rev'd Kristin Wickersham

*Silence.*

*On Sundays and other Major Feasts there follows, all standing, said by all*

THE NICENE CREED

BCP 358

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

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

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

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*The Celebrant may introduce the Prayers with a sentence of invitation related to the occasion, or the season, or the Proper of the Day.*

*Celebrant* We join our hearts and voices in praying for ourselves, our neighbors, the Church, and the world.

*Silence.*

*The Intercessor and people pray responsively.*

*Intercessor* Even as your people, living in your world, as we praise your name, we recognize a twinge of fear and doubt in our hearts, we ask you to manifest your presence in our lives in a tangible and glorious way. We pray to you,

*People* **My Lord, and my God. Amen. Alleluia.**

*Intercessor* We pray for Christians throughout the world, that they have an experience of your love for themselves, and a genuine experience of love with each other. We pray to you,

*People* **My Lord, and my God. Amen. Alleluia.**

*Intercessor* We pray for those in authority in our country, that they are sensitive to the needs of those they serve, and that they create environments in which integrity, truth, and justice flourish. We pray to you,

*People* **My Lord, and my God. Amen. Alleluia.**

*Intercessor* We bring before you those who are on our hearts this day, who are suffering from spiritual or physical pain, who are

paralyzed with anxiety and despair. Come into their lives with powerful healing, and into their hearts with words of comfort and peace. Hold those dying today close to your heart and welcome them into your eternal light and life. We pray to you,

*People*    **My Lord, and my God. Amen. Alleluia.**

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*

Guide us and sustain us, Almighty God, and grant us knowledge of the power of your love that has turned death into life, so that we may die daily to ourselves and live eternally in your Light; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN

BCP 359

*A Confession of Sin is said here if it has not been said earlier. On occasion, the Confession may be omitted.*

*The people kneel.*

*The Deacon or Celebrant says*

BCP 360

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence.*

*Minister and People*

**Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**



*The Bishop, when present, or the Priest, stands and pronounces absolution.*

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

THE PEACE

BCP 360

*All stand. The Celebrant says to the people*

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

*Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord*

THE HOLY COMMUNION

BCP 361

*The Celebrant may begin the Offertory with some sentence of Scripture.  
During the Offertory, a hymn, psalm, or anthem may be sung.*

“To Him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honor and glory and power forever and ever!”

*The Revelation to John 5:13*

*At the offertory, we gratefully offer back to God a portion of what God has given us, symbolically in the Bread and Wine and in the money we give. An offering is received to support Epiphany's ministry of sharing God's love. All are invited to make a thank offering as the plate is passed. The offerings are then brought to the altar to be blessed by the priest.*

*The people sit*

Voluntary: I Know That My Redeemer Lives – C. Callahan

*Representatives of the congregation bring the people's offerings to the deacon or celebrant.  
The people stand while the offerings are presented and placed on the Altar.*

BCP 361

Hymn 178 Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*Eucharistic Prayer B*

BCP 367

*The people remain standing.*

*The Celebrant, whether bishop or priest, faces them and sings or says*

The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

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

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

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

*Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

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

*Here a Proper Preface is sung or said on all Sundays, and on other occasions as appointed.*

But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

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

*Celebrant and People*

Hymnal S-125

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

**Hosanna in the highest.**

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

**Hosanna in the highest.**

*The people remain standing throughout the Easter season.*

*Then the 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.

*At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or 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 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,

*Celebrant and People*

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

*The 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 Blessed Mary, the Mother of God, 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. *Amen.*

*The Celebrant continues*

As our Savior Christ  
has taught us,  
we now sing,

*People and Celebrant*  
Hymnal S-119

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

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

BCP 364

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread*

*A period of silence is kept.*

*Then is sung*

FRACTION ANTHEM  
Hymnal S-154

*Celebrant and People*

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.  
Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
therefore let us keep the feast.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

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

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

*The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds and then immediately deliver it to the people.*

THE ADMINISTRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

*All baptized Christians who come seeking the Body and Blood of Christ, who earnestly repent of their sins, are in love and charity with their neighbors, and intend to lead a new life following the commandments of God are welcome to receive Holy Communion.*

*All are welcome to come to the altar rail and receive a blessing from the priest. Indicate this at the rail by crossing both arms over your chest.*

*The Sacrament is celebrated using wheat bread and fermented grape wine.*

*We do not permit the practice of intincting the Holy Sacrament, or dipping the bread into the consecrated wine. If, for any reason, you do not wish to receive the bread or the wine, please cross your arms as the minister approaches. Although we encourage reception in both kinds, the grace of God present in the Holy Sacrament is fully available in the Body or Blood alone.*

*You may stand or kneel to receive Communion. The Body of Christ is received in the hand, the right hand laid flat and placed on top of the left. To receive the Blood of Christ, grasp only the base of the chalice and guide the chalice to your lips.*

*If you would like Communion brought to you in your pew, please inform an usher.*

*If you have not been baptized and find yourself drawn to Jesus Christ and life in him, please let our clergy know. We would be honored to have a conversation with you about baptism or answer any other questions. Baptism and life in the Body of Christ is open to all.*

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

BCP 365

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

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

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

Hymn 204   Now the green blade riseth                   *Noël nouvelet*

Taizé Chant. Come and fill

**Come and fill our hearts with your peace.  
You alone, O Lord, are holy.  
Come and fill our hearts with your peace, alleluia!**

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*The people stand for the post-Communion prayer, the blessing, and the dismissal.*

*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 Celebrant blesses the people.*

Book of Occasional Services

May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us his  
children through the resurrection of his Son our Lord, bestow  
upon you the riches of his blessing.

*People*       **Amen.**

May God, who through the water of baptism has raised us from sin into newness of life, make you holy and worthy to be united with Christ for ever.

*People*    **Amen.**

May God, who has brought us out of bondage to sin into true lasting freedom in the Redeemer, bring you to your eternal inheritance.

*People*    **Amen.**

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

*From the Easter Vigil through the Day of Pentecost "Alleluia, alleluia" may be added to any of the dismissals.*

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

Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

*People*    **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.**

Hymn 492    Sing, ye faithful, sing with gladness                      *Finnian*

Postlude: Postlude on Christ the Lord is Risen and Thine is the Glory – C. Callahan

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## **An Outline of the Faith commonly called the Catechism**

### **The Holy Eucharist BCP 858**

Q. What is the Holy Eucharist?

A. The Holy Eucharist is the sacrament commanded by Christ for the continual remembrance of his life, death, and resurrection, until his coming again.

Q. Why is the Eucharist called a sacrifice?

A. Because the Eucharist, the Church's sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, is the way by which the sacrifice of Christ is made present, and in which he unites us to his one offering of himself.

Q. By what other names is this service known?

A. The Holy Eucharist is called the Lord's Supper, and Holy Communion; it is also known as the Divine Liturgy, the Mass, and the Great Offering.

Q. What is the outward and visible sign in the Eucharist?

A. The outward and visible sign in the Eucharist is bread and wine, given and received according to Christ's command.

Q. What is the inward and spiritual grace given in the Eucharist?

A. The inward and spiritual grace in the Holy Communion is the Body and Blood of Christ given to his people, and received by faith.

Q. What are the benefits which we receive in the Lord's Supper?

A. The benefits we receive are the forgiveness of our sins,

the strengthening of our union with Christ and one another, and the foretaste of the heavenly banquet which is our nourishment in eternal life.

Q. What is required of us when we come to the Eucharist?

A. It is required that we should examine our lives, repent of our sins, and be in love and charity with all people.



## Church of the Epiphany

An Episcopal Parish in the Diocese of Virginia  
and part of the worldwide Anglican Communion

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

Office Hours:  
Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday 9:00 a.m. – 1:00  
p.m.

### Clergy and Staff

The Rt. Rev'd E. Mark Stevenson, D. Min. *h.c.*, Bishop Diocesan  
The Rev'd Kristin P. R. Wickersham, SCP, Priest-in-Charge  
The Rev'd Canon John F. Rice, D. Min., Retired Priest in Residence  
Mr. Florian Jones-Stamm, Deacon Intern  
Mrs. Anita Williams, Director of Music Ministries  
Mrs. Lucy Whitlock, Parish Administrator  
Mrs. Crystal Sarvay, R.N., Parish Nurse  
Mr. Timon Kenyi, Sexton  
Marty Shephard, Treasurer

### Vestry

The Rev'd Kristin P. R. Wickersham, Presider  
John Sarvay, Sr. Warden  
Randy Holden, Jr. Warden  
Jeri Townley, Register  
Scott Blackwell, Gray Corbett, John Norris,  
Mirendy Smith, Billy Tucker

### Ministers

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

**COMMUNICATION CARD**  
April 7, 2024

Welcome! You have blessed us with your presence. Please tell us how we can best serve you by completing the Communication Card.

*Please place in the offering basket, hand it to an usher, or place on the table in the vestibule.*

I'm looking for a church home  
 I'd like to speak with a clergy member  
 I'm ready to become a member  
 I'm just visiting today

**Name & Address**  Please update

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Phone** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Children's names and ages**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Please give me more information about:**

Children's / Youth Programs  
 Social events  
 Outreach opportunities  
 Classes and Small Group Studies  
 Baptism or Confirmation  
 How I can get involved

**How did you hear about Epiphany?**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(over)

**FOR YOUR PRAYERS**

**New to the Prayer List:** Bill McCarty—brother of Ann Poates

**Parishioners:** Ray Hampton, Dot Hudson, Martha & Milton Jenkins, Fran LaVigne, Marion Magruder, Joyce Melton, Irene Morris, Mike Young, Shirley Hughson, Dottie Strabley, Chris Tignor, Jeannie Riddick, Oscar Aderholt, John Sarvay, Thelma Smith

**Family & Friends:** Marie Patterson— Crystal Sarvay's mother, Jean Stone— John Stone's mother, Melanie Goodpasture— Carol McElhinney's daughter, Ed Morrow —friend of Kathy Jimerson, Rush Middleton—friend of Kim & Dwight Ludwig, Karen Rood—sister of Jeri Townley, John Henry Rice—son of Fr. John & Mackie Rice, Johnny Jorstad—Martha Jenkins son & Marty Shephard & Sandy Tignor's brother, Linda Whitlock —sister-in-law of Wayne & Lucy Whitlock, Caitlin & Fr. Kyle Bomare & their family, Judy Watson—cousin of Marty Shephard & Sandy Tignor, John Burkhardt — Brother-in-law of Chris & Sandy Tignor, Jeri Ligon—David Skinner's sister, Dan & Donna Ludwig—Dwight Ludwig's parents

**Prayers for the departed:**

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**CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY**

**Today's Ministers**

**Weekly Worship**

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

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

8000 Hermitage Road  
804-266-2503


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

**Ushers:** Lee Poates, Frosine Corbett  
**Acolytes:** Jason Ludwig, Ezra Axselle  
**Lessons:** Stacy Mitchell  
**Prayers of the People:** Florian Jones-Stamm  
**Chalice:** Florian Jones-Stamm  
**Sun. School Helper:** Cory Isemann  
**Altar Guild:** Karen & Randy Holden  
**Coffee Hour:** Megan, Frosine & Gray

**The Church of the Epiphany**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Second Sunday of Easter**  
**April 7, 2024**



Welcome—we are glad you are here! Know that whoever you are, and where ever you are in your spiritual journey, you have a place here. If you are new, or haven't yet given us your contact information, please complete the attached communication card and place it in the plate so that you can learn more about Epiphany's community.

**Introducing the Lesson**

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Acts 4:32-35

In this reading we hear of the enthusiasm and spirit of sharing and caring for one another in the early Christian community. The apostles continue their powerful witness to the resurrection. Greed and anxiety with regard to material possessions are overcome by grace. The author of Acts may present a somewhat idyllic picture, but there is no denying the power of the gospel to bring disciples to a profoundly new way of life.

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: 1 John 1:1-2:2

The theme of this passage is the word of life by which Christians are called to walk in the light of God. Confessing their sins, they and all others can find forgiveness through Jesus. The beginning of this letter leaves open the possibility that the word may be understood as Jesus himself, or Jesus as he is revealed in scripture, or in the bread of the Eucharist. When his followers share a common life in the light that is God, they can be free to be honest about their sins and then be cleansed from them.

The Gospel: John 20:19-31

Our gospel presents two appearances of the risen Lord to his disciples. The first takes place on the very evening of the day of his resurrection. The disciples are gathered in fear, but Jesus brings them peace, gives them their mission, and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. A week later, Thomas, who had been absent when Jesus first appeared and who doubted his resurrection, now knows Jesus by his wounds and worships him as his Lord and God. Future disciples will not have Jesus' physical presence, but they will be blessed in their belief.

**On the Calendar and Coming up**

**Sun. Apr. 7<sup>th</sup>**  
 8:15 am — Holy Eucharist, Rite 1  
 9:30 am — Children's Sunday School and Adult Forum  
 10:30 am — Holy Eucharist, Rite 2  
 7:30 pm — AA Meeting in parish hall

**Wed. Apr. 10<sup>th</sup>**  
 6:00 pm — Bible Study

**Thur. Apr. 11<sup>th</sup>**  
 6:15 pm—Chancel Choir Rehearsal  
 7:30 pm—Handbell Rehearsal

**Fri. Apr. 12<sup>th</sup>**  
 7:30 pm—AA meeting in Parish Hall

**Sat. Apr. 13<sup>th</sup>**  
 6:00 pm—Big Night Out

**Sun. Apr. 14<sup>th</sup>**  
 8:15 am — Holy Eucharist, Rite 1  
 9:30 am — Children's Sunday School and Adult Forum  
 10:30 am — Holy Eucharist, Rite 2  
 7:30 pm — AA Meeting in parish hall

*The flowers on the altar this morning are given to the Glory of God by Kathy Jimerson in memory of her husband, Bob Jimerson.*

**Chapter 11's Big Night Out!** Saturday, April 13 from 6—9pm. Get your reservation in for some good food, fellowship, entertainment and dancing!

**Coffee Hour:** There is a new schedule up in the hall by the kitchen door. Stop by and check it out to see when you would like to help us out by taking a Sunday. All is needed is make the coffee & lemonade and put out some cookies! We all enjoy this time of fellowship!

**The 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Lunches** will be back May 19 with Sloppy Joes and then again June 9th for the Church picnic! The menu is subject to change and meals will have a vegetarian option.

**Episcopal Church Women** Spring Meeting: **Theme:** "Created in Christ Jesus for good work" Ephesians 2:10

**Keynote speaker:** The Rev'd Canon Chanta Bhan, Canon for Discipleship

**Guest Sppeaker:** Tyler Wallace, Outreach and Prevention Coordinator, Safe Harbor  
**When:** Saturday, April 20, 2024

**Where:** St. Phillip's Church, 2900 Hanes Avenue, Richmond, VA 23222

**Time:** 9:00 am Registration & Continental Breakfast  
**Meeting begins:** 10:00 am  
 Noonday Prayer followed by lunch & fellowship.

**Cost:** \$25.00  
**Questions:** Email ECW President, Ericka Masias [erickamasias@outlook.com](mailto:erickamasias@outlook.com)  
 Registration forms are available in the church office

Attendance: March 31, 2024

10:30 am 113

**Outreach Opportunities**


**The diaper ministry** continues to hold diaper distribution on the third Saturday of every month from 10 am to 12 noon. This inspirational ministry has been touching families lives in our community since 2018 and continues to welcome new families each month. This ministry offers the parish an outreach opportunity to share God's love and develop relationships within our community. The next diaper distribution will be on **April 20<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 4, 5 and 6) and wipes are also appreciated. Thank you again to everyone for your continued support of this ministry!

**Homeless Lunches:** If anyone is interested in taking part in this ministry, ALL are welcome! Contact Mary Sam Abernathy ([msabernathy88@gmail.com](mailto: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 May 4<sup>th</sup>.** Thanks to Chapter 11 who prepared and delivered the lunches yesterday, April 6<sup>th</sup>. The 2024 homeless lunch schedule is now up on the outreach board and we will be entering our 25<sup>th</sup> year of participating in this ministry. **Donations of paper lunch bags, sandwich bags and napkins** are always welcome as well and can be dropped at the church office. Additionally, if you have further questions or concerns, I am always available to answer any questions. Crystal Sarvay, Outreach Coordinator ([crystalsarvay@gmail.com](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.

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

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

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

**COMMUNICATION CARD**

April 7, 2024

Our Communication Card is for **all people at The Church of the Epiphany** so that you can share your thoughts and prayers, and request information.

If you are new, please complete the opposite side so we also have your contact information.

I'd like more information about an upcoming event or program

I am RSVPing or signing up for:

I am interested in learning more about how to be part of the following ministries or programs:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Music          | <input type="checkbox"/> Greeters      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Altar Guild    | <input type="checkbox"/> Pastoral Care |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Office help    | <input type="checkbox"/> Readers       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Christian Ed   | <input type="checkbox"/> Prayer Team   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Outreach       | <input type="checkbox"/> Ushers        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chalice Bearer | <input type="checkbox"/>               |

**Prayer Requests / Comments**

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