

Church of the Epiphany

The Third Sunday after the Epiphany
January 21, 2024, 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). Hymn numbers refer to The Hymnal, 1982 (the blue book). Hymns noted with an S are Service Music and are located in the frontmost section of The Hymnal.

*The half-hour before the Mass is a time of quiet prayer and preparation.
Please wait quietly for the service to begin.*

Please silence or turn off your electronic devices.

Prelude: In Dir ist Freude – arr. Linda Cable Shute

Welcome and Announcements

THE WORD OF GOD

THE ENTRANCE RITE

BCP 355

The people stand.

Hymn 522 Glorious things of thee are spoken

The people standing, the Celebrant joins the people in facing the altar and says

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

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

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 Collect.

BCP 215

Celebrant Let us pray.

Give us grace, O Lord, to answer readily the call of our Savior
Jesus Christ and proclaim to all people the Good News of his
salvation, that we and the whole world may perceive the glory of

his marvelous works; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

LITURGY OF THE WORD

BCP 357

All sit for the Readings.

Reader A Reading from Jonah [3:1-5, 10]

The word of the Lord came to Jonah a second time, saying, “Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you.” So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days' walk across. Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, “Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!” And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth.

When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

Reader The Word of the Lord

People **Thanks be to God.**

Silence.

Directions for Reciting the Psalter

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

BCP 583

Reader The Psalm for today is a portion of Psalm 62, *Nonne Deo?*
We will read responsively by whole verse, pausing at the asterisks.

BCP 620

- 6 For God alone my soul in silence waits; * (*pause*)
 truly, my hope is in him.
- 7 **He alone is my rock and my salvation, *** (*pause*)
 my stronghold, so that I shall not be shaken.
- 8 In God is my safety and my honor; * (*pause*)
 God is my strong rock and my refuge.
- 9 **Put your trust in him always, O people, *** (*pause*)
 **pour out your hearts before him, for God is our
 refuge.**
- 10 Those of high degree are but a fleeting breath, * (*pause*)
 even those of low estate cannot be trusted.
- 11 **On the scales they are lighter than a breath, *** (*pause*)
 all of them together.
- 12 Put no trust in extortion;
 in robbery take no empty pride; * (*pause*)
 though wealth increase, set not your heart upon it.
- 13 **God has spoken once, twice have I heard it, ***
 (*pause*)
 that power belongs to God.
- 14 Steadfast love is yours, O Lord, * (*pause*)
 for you repay everyone according to his deeds.

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 Corinthians [7:29-31]

I mean, brothers and sisters, the appointed time has grown short; from now on, let even those who have wives be as though they had none, and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no possessions, and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Silence.

The people stand for the Gospel procession

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 Deacon or a Priest reads the Gospel, first saying

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ

According to Mark [1:14-20].

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

After John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.”

As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, “Follow me and I will make you fish for people.” And immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

After the Gospel, the Reader says

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE SERMON

Mthr. 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
Planning for Rites and Rituals, Year B

Prayer is offered with intercession for The Universal Church, its members, and its mission; The Nation and all in authority; The welfare of the world; The concerns of the local community; Those who suffer and those in any trouble; The departed (with commemoration of a saint when appropriate).

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

The Intercessor and people pray responsively

Celebrant The kingdom of God is near at hand. Let us earnestly call on God for the needs, concerns, and hopes of all peoples.

Intercessor For the church of Jesus Christ in every place.

People **O Christ, hear us.**

Intercessor For Michael, our Presiding Bishop, for Mark, our bishop diocesan, for Kristin, our priest, for all who minister in Christ.

People **O Christ, hear us.**

Intercessor For this holy gathering and for all who hear God's deeper call.

People **O Christ, hear us.**

Intercessor For this congregation and all those whose lives we touch, for our Wardens, Vestry members, and Officers.

People **O Christ, hear us.**

Intercessor For this country, for all nations and their leaders, and for those who guard the peace.

People **O Christ, hear us.**

Intercessor For all those in danger and need: those who are sick and

suffering, and for all who are prisoners, captives, and their families, for those who are hungry, unhoused, and oppressed.

People **O Christ, hear us.**

Intercessor For the dying and the dead, we pray.

People **O Christ, hear us.**

Intercessor For ourselves, our families, for those we love.

People **O Christ, hear us.**

Intercessor Remembering the Blessed Virgin Mary, blessed Agnes and Cecilia of Rome, and all the saints, let us offer ourselves and one another to the living God through Christ.

People **To you, O Lord our God**

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

God of infinite mercy, hear the prayers of your people and stir up our souls with longing to embrace your gospel; through Jesus, Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

CONFESSON 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 Deacon or Celebrant says

BCP 360

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All kneel.

Silence is kept.

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

All stand. The Celebrant says to the people

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

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

THE HOLY COMMUNION

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

BCP 361

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

*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

Offertory Voluntary: Largo – Ellen Jan Lorenz

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 375 Give praise and glory unto God

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer A

BCP 361

The people remain standing.

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

The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

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

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

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

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

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:

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 Celebrant continues

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

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

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

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

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

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

**Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

The 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 Celebrant continues

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

People and Celebrant

BCP 364

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

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread

A period of silence is kept.

Then may be sung or said

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

In place of, or in addition to, the preceding, some other suitable anthem may be used.

Celebrant and People

Hymnal S-164

**Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer, redeemer of the world:
Give us your peace, give us your peace.**

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

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

THE ADMINISTRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

BCP 365

Celebrant The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven.

Communicant

Amen.

Celebrant

The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation.

Communicant

Amen.

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

Hymn 661 They cast their nets in Galilee

Taizé Chant. The Lord is my light.

**The Lord is my light, my light and salvation:
in God I trust, in God I trust.**

**The Lord is my light, my light and salvation:
in God I trust, in God I trust. (repeat)**

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

The people stand or kneel.

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 people stand for the blessing.

The Bishop when present, or the Priest, may bless the people.

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep
your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God,
and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of

God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be upon you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

The people remain standing for the dismissal.

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

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn 537 Christ for the world we sing!

Postlude: What God Does, That is Well Done – J.A. Streicher

An Outline of the Faith commonly called the Catechism

The Ministry

- Q. Who are the ministers of the Church?
 - A. The ministers of the Church are lay persons, bishops, priests, and deacons.

- Q. What is the ministry of the laity?
 - A. The ministry of lay persons is to represent Christ and his Church; to bear witness to him wherever they may be; and, according to the gifts given them, to carry on Christ's work of reconciliation in the world; and to take their place in the life, worship, and governance of the Church.

- Q. What is the ministry of a bishop?
 - A. The ministry of a bishop is to represent Christ and his Church, particularly as apostle, chief priest, and pastor of a diocese; to guard the faith, unity, and discipline of the whole Church; to proclaim the Word of God; to act in Christ's name for the reconciliation of the world and the building up of the Church; and to ordain others to continue Christ's ministry.

- Q. What is the ministry of a priest or presbyter?

- A. The ministry of a priest is to represent Christ and his Church, particularly as pastor to the people; to share with the bishop in the overseeing of the Church; to proclaim the Gospel; to administer the sacraments; and to bless and declare pardon in the name of God.

 - Q. What is the ministry of a deacon?
 - A. The ministry of a deacon is to represent Christ and his Church, particularly as a servant of those in need; and to assist bishops and priests in the proclamation of the Gospel and the administration of the sacraments.

 - Q. What is the duty of all Christians?
 - A. The duty of all Christians is to follow Christ; to come together week by week for corporate worship; and to work, pray, and give for the spread of the kingdom of God.
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Church of the Epiphany

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

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

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

Clergy and Staff

The Rt. Rev'd E. Mark Stevenson, D. Min. *h.c.*, Bishop Diocesan
The Rev'd Kristin P. R. Wickersham, Priest-in-Charge
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 Sarvey, R.N., Parish Nurse
Mr. Timon Kenyi, Sexton
Marty Shephard, Treasurer

Vestry

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	
January 21, 2024	
Welcome! You have blessed us with your presence. Please tell us how we can best serve you by completing the Communication Card.	
<i>Please place in the offering basket, hand it to an usher, or place on the table in the vestibule.</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/> I'm looking for a church home <input type="checkbox"/> I'd like to speak with a clergy member <input type="checkbox"/> I'm ready to become a member <input type="checkbox"/> I'm just visiting today	
Name & Address	<input type="checkbox"/> Please update
<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	
Phone	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
Email	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
Children's names and ages	
<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	
Please give me more information about:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Children's / Youth Programs <input type="checkbox"/> Social events <input type="checkbox"/> Outreach opportunities <input type="checkbox"/> Classes and Small Group Studies <input type="checkbox"/> Baptism or Confirmation <input type="checkbox"/> How I can get involved	
How did you hear about Epiphany?	
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FOR YOUR PRAYERS

New to the Prayer List: Linda Whitlock—sister-in-law of Wayne & Lucy Whitlock, Judy Watson—cousin of Marty Shephard & Sandy Tignor

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

Family & Friends: Marie Patterson—Crystal Sarvay's mother, Jean Stone—John Stone's mother, Caitlin & Fr. Kyle Bomare & their family, for all those called up to Military Service in Israel, especially Adam, Evan, Jared, Omri—nephews of Joy Baynes' son-in-law, Brian, family of Frosine Corbett living in Jerusalem, Melanie Goodpasture—Carol McElhinney's daughter, Ed Morrow—friend of Bob & 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,

Prayers for the departed: Barbara Doty—friend of Susan Fenn

CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY

Weekly Worship

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

Contact info:

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

8000 Hermitage Road
804-266-2503

Office hours:

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

Today's Ministers

Ushers: Gray Corbett, Kim Ruder

Acolytes: Avery Craver, Kiden Kenyi

Lessons: Rosemary Arneson

Prayers of the People: Florian Jones-Stamm

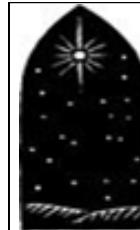
Chalice: Florian Jones-Stamm

Sun. School Helper: Augustine Kiplagat

Altar Guild: Crystal & John Sarvay, Conny Barrett

Coffee Hour: Lucy Whitlock

Counters: Gray Corbett, Becky Card



The Church of the Epiphany

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Third Sunday after the Epiphany

January 21, 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

1st Reading: Jonah 3:1-5, 10

In our Hebrew scripture lesson the prophet Jonah, following his ordeal in the belly of a great fish, receives a second summons to prophesy to the heathen city of Ninevah. Jonah preaches as he passed into the city, proclaiming repentance and predicting forty days before the city's overthrow. The people of Ninevah believe God and respond to the prophet's message, proclaiming a fast and putting on the sackcloth and ashes that signify mourning and repentance. In response to Ninevah's turn of heart, God determines not to destroy the city.

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 7:29-31

In our epistle lesson Paul encourages the Corinthians to manage their temporal affairs in light of eternal realities. It was thought by Paul and the early Christian communities that the time of the Lord's return was near. The urgency was all the greater, therefore, to keep priorities in order and to be cautious about attachments to this present world which may distract. The time to labor for God's kingdom is now.

The Gospel: Mark 1:14-20

Our gospel records the beginning of Jesus' ministry: his proclamation of the coming kingdom and the calling of his first disciples. After the arrest of John the Baptist, Jesus returns to Galilee preaching the nearness of God's rule and the need for a change of heart. Two sets of brothers are bidden to leave their nets and become fishers for people.

On the Calendar and Coming up

Sun. Jan. 21st

8:15 am—Holy Eucharist, Rite 1
9:30 am Adult Forum & Sun. School
10:30 am—Holy Eucharist, Rite 2

7:30 pm — AA Meeting in parish hall

Tue. Jan. 23th

6:00 pm—Vestry meeting

Wed. Jan. 24th

6:00 pm — Bible Study

Thur. Jan. 25th

No Chancel Choir or Handbell Rehearsals.

Fri. Jan. 26th

7:30 pm — AA meeting in the parish hall

Sun. Jan. 28th

8:15 am—Holy Eucharist—Rite 1
9:30—Children's Sunday School & 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 Beverly Batcher in memory of her husband, Robert Batcher and her parents, Mr. & Mrs. H.T. Dyson.

We welcome Don Moro to our organ bench this morning while Anita is on a well needed vacation in Florida, getting warm! We appreciate his time with us today!

The Bible Study will meet on Wednesdays from 6–7:30 PM. They will be read "Falling into Grace" by John Newton. We hope you'll join us!

Our 2nd Sunday Lunch next month will be on Tuesday, February 13 which is the Pancake Supper before Ash Wednesday. It is free to all who would like to join us. We welcome guests to any and all meals! Mark your calendars for 2024.

Feb. 13 — Pancake Supper (Tue. Night)
April 14 — Breakfast Bar
May 19 — Sloppy Joes
June 9 — Church Picnic

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

Adult Forum returning Sundays at 9:30 am.

They will be discussing Sunday's lessons, focusing on the readings from the Gospel of Mark. Please join us for coffee, cookies and some great conversation about how the Word of God speaks to us today.

Stewardship: First of all, a very warm and deserved thank you to everyone who has turned in your pledge card. Secondly, this will be the last football analogy. There is no technical deadline for accepting donations, stewardship in all its forms is a 365 day mission, though in terms of assisting the vestry in forming a budget, I'd say we're at the two minute warning. There is no time to spare in the huddle (waiting to get around to making your pledge). Get the ball snapped quickly (fill out the card ASAP). Can't afford illegal procedure (card filled out but not sent in). Pull out the two minute playbook (if you are comfortable, email your pledge to Lucy or put in the collection plate or in the office. Darel Gallagher

Save the Date: Saturday, April 13 from 6—9pm. Chapter 11's Big Night Out! Stay tuned for more information!

Attendance: January 14, 2024

8:15 am 6

10:30 am 59

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 **February 17th**. 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) or the team lead, for the team you are interested in helping. The next lunches are scheduled to be prepared and delivered by the Vestry Team on February 3, 2024. The 2024 homeless lunch schedule is now up on the outreach board. We will be entering our 25th 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 Sarvy, Outreach Coordinator (crystalsarvy@gmail.com).

Coming soon is our long awaited "Blessing Box" and "Little Library." Be on the lookout for upcoming information and ways that you can help contribute!

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

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



Care Notes Corner: The parish nurse ministry continues to promote a healthier faith community through spiritual support and healthy life choices, while supporting ministries already in place within the church. If there are any special needs that can be accommodated through the parish nurse ministry, please contact Crystal Sarvy, MSN, RN at epiphanyvaparishnurse@gmail.com

COMMUNICATION CARD

January 21, 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"/> Ushers | <input type="checkbox"/> Chalice Bearer |

Prayer Requests / Comments