# Church of the Epiphany

The First Sunday after Pentecost Trinity Sunday May 26, 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: Holy, Holy, Holy – H. Willan

Welcome and Announcements

THE WORD OF GOD

The people stand.

Hymn 362 Holy, holy, holy!

Nicaea

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

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

BCP 355

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

Amen.

The 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.

And also with you.

The Celebrant faces the altar and says the Collects.

Celebrant Let us pray.

BCP 228

Almighty and everlasting God, you have given to us your servants grace, by the confession of a true faith, to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity, and in the power of your divine Majesty to worship the Unity: Keep us steadfast in this faith and worship, and bring us at last to see you in your one and eternal

People

glory, O Father; who with the Son and the Holy Spirit live and reign, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen*.

#### THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

BCP 357

All sit for the Readings.

Reader A Reading from Isaiah 6:1-8

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. And one called to another and said:

"Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory."

The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. And I said: "Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!"

Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: "Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out." Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!"

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.

BCP 583

Reader The Psalm for today is Psalm 29, Afferte Domino
We will read responsively
by whole verse, pausing at the asterisks.

BCP 620

- 1 Ascribe to the Lord, you gods, \* (pause) ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.
- 2 Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his Name; \* (panse) worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.
- 3 The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders; \* (pause) the Lord is upon the mighty waters.
- 4 The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice; \* (panse) the voice of the Lord is a voice of splendor.
- 5 The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees; \* (panse) the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon;
- 6 He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, \* (panse) and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.
- 7 The voice of the Lord splits the flames of fire; the voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; \* (pause) the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.
- 8 The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe \* (pause)

and strips the forests bare.

- 9 And in the temple of the Lord \* (pause) all are crying, "Glory!"
- 10 The Lord sits enthroned above the flood; \* (pause) the Lord sits enthroned as King for evermore.
- 11 The Lord shall give strength to his people; \* (pause) the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.

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.

Silence.

Reader A Reading from Romans [8:12-17]

So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh-- for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ-- if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

Silence.

The people stand for the Gospel procession

Taizé Chant. Alleluia 7.

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

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to John [3:1-17]

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the

presence of God." Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, You must be born from above.' The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

"Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

After the Gospel, the Reader says

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

#### THE SERMON

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

From the Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

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

Inspired by the Spirit, we now offer our Sunday prayers to God in the name of Jesus Christ, saying: Lord, have mercy.

Silence.

*Intercessor* For the peace from above and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor For the peace of the whole world, for the stability of the holy churches of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

*Intercessor* For this holy house and for those who enter it with faith, reverence, and the fear of God, let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor For pious and faithful Christians, let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

*Intercessor* For our Diocesan Bishop, Mark, for the honorable prebyterate, for the diaconate in Christ, and for all the clergy and the people, let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

*Intercessor* For our country, the president, all those in public service, and for our armed forces everywhere, let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor For the Holy and Great Church of Christ, for our Diocese, for this city and parish, for every city and land, and for the faithful who live in them, let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

*Intercessor* For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

*Intercessor* For those who travel by land, sea, and air, for the sick, the suffering, the captives and for their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

*Intercessor* For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and distress, let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

*Intercessor* Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and protect us, O God, by your grace.

Silence.

Intercessor In the communion of the Holy Spirit, with the Blessed Virgin Mary and with all the saints in light, let us commend ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ our God.

People To You, O Lord.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

THE COLLECT AT THE PRAYERS

Lord, our God, Whose dominion is incomparable and glory incomprehensible; Whose mercy is immeasurable, and love for mankind ineffable: Look upon us and upon this holy house in Your loving-kindness, and grant to us and to those who pray with us Your abundant mercy and compassion. For to You belong all glory, honor, and worship, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

#### CONFESSION OF SIN

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

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

BCP 352

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

The Priest Celebrant then says

BCP 359

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

The people kneel.

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

All stand. The Celebrant says to the people

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

Then the clergy 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.

Who shall not fear thee, O Lord, and glorify thy name? For thou only art holy. *The Revelation to John 15:4* 

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

Anthem: Hymn to the Trinity – M. Burkhardt

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 401 The God of Abraham praise

Augustine

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer D

BCP 372

The people stand.

The 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 Celebrant proceeds

It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever.

Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance.

Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing,

THE SANCTUS Hymnal S-125

Celebrant and People

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

Hosanna in the highest.

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

Hosanna in the highest.

The people stand or kneel.

Then the Celebrant continues

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation. Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom;

to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

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.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he 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."

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

Celebrant and People

We praise you, we bless you, we give thanks to you, and we pray to you, Lord our God.

The Celebrant continues

Lord, we pray that in you r goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

And grant that we may find our inheritance with the Blessed Virgin Mary, with patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever.

People AMEN.

The Celebrant continues

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

People and Celebrant

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

#### for ever and ever. Amen.

#### THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The 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.

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 408 Sing praise to God who reigns above

Taizé Chant: Eat This Bread
Eat this bread, Drink this cup
Come to Him and never be hungry.
Eat this bread, Drink this cup,
Trust in Him and you will not thirst.

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

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 Celerant blesses the people.

Book of Occasional Services

God the Father, who has given to his Son the name above every name, strengthen you to proclaim Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

People Amen.

God the Son, our great high priest, who has passed into the heavens, clothe you with power from on high.

People Amen.

God the Holy Spirit, who pours out abundant gifts upon the Church, make you faithful followers of the risen Christ.

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.* 

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

Let us go forth into the world, Rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People Thanks be to God.

Hymn 460 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!

Postlude: Holy God, We Praise Thy Name – P. Manz

## **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. – 12:00 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 Mrs. Anita Williams, Director of Music Ministries Mrs. Lucy Whitlock, Parish Administrator Mrs. Crystal Sarvay, R.N., Parish Nurse Mr. Timon Kenyi, Sexton Mrs. Marty Shephard, Treasurer

#### Vestry

Mthr. Kristin Wickersham, Presider Mr. Randy Holden, ('25) Ms. Jeri Townley, Register ('25) Mr. Scott Blackwell('25) Mrs. Mirendy Smith ('26) Mr. Billy Tucker ('26) Mr. Robert Steele ('27) Mrs. Diana Stone ('27)

#### Ministers

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

COMMUNICATION CARD May 26, 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 just visiting today
Name & Address
Phone
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: Melissa Matthews—friend of Kim Ludwig

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

Family & Friends: Melanie Goodpasture— Carol McElhinney's daughter, Ed Morrow — friend of Kathy Jimerson, 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, Caitlin & Fr. Kyle Bomare & their family, Judy Watson—cousin of Marty Shephard & Sandy Tignor, John Burkhardt — Brother-in-law of Chris & Sandy Tignor, Dan & Donna Ludwig—Dwight Ludwig's parents, Bill McCarty—brother of Ann Poates, Marie Patterson— Crystal Sarvay's mother, Jean Stone—John Stone's mother, Derek Anderson & Cosette Leonard—friends of Karen & Billy Tucker

**Prayers for the departed:** Irene Morris

### 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 & Frosine Corbett **Acolytes:** Elli & Ceanna Cloyes

Lesson: Crystal Sarvay

Prayers of the People: Crystal Sarvay

Chalice: Stacy Mitchell

Sun. School Helper: Conny Barrett
Altar Guild: Cheri & Scott Blackwell
Coffee Hour: No one signed up

## The Church of the Epiphany

ANNOUNCEMENTS
Trinity Sunday
May 26, 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: Isaiah 6:1-8

Our first reading is Isaiah's vision of the Lord and his prophetic commission. The earthly temple becomes an icon for the temple in heaven. Isaiah is purged of his guilt and sin and responds to the Lord's call. The church hears in the thrice-holy song of the seraphim an anticipation of its praise of God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Romans 8:12-17

In this lesson we hear that if we follow our lower nature, we are enslaved and destined to death, but when we are moved by God's Spirit, we become God's children and heirs with Christ. The Spirit makes this experience possible by prompting our lips to call upon God as Father with the same Aramaic word (Abba) that Jesus used. This new relationship means that we are no longer required to be led by baser instincts. Our heritage is life, while we must also learn to share in Christ's sufferings.

The Gospel: John 3:1-17

In our gospel story Nicodemus, one of the Pharisees, comes during the night to talk with Jesus. Nicodemus is a figure used by the evangelist to represent a type of person who wants to believe but has difficulty understanding spiritual realities. Jesus tells him that no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born anew through water and the Spirit. The inner meaning of the passage partly turns on the fact that "born anew" can also be understood as "born from on high", and that the same Greek word means both wind and spirit. Jesus then tells Nicodemus of the Son of Man come down from heaven who will be lifted up, both on the cross to die for the world and to return to heaven in glory.

## On the Calendar and Coming up

Sun. May 26<sup>th</sup>
Trinity Sunday
8:15 am — Holy Eucharist,
Rite 1 RITE 1 9:30 am — Children's Sun-day School and Adult Fo-rum 10:30 am — Holy Eucharist, Rite 2

7:30 pm — AA Meeting in parish hall

# Mon. May 27<sup>th</sup> Office Closed Memorial Day

Wed. May 29<sup>th</sup> 6:00 pm — Bible Study

Thur. May 30<sup>th</sup> 6:15 pm—Chancel Choir Re-

hearsal 7:30 pm—Handbell Choir Rehearsal

Fri. May 31st 7:30 pm—AA meeting in Parish Hall

<u>Sat. June 1<sup>st</sup></u> 8:30 am—Outreach bag lunches—The Red Team

Sun. June 2<sup>nd</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 the Baynes & Rohas families in loving memory of George

**The prayers & sympathy** of the congregation are extended to Melanie Skinner & Cheryl Matchunis and family on the death of their mother, Irene Morris who died on Thursday, May 23rd. Funeral arrangements to follow a later date. May her soul and the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace.

We need you to sign up for 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!

**2nd Sunday Lunch on June 9th**, will be the church picnic—potluck style. The hamthe church picnic—potluck style. The ham-burgers, hot dogs, buns and condiments will be provided, so please bring a side dish to

Retirement for friends and family:
The Gallaghers would like to invite you to
celebrate Darel's retirement. Join us in the
Parish hall on Friday, June 14 between 6—9
pm. Food and refreshments will be served.
Please RSVP to Mary Gallagher,
marykqligher@gmail.com no later than June
9. No gifts are desired. We would gratefully
appreciate it if you would consider bring a
food item or funds to be donated to Lamb's
Basket Food Pantry.

Attendance: May 19, 2024 9:15 am 5 10:30 am 66

#### **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 **June 15<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! We are currently working to develop partnerships with other comr churches for support in 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 Red Team on June 1<sup>14</sup>. The 2024 homeless lunch schedule is up on the outreach board. We are in our 2<sup>5</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 coperns. Lam always available to answer any questions or Crystal. further questions or concerns, I am always available to answer any questions. Crystal Sarvay, Outreach Coordinator (crystalsa

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!

As the school year wraps up, we will stop collecting snacks for the Lakeside Elementary School until the startup of school year 2024-2025. Thank you to everyone for your support of our community schools. They have been so

Our "Little Library" you may have noticed is now up. Please, see Ezra Axselle or Rosemary Arneson with questions regarding books being collected and placed for the community, or check out the list of book suggestions on the outreach board.

The "Blessing Box" has been put together thanks to a great committee of individuals in our parish. This is going to be a means to support our community with items such as toiletries, socks, school supplies, small toys (bubbles, coloring/activity books, etc), & non-perishable food items. We can support, in a small way, individual needs that our tolletries, socks, school supplies, small toys (bubbles, coloring/activity books, etc), & non-perishable food items. We can support, in a small way, individual needs that our community may need. A list of suggested items will be placed on the outreach board. If you have any questions, please contact Crystal Sarvay.

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

#### COMMUNICATION CARD

May 26, 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 about how to be possible. It is a limitation of the possible of the poss	art of the	
Music Altar Guild Office help Christian Ed Outreach Ushers Chalice Bearer	Greeters Pastoral Care Readers Prayer Team	
Prayer Requests / Comments		