

Church of the Epiphany

The Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost
Proper 25
October 29, 2023, 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: Come Down, O Love Divine – R. Arnatt

Welcome and Announcements

PREPARATION RITES

BCP 355

All stand for the entrance procession

Hymn 381 Thy strong word did cleave the darkness

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 Collects.

Celebrant Let us pray.

BCP 235

Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Celebrant Let us pray.

BCP 255

Almighty and everlasting Father, you have given the Holy Spirit to abide with us for ever: Bless, we pray, with his grace and presence, the bishops and other clergy and the laity soon to be assembled in your Name, that your Church, being preserved in true faith and godly discipline, may fulfill all the mind of him who loved it and gave himself for it, your Son Jesus Christ our Savior; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen*

LITURGY OF THE WORD

BCP 357

All sit for the Readings.

Reader A Reading from Deuteronomy [34:1-12]

Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, which is opposite Jericho, and the LORD showed him the whole land: Gilead as far as Dan, all Naphtali, the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, all the land of Judah as far as the Western Sea, the Negeb, and the Plain—that is, the valley of Jericho, the city of palm trees—as far as Zoar. The LORD said to him, “This is the land of which I swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, saying, ‘I will give it to your descendants’; I have let you see it with your eyes, but you shall not cross over there.” Then Moses, the servant of the LORD, died there in the land of Moab, at the LORD’s command. He was buried in a valley in the land of Moab, opposite Beth-peor, but no one knows his burial place to this day. Moses was one hundred twenty years old when he died; his sight was unimpaired and his vigor had not abated. The Israelites wept for Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days; then the period of mourning for Moses was ended.

Joshua son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, because Moses had laid his hands on him; and the Israelites obeyed him, doing as the LORD had commanded Moses.

Never since has there arisen a prophet in Israel like Moses, whom the LORD knew face to face. He was unequalled for all the signs and wonders that the LORD sent him to perform in the land of Egypt, against Pharaoh and all his servants and his entire land, and for all the mighty deeds and all the terrifying displays of power that Moses performed in the sight of all Israel.

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 90, *Domine, refugium*
We will read responsively
by whole verse, pausing at the asterisks.

BCP 717

- 1 Lord, you have been our refuge * (*pause*)
from one generation to another.
- 2 **Before the mountains were brought forth,
or the land and the earth were born, * (*pause*)
from age to age you are God.**
- 3 You turn us back to the dust and say, * (*pause*)
"Go back, O child of earth."
- 4 **For a thousand years in your sight are like
yesterday when it is past * (*pause*)
and like a watch in the night.**

5 You sweep us away like a dream; * *(pause)*
we fade away suddenly like the grass.

**6 In the morning it is green and flourishes; * *(pause)*
in the evening it is dried up and withered.**

13 Return, O LORD; how long will you tarry? * *(pause)*
be gracious to your servants.

**14 Satisfy us by your loving-kindness in the
morning; * *(pause)*
so shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of
our life.**

15 Make us glad by the measure of the days that you
afflicted us * *(pause)*
and the years in which we suffered adversity.

**16 Show your servants your works * *(pause)*
and your splendor to their children.**

17 May the graciousness of the LORD our God be upon
us; * *(pause)*
prosper the work of our hands;
prosper our handiwork.

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 Thessalonians [2:1-8]

You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, but though we had already suffered and been shamefully mistreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts. As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others,

though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Silence.

The people stand for the Gospel procession

Laudate Dominum

Songs from Taizé

The people and choir sing.

**Laudate Dominum,
Laudate Dominum
Omnes gentes, alleluia!
Laudate Dominum,
Laudate Dominum
Omnes gentes, alleluia!**

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

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
According to Matthew [22:34-46].

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

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. “Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?” He said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.”

Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: “What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?” They said to him, “The son of David.” He said to them, “How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying,

“The Lord said to my Lord,
“Sit at my right hand,
until I put your enemies under your feet”?”

If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?” No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

After the Gospel, the Reader says

The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON

Fr. Fred Huntington

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 BIDDING PRAYERS

BCP 359

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.

Deacon or other leader

As a people entrusted by God with the proclamation of good news, let us offer our prayers and thanksgivings, responding, “Lord, hear our prayer.”

Silence.

That we may love our neighbor as ourselves, sacrificing personal comforts to provide shelter for the poor, sound education for all children, psychiatric care for those suffering from mental illness, living wages to employees, and respite for those who attend to those living with illness; let us pray.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Intercessor That our personal trials may be seen as pathways to faithfulness, roads upon which we walk in order to gain a deeper understanding of God's enduring love; let us pray.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Intercessor That peace may reign throughout the world, loosening the chains of incessant poverty, political imprisonment, religious persecution, and the abuse of power that raises a few to prosperity at the expense of the masses; let us pray.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Intercessor That we may do the work and ministry that reflect God's reign, knowing that we may not see beyond our offerings or the fruit of our labors; let us pray.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Intercessor For a renewed commitment to righteousness and peace, that we may join with the leaders of the nations in seeking ways to promote harmony in warring lands, and mutual respect across cultures, races, and languages; let us pray.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Intercessor That we may put aside any vengeance of heart, so that we may offer to one another true forgiveness and amendment of ways; let us pray.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Intercessor In companionship with those who have died, and with all the saints, let us continue our prayers.

Silence.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles, "Peace I give to you; my own peace I leave with you:" Regard not our sins,

but the faith of your Church, and give to us the peace and unity of that heavenly City, where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, now and for ever. **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN

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 359

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

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

BCP 361

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2*

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 Beside a Stream of Living Water – T. Keesecker

*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 424. For the fruit of all creation (v. 3)

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.

For by water and the Holy Spirit you have made us a new people in Jesus Christ our Lord, to show forth your glory in all the world.

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 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 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. **AMEN.**

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

BCP 364

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-161

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
grant us peace.**

Facing the people, the 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 707 Take my life, and let it be

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!

CONCLUDING RITES

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

The people kneel.

Celebrant and People

BCP 365

Almighty and everliving God,
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
And now, Father, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The 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 Spirit, be
upon you, and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

The people stand.

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

Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn 551 Rise up, ye saints of God

Postlude: Love Divine, All Loves Excelling – J. Wienhhorst

An Outline of the Faith commonly called the Catechism

The Old Covenant

- Q. What is meant by a covenant with God?
- A. A covenant is a relationship initiated by God, to which a body of people responds in faith.
- Q. What is the Old Covenant?
- A. The Old Covenant is the one given by God to the Hebrew people.
- Q. What did God promise them?
- A. God promised that they would be his people to bring all the nations of the world to him.
- Q. What response did God require from the chosen people?
- A. God required the chosen people to be faithful; to love justice, to do mercy, and to walk humbly with their God.
- Q. Where is this Old Covenant to be found?
- A. The covenant with the Hebrew people is to be found in the books which we call the Old Testament.
- Q. Where in the Old Testament is God's will for us shown most clearly?
- A. God's will for us is shown most clearly in the Ten Commandments.

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
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

John Sarvay (Sr. Warden)
Randy Holden (Jr. Warden)
Jeri Townley (Register)
Scott Blackwell, Gray Corbett, John Norris,
Mirendy Smith, Billy Tucker

Ministers of the Church

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

COMMUNICATION CARD
October 29, 2023

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

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

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

Name & Address Please update

Phone _____

Email _____

Children's names and ages

Please give me more information about:

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

How did you hear about Epiphany?

(over)

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

New to the Prayer List: Jim & Carole Godwin—son & daughter-in-law of Carol Cullinan, Christopher & Johanna—relatives of Florian Jones-Stamm, Paul & Janie—friends of Wayne & Lucy Whitlock

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

Family & Friends: Ed Morrow—friend of Bob & Kathy Jimerson, Dave & Melanie Erwin—friends of Dwight & Kim 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, Judy Watson—Martha Jenkins niece & Marty Shephard & Sandy Tignor's cousin, Karen Tatti—friend of Jennifer Tucker, Pamela Carr—Nancy Sonne's niece, Marie Patterson—Crystal Sarvay's mother, Jean Stone—John Stone's mother, Sebastian Strong—Jennifer Whitlock's grandson, Keri Roberts—friend of Becky Card, Caitlin & Dcn. Kyle Bomare & their family, for all those called up to Military Service in Israel, especially Adam, Ethan, Evan, Jared, Omri—nephews of Joy Baynes son-in-law, Brian, the family of Emma Greenman—friends of Kim & Dwight Ludwig, family of Frosine Corbett living in Jerusalem

Prayers for the departed: Karl-Wilhelm—uncle of Florian Jones-Stamm

CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY

Today's Ministers

Ushers: Frosine & Gray Corbett

Acolytes: Maura Whitlock, Faith Bingat

Lessons: Stephanie Norris

Prayers of the People: Stephanie Norris

Chalice: Florian Jones-Stamm

Sun. School Helper: Augustine Kiplagat

Altar Guild: Crystal & John Sarvay, Conny Barrett

Coffee Hour: Cheri & Diana

Counters: Gray Corbett, Denise Russell

Weekly Worship

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

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

8000 Hermitage Road
804-266-2503

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



The Church of the Epiphany
ANNOUNCEMENTS
Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost
October 29, 2023

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

Introducing the Lesson

1st Reading: Deuteronomy 34:1-12

Our Hebrew scripture lection recounts the death of Moses on the very edge of the promised land. Moses has fulfilled his purpose as God's faithful servant, the one who led the people from their bondage with many signs, received the law, traversed the wilderness, and knew God intimately. From Mount Nebo, Moses surveys the promised land, and then he dies and is buried in Moab. Joshua, upon whom Moses had laid his hands, succeeds him.

2nd Reading: 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

In this reading Paul recalls his first visit to the Thessalonians, the troubles he endured, and the straightforward and gentle way in which he presented the gospel. The opposition that Paul had earlier experienced in Philippi continued in Thessalonica, but, with God's help, Paul preached fearlessly. Unlike certain of the insincere traveling missionaries of the pagan world, Paul acted with integrity and sought in no way to take advantage of his new friends. He and his companions shared not only the gospel but their own selves.

The Gospel: Matthew 22:34-46

In the gospel Jesus presents the double commandment of love for God and neighbor, and then asks a question concerning whose son the Christ is. The context of this passage is the effort by certain Jewish officials to test Jesus, hoping to force him to make an unwise or unpopular comment. Jesus first responds by teaching that all the law and the prophetic words depend for their understanding on commandments of love. He then asks his own question. Using an argumentative style of the time, Jesus shows how King David (considered to be the author of the Psalms) called the Christ his Lord. Thus, at the very least, the Christ must be more than the son of David. Christians believe this Christ to be Jesus and trust that through him disciples may learn to love both God and neighbor.

On the Calendar and Coming up

Sun. Oct. 29th

8:15 am—Holy Eucharist, Rite One
10:30 am—Holy Eucharist, Rite Two

The Rev. Fred Huntington will be our preacher & celebrant while Mother Kristin is away.

7:30 pm — AA Meeting in parish hall

Wed. Nov. 1st

6:00 pm — Bible Study

Thur. Nov. 2nd

6:15 pm—Chancel Choir Rehearsal
7:30 pm—Handbell Rehearsal

Fri. Nov. 3rd

7:30 pm — AA meeting in the parish hall

Sat. Nov. 4th

8:30 am— Outreach Bag Lunches—Chapter 11 team

Sun. Nov. 5th

8:15 am—Holy Eucharist, Rite One
10:30 am—Holy Eucharist, Rite Two

7:30pm —AA meeting in the parish hall

The flowers on the altar this morning are given to the Glory of God by Lee & Ann Poates in celebration of Lee's 75th birthday.

We welcome the Rev. Fred Huntington who is with us today as Celebrant & preacher while Mtr. Kristin is away. We certainly appreciate his time with us!

Stewardship: Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where you treasure is, there your heart will be also. (Matthew 6:19-21)

Adult Christian Formation meets on Wednesdays. This small group meets after work, at 6:00 pm in the parlor. We will continue our focus on the Gospel According to John. Send an email to Mtr. Kristin if you would like to be included in this small group.

2nd Sunday Lunch! These lunches are free to all who would like to join us. We welcome guests to any and all lunches! Mark your calendars thru December:

Nov. 12 — Chicken & mashed potatoes
Dec. 17 — Soup & Bread Lunch

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

Trunk or Treat: Thank you to everyone who participated, donated candy/treats and supported our first annual **Trunk or Treat and Fall Festival** on **Saturday, October 28th**. Everyone had a great time!

Henrico Thanksgiving Boxes will be distributed again this year. The sign-up sheet is on the outreach board. **Please**, consider signing up as a group, a family or any way you wish to provide a meal for a family of 6. The list of food items needed in each box is also provided on the board. This has always been a successful outreach project for our parish in giving back to our community! The boxes are due back in the parish hall by **Thursday, November 16th**. If you have any questions, please contact the church office or Crystal Sarvay.

Attendance: October 22, 2023
8:15 am 4
10:30 am 72

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 and this past month we welcomed 50 families and met several new families. The next diaper distribution will be on November 18th. 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 Chapter 11 on November 4th**. Thank you to the green team who prepared and delivered lunches on October 7th. This ministry is currently in its 24th year! **Donations of paper lunch bags, sandwich bags and napkins** are always welcome as well and can be dropped at the church office. Additionally, if you have further questions or concerns, I am always available to answer any questions. Crystal Sarvay, Outreach Coordinator (crystalsarvay@gmail.com).

Coat Drive: Clean out your closets and get rid of those coats that are in good condition, that you no longer use or need. Bring them in **by Sunday, November 12th** and place them in the collection box in the parish hallway next to the Outreach Board to be donated to Puritan Cleaners for their **Coats for Kids** drive. All sizes are accepted.

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 Sarvay, MSN., RN at epiphanyrvarishnurse@gmail.com*

COMMUNICATION CARD

October 29, 2023

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

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

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

I am RSVPing or signing up for:

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

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

Prayer Requests / Comments