

CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY

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A Note To Our Guests:

Welcome to Epiphany, we are glad to have you join us this morning as we celebrate Holy Eucharist!

Guests sometimes worry about what to do next...where to turn in the book and whether to stand, sit or kneel. From time to time you will receive page number guidance from the clergy, and you may watch to see what others do. In the following order of service the “BCP” page numbers refer to the black Book of Common Prayer. The “S” numbers refer to the Service Music in the front of the blue Hymnal 1982. We invite you into worship with us! All baptized Christians are welcome to receive communion at the Lord’s Table. If you prefer not to receive communion, but wish to come forward for a blessing, please do so, crossing your arms against your chest.

We are blessed to have you with us! So, sing the hymns, join in, and celebrate the joy of our Lord’s life, death, and resurrection!

Again, welcome ... We wish you God’s peace and joy!

Faithfully,
The People of Church of the Epiphany

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday 8:00 a.m.—Holy Eucharist (Rite I)
Sunday 10:30 a.m.—Holy Eucharist (Rite II)

Morning Prayer via Zoom
Tuesday and Thursday 8:30 a.m.

Holy Eucharist in the Chapel
Wednesday 10:30 a.m.

Say to those who are of a fearful heart,
“Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God.

He will come with vengeance,
with terrible recompense.
He will come and save you.”

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
then the lame shall leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.

For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;

the burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water;

the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp,
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

A highway shall be there,
and it shall be called the Holy Way;

the unclean shall not travel on it,
but it shall be for God’s people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray.

No lion shall be there,
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;

they shall not be found there,
but the redeemed shall walk there.

And the ransomed of the LORD shall return,
and come to Zion with singing;

everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
they shall obtain joy and gladness,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Lector
People

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM

Psalm 146:4-9 Lauda, anima mea

- ⁴ Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help! *
whose hope is in the Lord their God;
- ⁵ Who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; *
who keeps his promise for ever;
- ⁶ Who gives justice to those who are oppressed, *
and food to those who hunger.
- ⁷ The Lord sets the prisoners free;
the Lord opens the eyes of the blind; *
the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;
- ⁸ The Lord loves the righteous;
the Lord cares for the stranger; *
he sustains the orphan and widow,
but frustrates the way of the wicked.
- ⁹ The Lord shall reign for ever, *
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations.
Hallelujah!

All

**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.**

THE EPISTLE

James 5:7-10

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

Lector The Word of the Lord
People **Thanks be to God.**

SEQUENCE HYMN

The Angel Gabriel From Heaven Came

Hymn 265

THE GOSPEL*Matthew 11:2-11**Lector*
PeopleThe Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?” Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me.”

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written,

‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way before you.’

“Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.”

Lector
PeopleThe Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Christ.**SERMON**

Fr. Jack Stapleton

NICENE CREED

BCP 358

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

BCP 383

CONFESSION OF SIN

BCP 360

THE PEACE

OFFERTORY	<i>The Great Forerunner of the Morn</i>	Hymn 271
	<i>Doxology</i>	Hymn 380 v3
GREAT THANKSGIVING		BCP 361
SANCTUS	<i>Holy, Holy, Holy Lord</i>	Hymn S-125
All	Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest. Bessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.	
GREAT AMEN		Hymn S-147
LORD’S PRAYER		BCP 364
FRACTION ANTHEM		Belmont
All	Alleluia, Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us, therefore let us keep the feast; Blood of Christ, shed for us, take in remembrance of Him, in remembrance of Him.	
COMMUNION MUSIC	<i>Once He Came in Blessing</i>	Hymn 53
	<i>Blessed Be the God of Israel</i>	Hymn 444
POST COMMUNION PRAYER		BCP 365
RECESSIONAL	<i>Blest Be the King Whose Coming</i>	Hymn 74

*We are a community of discipleship, healing and worship.
We are committed to God, one another and
the transformation of the world in Jesus Christ.*

News

Adult Education—The adult Sunday class is diving into Handel’s *Messiah* during December. Join us at 9:30 in the St. Martha’s room!

Christmas Break—There will be no Sunday School classes on December 28th or January 4th.

Year-end Giving Reminder—According to IRS rules, contributions are effective when delivered. This means that a check deposited in the offering in January cannot be deducted in the previous year even if it is backdated. The one exception is for checks that are post-marked in 2025 even if it is not received by the church until 2026.

Greening of the church after the 10:30 service TODAY!

<i>Advent & Christmas Events</i>		
Dec 14	Noon	Greening of the Church
Dec 24	4pm	Christmas Eve candlelight service
Dec 25	10:30am	Christmas Day service
Jan 11	10:30am	Epiphany Celebration & Pig Roast

VOLUNTEERS	DATE	LECTOR	CHALICE	ACOLYTES
	12/7	Shirley	Shirley	Luke, Jacob, Pascal
	12/14	Genters	John	Genters, Elijah
	12/21	Shirley	Shirley	Outshine, Excel
	Xmas Eve 4pm	Shirley	Shirley	
	Xmas Day 10:30am			
	12/28	Grace-Ann	Don	