

# CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY

## Lenten Opportunities

- Friday Night Soup Suppers (6pm): Meet for a light meal with a short (video) reflection by Sr. Miriam James Heidland called 'Restore', and ending with Stations of the Cross.
- Sunday morning's Adult Education class (9:30am) will discuss C.S. Lewis' classic, *Mere Christianity*.
- Fr. Stace will offer the sacrament of reconciliation (confession) throughout Lent. Please contact him directly at 303-229-0208 to make a confidential appointment.
- A reading plan is available in the commons examining the sermon on the mount and the sermon on the plain.

*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.*



**ASH WEDNESDAY**  
**February 18, 2026 - Noon & 7pm**

## CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY

100 Colorado Blvd.  
Denver, CO 80206  
epiphanydenver.org

Rector  
Fr. Stace Timothy Tafoya  
303-229-0208

Office  
office@epiphanydenver.org  
303-321-0813

---

### *A Note to Our Guests:*

Welcome to Epiphany, we are glad to have you join us for this special day of reflection and 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. The “BCP” page numbers refer to the Book of Common Prayer, the black book. The “S” numbers refer to the Service Music in the front of the blue Hymnal 1982. But we invite you into worship and just to enjoy the service. All baptized Christians are welcome to receive communion at the Lord’s Table. If you prefer not to receive, 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! Again, welcome...and we wish you God’s peace and love.

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.

Wednesday Morning Eucharist in the chapel 10:30 a.m.

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 PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

We do not presume to come to this your table, merciful Lord,  
trusting in our own righteousness, but in your abundant and great mercies.  
We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table.  
But you are the same Lord, who always delights in showing mercy.  
Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord,  
so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ and to drink his blood,  
that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body,  
and our souls washed through his most precious blood,  
and that we may evermore dwell in him and he in us. Amen.

### FRACTION ANTHEM (sung at 7pm)

Hymn S-158

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,  
have mercy upon us.  
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,  
have mercy upon us.  
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,  
grant us thy peace.

### COMMUNION MUSIC (7pm)

*Kyrie Eleison*

Hymn S-84

*If Thou But Trust in God to Guide Thee*

Hymn 635

### POST COMMUNION PRAYER

**All** 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.

### RECESSIONAL HYMN (7pm)

*The Glory of These Forty Days*

Hymn 143

**OFFERTORY (7pm)**

*All Flesh is Like the Grass*

All flesh is like the grass  
The grass withers and fades away  
All flesh is like the grass  
The grass withers and fades away

The glory of man like a flower  
That shrivels in the sun and falls  
The glory of man like a flower  
That shrivels in the sun and falls

But the Word of the Lord endures forever  
The Word of the Lord endures forever

Fernando Ortega © 2006 Cerdo Verde Music and  
Curb Songs (both Admin. by Curb Music Publishing)  
For use solely with the SongSelect Terms of Use.  
CLI License # 1054396; CCLI Song # 4854704

**DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts:  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**GREAT THANKSGIVING**

BCP 361

**SANCTUS (sung at 7pm)**

Hymn S-117

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:  
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory  
Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.  
Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.

**GREAT AMEN (sung at 7pm)**

Hymn S-147

**THE LORD’S PRAYER**

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.

**ASH WEDNESDAY**

February 18, 2026

Holy Eucharist - Rite II - Noon & 7:00pm

*A time of quiet reflection or personal prayer is requested prior to service.  
Please silence your phone.*

**PROCESS IN SILENCE**

**THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

Almighty and everlasting God, you hate nothing you have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent: Create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

**THE FIRST LESSON**

*Isaiah 58:1-12*

Shout out, do not hold back!  
Lift up your voice like a trumpet!  
Announce to my people their rebellion,  
to the house of Jacob their sins.  
Yet day after day they seek me  
and delight to know my ways,  
as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness  
and did not forsake the ordinance of their God;  
they ask of me righteous judgments,  
they delight to draw near to God.  
“Why do we fast, but you do not see?  
Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?”  
Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day,  
and oppress all your workers.  
Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight  
and to strike with a wicked fist.  
Such fasting as you do today  
will not make your voice heard on high.  
Is such the fast that I choose,  
a day to humble oneself?  
Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush,  
and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?  
Will you call this a fast,  
a day acceptable to the LORD?

Is not this the fast that I choose:  
to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke,  
to let the oppressed go free,  
and to break every yoke?  
Is it not to share your bread with the hungry,  
and bring the homeless poor into your house;  
when you see the naked, to cover them,  
and not to hide yourself from your own kin?  
Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,  
and your healing shall spring up quickly;  
your vindicator shall go before you,  
the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.  
Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer;  
you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

If you remove the yoke from among you,  
the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,  
if you offer your food to the hungry  
and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,  
then your light shall rise in the darkness  
and your gloom be like the noonday.  
The LORD will guide you continually,  
and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong;  
and you shall be like a watered garden,  
like a spring of water,  
whose waters never fail.  
Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;  
you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;  
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,  
the restorer of streets to live in.

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

**THE PSALM** *Psalm 103:8-14*

<sup>8</sup> The LORD is full of compassion and mercy, \*  
slow to anger and of great kindness.

<sup>9</sup> He will not always accuse us, \*  
nor will he keep his anger for ever.

<sup>10</sup> He has not dealt with us according to our sins, \*  
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.

Our anger at our own frustration, and our envy of those  
more fortunate than ourselves,  
**We confess to you, Lord.**

Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts, and  
our dishonesty in daily life and work,  
**We confess to you, Lord.**

Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to  
commend the faith that is in us,  
**We confess to you, Lord.**

Accept our repentance, Lord, for the wrongs we have done: for our blindness to  
human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty,  
**Accept our repentance, Lord.**

For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and for  
our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us,  
**Accept our repentance, Lord.**

For our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of  
concern for those who come after us,  
**Accept our repentance, Lord.**

Restore us, good Lord, and let your anger depart from us;  
**Favorably hear us, for your mercy is great.**

Accomplish in us the work of your salvation,  
**That we may show forth your glory in the world.**

By the cross and passion of your Son our Lord,  
**Bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.**

*Celebrant* Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who desires not the  
death of sinners, but rather that they may turn from their wickedness and  
live, has given power and commandment to his ministers to declare and  
pronounce to his people, being penitent, the absolution and remission of  
their sins. He pardons and absolves all those who truly repent, and with  
sincere hearts believe his holy Gospel.

Therefore we beseech him to grant us true repentance and his Holy Spirit,  
that those things may please him which we do on this day, and that the rest  
of our life hereafter may be pure and holy, so that at the last we may come to  
his eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**THE PEACE**

- <sup>12</sup> Cast me not away from your presence \*  
and take not your holy Spirit from me.
- <sup>13</sup> Give me the joy of your saving help again \*  
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.
- <sup>14</sup> I shall teach your ways to the wicked, \*  
and sinners shall return to you.
- <sup>15</sup> Deliver me from death, O God, \*  
and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness,  
O God of my salvation.
- <sup>16</sup> Open my lips, O Lord, \*  
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.
- <sup>17</sup> Had you desired it, I would have offered sacrifice, \*  
but you take no delight in burnt-offerings.
- <sup>18</sup> The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit; \*  
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;  
As it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen.**

**LITANY OF PENITENCE**

- All**      **Most holy and merciful Father:  
We confess to you and to one another,  
and to the whole communion of saints in heaven and on earth,  
that we have sinned by our own fault  
in thought, word, and deed;  
by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.**
- Celebrant*    We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others, as we have been forgiven.
- People**      **Have mercy on us, Lord.**
- We have been deaf to your call to serve, as Christ served us.  
                  We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy Spirit.  
                  **Have mercy on us, Lord.**
- We confess to you, Lord, all our past unfaithfulness: the pride, hypocrisy, and impatience of our lives,  
                  **We confess to you, Lord.**
- Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people,  
                  **We confess to you, Lord.**

- <sup>11</sup> For as the heavens are high above the earth, \*  
so is his mercy great upon those who fear him.
- <sup>12</sup> As far as the east is from the west, \*  
so far has he removed our sins from us.
- <sup>13</sup> As a father cares for his children, \*  
so does the LORD care for those who fear him.
- <sup>14</sup> For he himself knows whereof we are made; \*  
he remembers that we are but dust.

**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 forever. Amen.**

**THE EPISTLE**

*2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10*

We entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says, "At an acceptable time I have listened to you, and on a day of salvation I have helped you."

See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

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

**SEQUENCE HYMN (7pm)**

*Before Thy Throne, O God, We Kneel*

Hymn 574

**THE GOSPEL**

*Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21*

*Celebrant* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.  
**People** **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, “Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven.

“So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

“And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

“And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

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

**SERMON**

Fr. Stace Tafoya

**IMPOSITION OF ASHES**

*Celebrant* Dear People of God: The first Christians observed with great devotion the days of our Lord’s passion and resurrection, and it became the custom of the Church to prepare for them by a season of penitence and fasting. This season of Lent provided a time in which converts to the faith were prepared for Holy Baptism. It was also a time when those who, because of notorious sins, had been separated from the body of the faithful were reconciled by penitence and forgiveness, and restored to the fellowship of the Church.

Thereby, the whole congregation was put in mind of the message of pardon and absolution set forth in the Gospel of our Savior, and of the need which all Christians continually have to renew their repentance and faith.

I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God’s holy Word. And, to make a right beginning of repentance, and as a mark of our mortal nature, let us now kneel before the Lord, our maker and redeemer.

*Silence*

*Celebrant* Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the earth: Grant that these ashes may be to us a sign of our mortality and penitence, that we may remember that it is only by your gracious gift that we are given everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

**PSALM 51**

- <sup>1</sup> Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving-kindness; \*  
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.
- <sup>2</sup> Wash me through and through from my wickedness \*  
and cleanse me from my sin.
- <sup>3</sup> For I know my transgressions, \*  
and my sin is ever before me.
- <sup>4</sup> Against you only have I sinned \*  
and done what is evil in your sight.
- <sup>5</sup> And so you are justified when you speak \*  
and upright in your judgment.
- <sup>6</sup> Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth, \*  
a sinner from my mother’s womb.
- <sup>7</sup> For behold, you look for truth deep within me, \*  
and will make me understand wisdom secretly.
- <sup>8</sup> Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure; \*  
wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.
- <sup>9</sup> Make me hear of joy and gladness, \*  
that the body you have broken may rejoice.
- <sup>10</sup> Hide your face from my sins \*  
and blot out all my iniquities.
- <sup>11</sup> Create in me a clean heart, O God, \*  
and renew a right spirit within me.