

The
Episcopal Church
of the
Epiphany

The Celebration of the Holy Eucharist

The First Sunday of Advent

November 29, 2026 ✠ 10:00 am

Welcome to The Episcopal Church of the Epiphany

Whether you just stopped in to visit, or you are looking for a place of belonging, we welcome you. In our worship, formation, fellowship, and community engagement work, we strive for justice and peace and to honor the dignity of every human being. Whoever you are and wherever you are on your journey, we are glad you are here. We believe God loves you—no exceptions!

Vestry Person of the Day: The photo pinned to the bulletin board as you entered today is of our "Vestry Person of the Day" or VPOD. In addition to ensuring that the coffee is brewed, the VPOD also coordinates with nursery staff and the greeters to ensure everyone has what they need to welcome all parishioners and visitors. They are also responsible for securing the church at days end. Most critically, however, the VPOD is responsible for serving as the point of contact in the event of a medical or other emergency and to coordinate any form of response that may be needed. If you need assistance—or need help getting someone else assistance—notify an usher or the VPOD.

Children of all ages are invited to participate fully in our liturgy. We welcome wiggles and giggles as signs of life and understand that sometimes children need to move about during worship. Children's bulletins and activity bags are available. Ask an usher to help you locate those near the entrance to the worship space.

If you do not have a nametag, please sign up on the clipboard on the welcome table in the Gallery. For today, there are stick-on nametags available.

Giving to Epiphany: If you would prefer to give electronically today, please scan this QR code. Visit epiphany.org/ways-to-give to learn about other ways to give to our parish or to make a pledge. You'll also find more information about Realm, our giving platform and secure online community.

Recording/Livestreaming may be in progress: Liturgies and meetings at Church of the Epiphany may be live-streamed and/or recorded so that we may include those who cannot be with us physically. If you prefer to sit in a location where you will be less visible to the camera, please let an usher, clergy, or staff person know.

For the latest news and events at Epiphany, visit our website at epiphany.org or subscribe to our weekly newsletter. There are newcomer cards available in the pew in front of you and on the newcomer page of our website. We hope that you will fill one out while you're here and hand it to one of the clergy so we can welcome you personally.

The Episcopal Church of the Epiphany, founded in 1898, is a parish in the Episcopal Diocese of Atlanta, The Right Rev. Robert C. Wright, Bishop.

Clergy: The Rev. Amy Dills-Wright, *Rector*; The Rev. Carmie McDonald, *Associate Priest*

Staff: Julie P. Ryder, *Organist & Choirmaster*; L. Shea McNutt, *Parish Administrator;* Edie Brush, *Interim Director of Children's Ministry*; Tristen Webb, *Interim Director of Youth Ministry*; Brittany Cole, *Seminarian;* Susie Boyko, *Bookkeeper*; Jason Sullivan, *Facilities Manager;* Anna Democko, *Childcare Worker;* Jessica Tirado, *Childcare Worker;* Sierra Jamison, *Childcare Worker*

Assisting Priests: The Rev. Bobbi Patterson, The Rev. Barbara Ryder, The Rev. David Wagner

Wardens: Jordan Moody, *Senior Warden;* Jacob Geiger, *Junior Warden*

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www.epiphany.org • info@epiphany.org • 404.373.8338

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As we prepare for worship, we invite you to enter the church in a spirit of stillness. The moments before the liturgy begins are a sacred time to center our hearts, to pray, and to ready ourselves to encounter the presence of God. Let us honor this holy silence together, creating space for prayerful reflection for ourselves and for those around us.

✠ ✠ ✠

Use the water in the font as a remembrance of your Baptism

Voluntary—Chorale Prelude on *Burleigh* (My Lord, what a morning) Richard Billingham

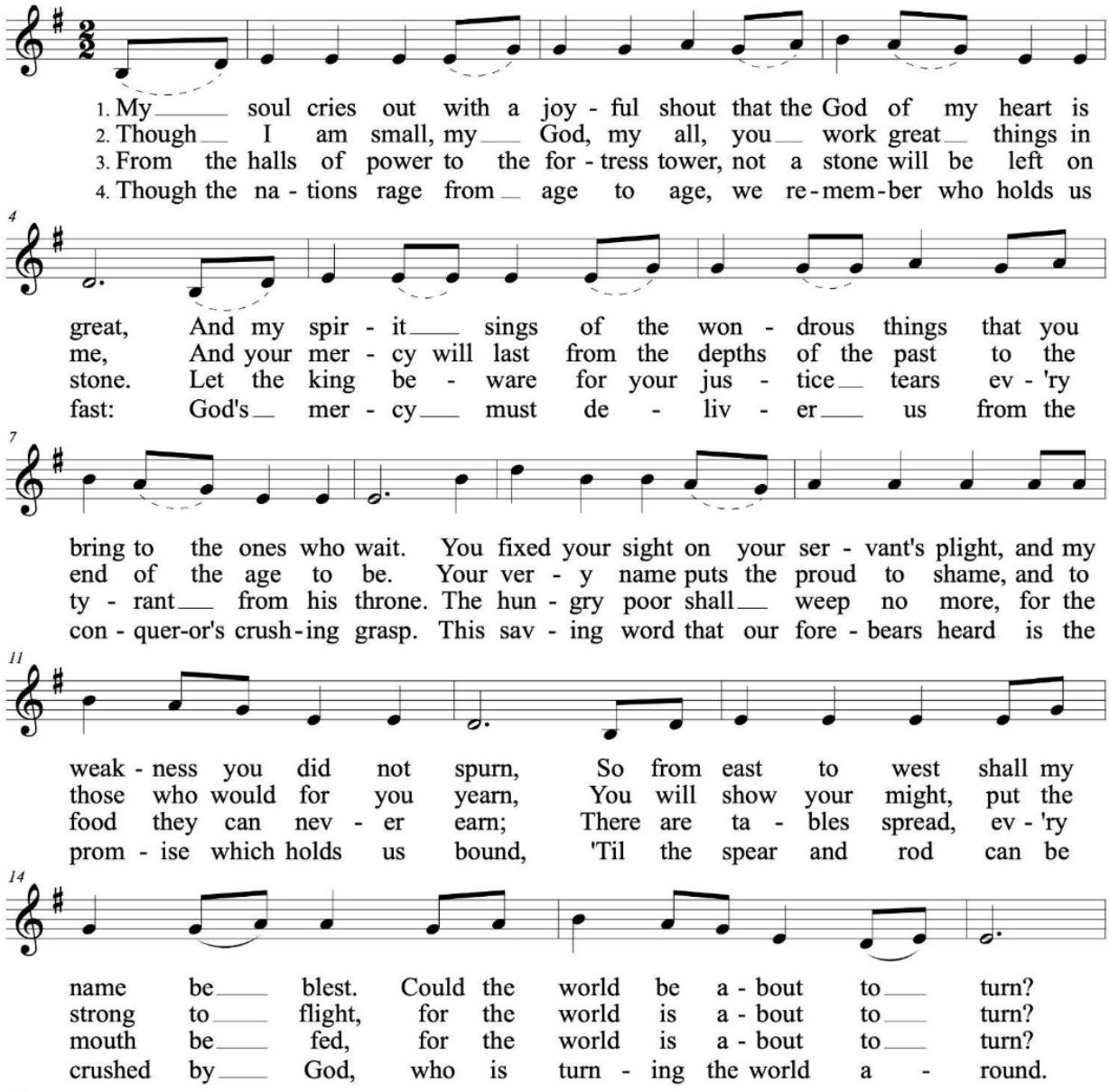
Processional Hymn 57—Lo! he comes, with clouds descending *Helmsley*

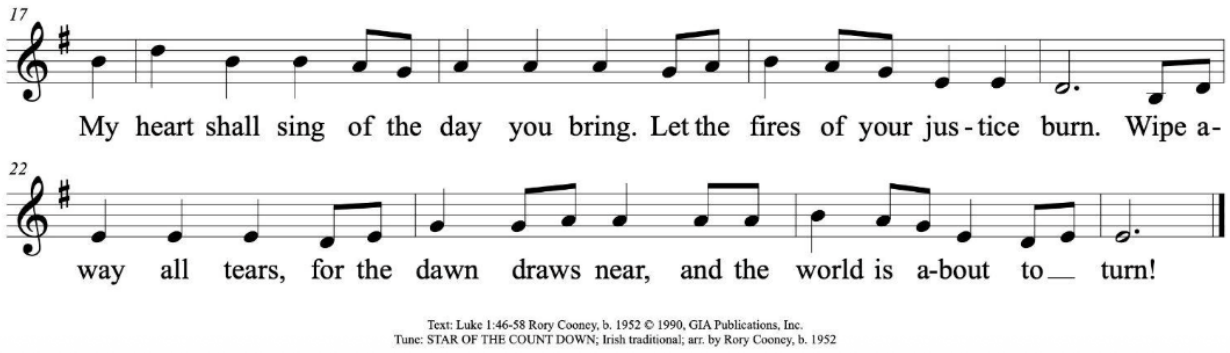
Celebrant Blessed be the one holy and living God.
People **Glory to God for ever and ever. Amen.**

Celebrant

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.**

Hymn of Praise—Canticle of the turning, *verse 1* Arr. Rory Cooney





Text: Luke 1:46-58 Rory Cooney, b. 1952 © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.
Tune: STAR OF THE COUNT DOWN; Irish traditional; arr. by Rory Cooney, b. 1952

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant God be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Together, let us pray.

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The First Lesson Isaiah 64:1-9

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence —as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil—to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

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

Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18—*Sung by the Choir*
Qui regis Israel

1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; *
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.
2 In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, *
stir up your strength and come to help us.
3 Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
4 O Lord God of hosts, *
how long will you be angered despite the prayers of your people?
5 You have fed them with the bread of tears; *
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.
6 You have made us the derision of our neighbors, *
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.
7 Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

16 Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, *
the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.
17 And so will we never turn away from you; *
give us life, that we may call upon your Name.
18 Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

The Second Lesson 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

Children (up to 3rd grade) are invited to gather at the cross by the Choir Loft during the last verse of the Sequence Hymn for the reading of the Gospel and Children's Chapel

Sequence Hymn 61—"Sleepers wake!" A voice astounds us *Wachet auf*

The Gospel Mark 13:24-37

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Mark.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

"From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

"But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

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

The Sermon The Rev. Dick Game

A period of silence is kept

Celebrant With Christians from across time and around the world, we say together the Nicene Creed.

The Nicene Creed—*Celebrant and People*

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: was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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 for Advent

Let us now open our hearts and offer to God our deepest prayers as we say, Come Lord Jesus, bring us your light.

Heavenly Father, inspire the universal church to be most concerned with living lives inspired by your Son, and give us hearts that beat to serve you.
Come Lord Jesus,
bring us your light.

Bless those in authority, in this nation and in all the nations, with an urgency to care for all people and to undo systems of injustice.
Come Lord Jesus,
bring us your light.

Give us opportunities to live into our faith and identity as followers of Jesus. Open our eyes to see those around us, in our neighborhoods, schools, and places of work, who need our loving support and care.
Come Lord Jesus,
bring us your light.

Grant comfort to those who seek cures and relief of pain, and heal those who suffer from illness.
Come Lord Jesus,
bring us your light.

Give us wisdom and persistence for the care of creation.
Come Lord Jesus,
bring us your light.

Grant rest eternal to those who have died and comfort to those who mourn, [especially]; grant us daily an awareness that life is precious and fleeting, that we might use our days to your glory.
Come Lord Jesus,
bring us your light.

Celebrant's concluding collect

Almighty God, you lovingly created and care for us, hear now these prayers and answer them as may be best for us and for the furtherance of your redemptive grace. **Amen**.

Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.
Silence

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 our Savior 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.

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Savior Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of Christ be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

Welcome

Offertory Anthem—Zion, at thy shining gates *Bohemian Brethren*
Epiphany Choir arr. George Guest

Zion, at thy shining gates lo, the King of Glory waits, haste thy monarch's pomp to greet, strew thy palms before his feet. Christ, for thee their triple light, faith and hope and love unite; this the beacon we display to proclaim thine advent day. Come and give us peace within, loose us from the bands of sin, take away the galling weight laid on us by Satan's hate. Give us grace thy yoke to wear, give us strength thy cross to bear, make us thine in deed and word, thine in heart and life, O Lord. So, when thou shalt come again, judge of angels and of men. we with all thy saints shall sing alleluias to our King. *Text – Benjamin H. Kennedy*

Presentation Hymn 65—Prepare the way, O Zion *Bereden väg för Herran*

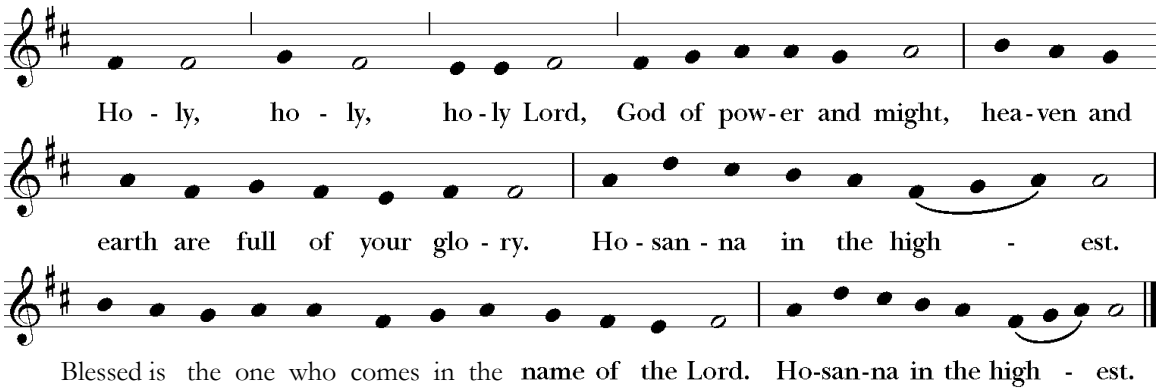
The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer A, Expansive Language

Celebrant God 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 God thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every-where to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing. 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

Sanctus S124—Holy, holy, holy Lord David Hurd



Then the Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious God: 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 creator of all.

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

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Savior 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 Jesus 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 poured out for you and for all 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, Almighty God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling Christ's 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 Christ. 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 Jesus Christ our Savior: By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. AMEN.

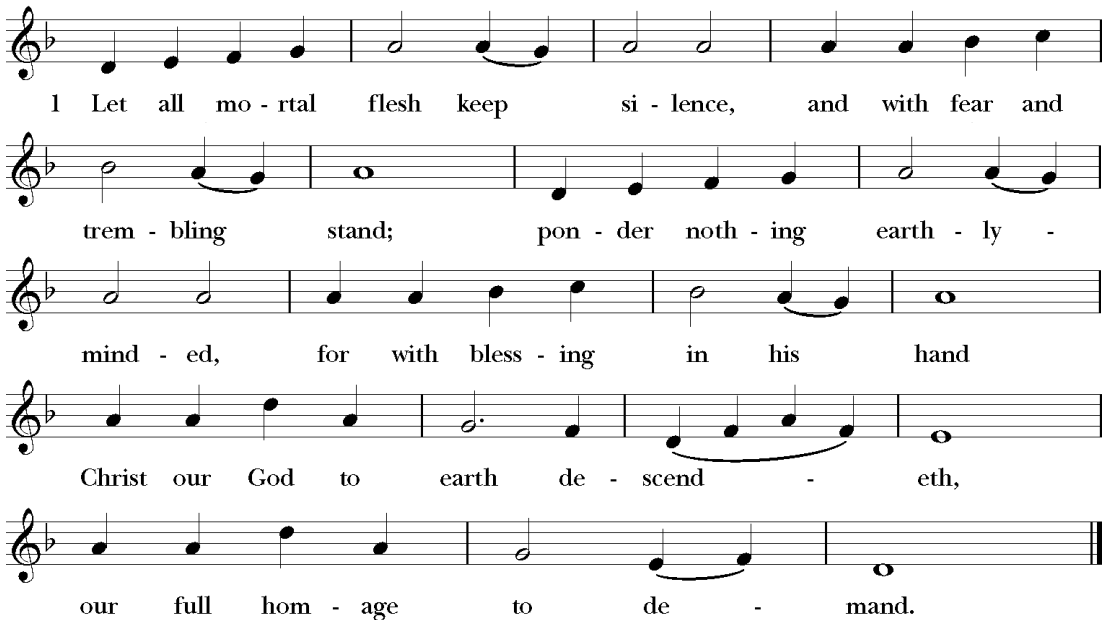
And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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

A period of silence is kept.

Fraction Anthem 324—Let all mortal flesh keep silence *Picardy*



The Communion of the People

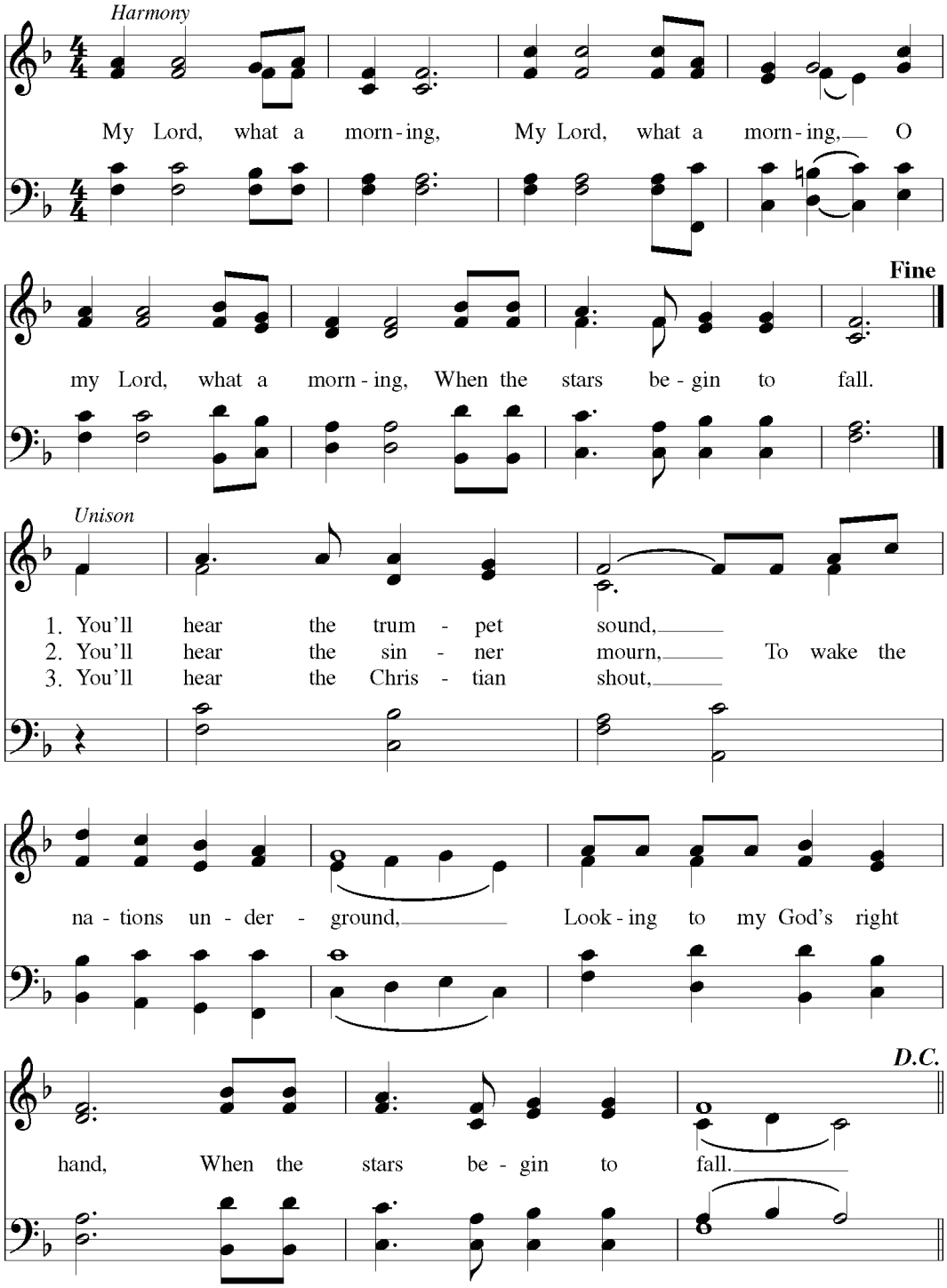
All God's people are welcome to share in the Holy Eucharist. Communion is received either kneeling or standing at the altar rail or at the standing station on the floor level. At the altar rail you have the option to drink from the chalice, to hand your wafer to the Lay Eucharistic Minister to intinct for you, or to cross your arms after you receive the bread to indicate that you do not wish to receive the chalice. At the floor station, communion is received by intinction by the Priest. If you prefer to receive a blessing instead of Communion, cross your hands across your chest; the priest will bless you. Gluten free wafers are available upon request.

The Healing Rite

During the Communion of the People, prayers for healing and anointing with oil are offered in the Chapel for those desiring them on their own behalf, or upon the behalf of another. All are welcome.

Communion Hymn L13—My Lord, what a morning Traditional Spiritual

Sung by all



Eucharistic Visitation

Celebrant We, the church of Jesus Christ, send you forth bearing these holy gifts so that N. may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.

People **We who are many, are one body because we all share one bread, one cup. Amen.**

Postcommunion Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray.

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of 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 Savior. Amen.

Advent Blessing—*Celebrant*

May Almighty God, by whose providence our Savior Christ came among us in great humility, sanctify you with the light of divine blessing and set you free from all sin. **Amen.**

May the One whose second coming in power and great glory we await, make you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and constant in love. **Amen.**

May you, who rejoice in the first Advent of our Redeemer, at the second Advent be rewarded with unending life. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God almighty, the Holy and undivided Trinity be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Hymn 454—Jesus came, adored by angels *Lowry*

The Dismissal

Celebrant Let us bless the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Voluntary—Chorale Prelude on *Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme* Johann Gottfried Walther

Prayers of the People

Names of friends and family are listed for one month. Contact the parish office if you would like extend the listing.

For members who are bidding our prayers: Matthew Trautwein • Marion & Mike Curry • Rebecca Follman • Patricia & Dick Price • Ann Fowler • Charles Perrin (spouse of Judy Jarady) • Johanna Hinman • Pam & David Tipton • Chris Prikkel • Lucy Davidson • Paul Hinson & Daniel Hyland • Dick Gonter (spouse of Ann Williamson) •Judy Cox • Alix Janke • Joy Boyden • Lisa Gray • Larry Wilcox • Chris Miller & Ron Hutcheson • Philip Anderson • Louise Bedrossian (spouse of Bob Thompson) • Barbara Belcore • Esther Harbert • Sally Brockington

For friends and family: Fran Block, mother of Erin Braden • George & Paul Trautwein, family of Matthew Trautwein • Rosalie Shipp, stepmother of Amy Shipp • Melissa Keating, friend of Linda Ryder Wolf • Lisa Gibbs, friend of Mike & Marion Curry • Louise Peters, grandmother of Tristen Webb • Dave Tipton, brother of Pam Tipton • Isabel, granddaughter of Mike & Beth Towers

For members who desire our continuing prayers: Jewel Allen • Mary McCall Cash • Wende Crowe • Pat & Bill Graves • Bruce Fort • Esther Harbert • Robin Hairston • Rod MacLeod • Sally McClintock • Chris Miller & Ron Hutcheson • Ellen Mintzmyer • Ann Rowles • Pat Spivey • Beth Towers • Michael Towers, Jr. • Wayne & Judy Urban • Larry Wilcox • Wes, Kelly & Lillian Wright • Colleen

For those who have died: Linda Preece and Jimmy Mitchell, friends of Dave Thompson • Barbara Trautwein, mother of Matthew Trautwein • Guy Maishman, friend of Bob & Lane Burnett

For those celebrating anniversaries the week of 11/29-12/5: Laraine & Megan Fraijo-Paul

For those celebrating birthdays the week of 11/29-12/5: Maria Braswell • Susie Boyko • Beth Seifert • Emme Neel • Jenny Fidler • Lisa Gray • Duane Burns

THE ARRANGEMENTS AT THE ALTAR ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD in thanksgiving for restored health, by Michele MacLeod.

THE SANCTUARY LIGHT IS GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD.

Altar Arrangements & the Sanctuary Light can be given in honor of an anniversary, birthday, or in memory of a loved one. Visit epiphany.org/rsvp to reserve dates that have meaning for you.

LITURGICAL & EVENT CALENDAR FOR FALL

NOVEMBER

11/29	Advent 1
11/29	Advent Wreath Workshop • 11:30 p.m. | rsvp
11/29	Epiphany Men's Fellowship Dinner • 6:00 p.m. | rsvp

DECEMBER

12/5	Advent Retreat Morning • 9:30 a.m. | rsvp
12/5	Advent Cookie Baking • 10:00 a.m.
12/6	Advent 2 • 10:00 a.m.
	Nativities Collection goes on display
	Feast of St. Nicholas • 11:15 a.m.
	Advent Lessons & Carols • 5:00 p.m.
	Parish Christmas Party • 6:00 p.m.
12/13	Advent 3 • 10:00 a.m.
	ECW Craft & Bake Sale • 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
12/15	Family Dinner & Eucharist • 6:00/6:15 p.m. | dinner rsvp
12/17	ECW Luncheon for the Emmaus House Seniors • 12:00 p.m.
12/20	Advent 4 • 10:00 a.m.
12/20	Service of Light • 5:00 p.m.
12/24	Christmas Eve Services
	Festival Eucharist • 3:30 p.m.
	Preservice Music • 7:30 p.m.
	Festival Eucharist • 8:00 p.m. | incense will be used
12/25	The Nativity of Our Lord • 10:00 a.m. | Zoom only
12/28	The First Sunday of Christmas: Christmas Lessons & Carols • 10:00 a.m.

JANUARY

1/4	The Second Sunday of Christmas • 10:00 a.m.
1/6	Feast of the Epiphany & Epiphany Pageant • 6:00 p.m.
	Feast Day Feast • 7:00 p.m.