

The
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
of the
EPIPHANY

THE CELEBRATION OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST

The First Sunday in Lent

February 22, 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!

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.

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.

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.

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 Rector*

Staff: Julie P. Ryder, *Organist & Choirmaster*; L. Shea McNutt, *Parish Administrator*; Taylor Irwin, *Director of Children & Youth Ministries*; Susie Boyko, *Bookkeeper*; Jason Sullivan, *Facilities Manager*; Anna Democko, *Childcare Worker*; Jessica Tirado, *Childcare Worker*; Sierra Jamison, *Childcare Worker*

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

Wardens: Jordan Moody, *Senior Warden*



2089 Ponce de Leon Ave., NE, Atlanta, GA 30307
www.epiphany.org • info@epiphany.org • 404.373.8338

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You are invited to enter in silence as you prepare for worship
Use the water in the font as a remembrance of your Baptism

The Great Litany—kneeling

I.

Holy God, Creator of heaven and earth,



Have mer - cy on us.

Holy and Mighty, Redeemer of the world,

Have mercy on us.

Holy Immortal One, Sanctifier of the faithful,

Have mercy on us.

Holy, blessed and glorious Trinity, One God,

Have mercy on us.

II.

From all evil and mischief; from pride, vanity and hypocrisy; from envy, hatred and malice; and from all evil intent,



Sav - ior de - liv - er us.

From sloth, worldliness and love of money; from hardness of heart and contempt for your word and your laws,
Savior deliver us.

From sins of body and mind; from deceits of the world, flesh and the devil,
Savior deliver us.

From famine and disaster; from violence, murder, and dying unprepared,
Savior deliver us.

In all times of sorrow; in all times of joy; in the hour of our death and at the day of judgment,
Savior deliver us.

By the mystery of your holy incarnation; by your birth, childhood and obedience; by your baptism, fasting and temptation,
Savior deliver us.

By your ministry in word and work; by your mighty acts of power; by the preaching of your reign,
Savior deliver us.

By your agony and trial; by your cross and passion; by your precious death and burial,
Savior deliver us.

By your mighty resurrection; by your glorious ascension; and by your sending of the Holy Spirit,
Savior deliver us.

III.

Hear our prayers, O Christ our God.



Hear us, O Christ.

Govern and direct your holy Church; fill it with love and truth; and grant it that unity which is your will.
Hear us, O Christ.

Give us boldness to preach the gospel in all the world, and to make disciples of all the nations.
Hear us, O Christ.

Enlighten your bishops, priests and deacons with knowledge and understanding, that by their teaching and their lives they may proclaim your word.

Hear us, O Christ.

Give your people grace to witness to your word and bring forth the fruit of your Spirit.

Hear us, O Christ.

Bring into the way of truth all who have erred and are deceived.

Hear us, O Christ.

Strengthen those who stand; comfort and help the fainthearted; raise up the fallen; and finally beat down Satan under our feet.

Hear us, O Christ.

IV.

Guide the leaders of the nations into the ways of peace and justice.

Hear us, O Christ.

Give your wisdom and strength to Donald, the President of the United States, Brian, the Governor of this state, that in all things they may do your will, for your glory and the common good.

Hear us, O Christ.

Give to the Congress of the United States, the members of the President's Cabinet, those who serve in our state legislature, and all others in authority the grace to walk always in the ways of truth.

Hear us, O Christ.

Bless the justices of the Supreme Court and all those who administer the law, that they may act with integrity and do justice for all your people.

Hear us, O Christ.

Give us the will to use the resources of the earth to your glory and for the good of all.

Hear us, O Christ.

Bless and keep all your people,

Hear us, O Christ.

V.

Comfort and liberate the lonely, the bereaved and the oppressed.

Hear us, O Christ.

Keep in safety those who travel and all who are in peril.

Hear us, O Christ.

Heal the sick in body, mind or spirit and provide for the homeless, the hungry and the destitute.

Hear us, O Christ.

Guard and protect all children who are in danger.

Hear us, O Christ.

Show your compassion on prisoners, hostages and refugees, and all who are in trouble.

Hear us, O Christ.

Forgive our enemies, persecutors and slanderers, and turn their hearts.

Hear us, O Christ.

Hear us as we remember those who have died and grant us with them a share in your eternal glory.

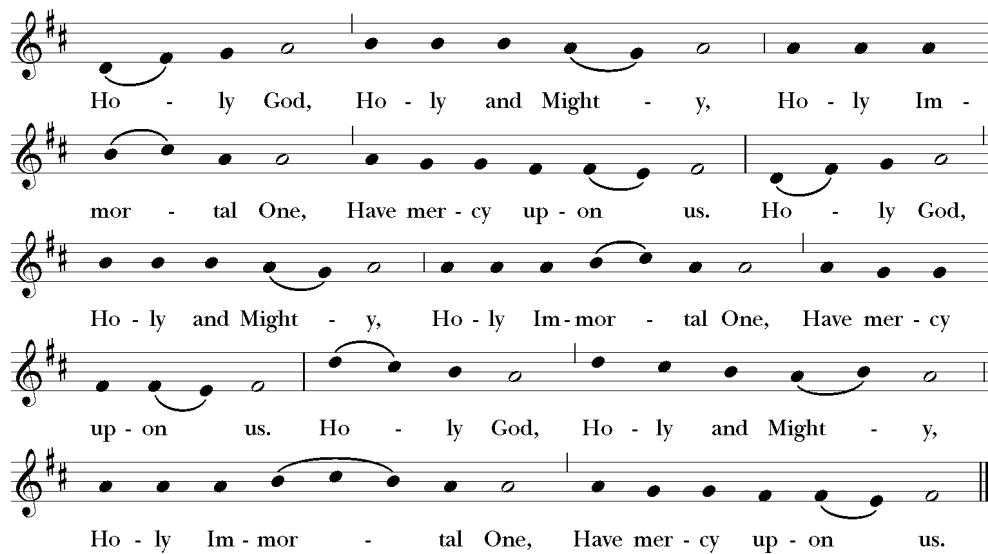
Hear us, O Christ.

VI.

Give us true repentance; forgive us our sins of negligence and ignorance and our deliberate sins; and grant us the grace of your Holy Spirit to amend our lives according to your word.

All stand.

standing

**The Salutation**

BCP 355

Celebrant Blessed be the God of our salvation:*People* **Who bears our burdens and forgives our sins.****The Collect of the Day***Celebrant* God be with you.*People* **And also with you.***Celebrant* Together, let us pray.

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The First Lesson

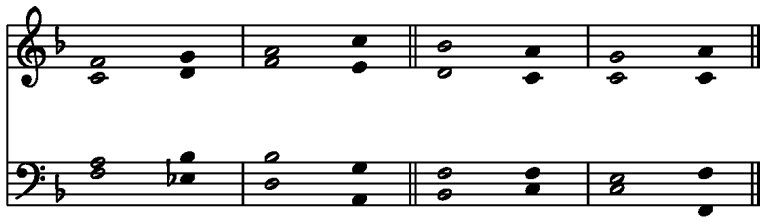
Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7

The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the LORD God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die."

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?'" The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.'" But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die; for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

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

Beati quorum



- 1 Happy are they whose transgressions are for-/given, *
and whose sin is put a-/way!
- 2 Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes no / **guilt**, *
and in whose spirit there is no / **guile**!
- 3 While I held my tongue, my bones withered a-/way, *
because of my groaning all day / **long**.
- 4 For your hand was heavy upon me day and / **night**; *
my moisture was dried up as in the heat of / **summer**.
- 5 Then I acknowledged my / **sin to you**, *
and did not conceal my / **guilt**.
6. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the / **LORD**." *
Then you forgave me the guilt of my / **sin**.
- 7 Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of / **trouble**; *
when the great waters overflow, they shall not / **reach them**.
- 8 You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from / **trouble**; *
you surround me with shouts of de-/liverance.
- 9 "I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should / go; *
I will guide you with my / **eye**.
- 10 Do not be like horse or mule, which have no under-/standing; *
who must be fitted with bit and bridle,
or else they will not stay / **near you**."
- 11 Great are the tribulations of the / **wicked**; *
but mercy embraces those who trust in the / **LORD**.
- 12 Be glad you righteous, and rejoice in the / **LORD**; *
shout for joy, all who are true of / **heart**.

The Second Lesson

Romans 5:12-19

As sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned— sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come.

But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. For just as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

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 449—O love, how deep, how broad, how high

Deo gracias

The Gospel

Matthew 4:1-11

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

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

Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." But he answered, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'" Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"

Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'"

Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

Gospeller The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon

The Rev. Deacon Brandon Dasinger

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 Peace

Celebrant The peace of Christ be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The Welcome

Offertory Anthem—The glory of these forty days

Josquin des Prez

Epiphany Choir

The glory of these forty days, we celebrate with songs of praise; for Christ, by whom all things were made, himself has fasted and has prayed. So grant us, Lord, to willing be full oft in fast and prayer with Thee; our spirits strengthen with Thy grace, and give us joy to see Thy face. O Father, Son, and Spirit blest, to thee be ev'ry prayer addressed, who art in threefold Name adored, from age to age, the only Lord.

Presentation Hymn 142—Lord, who throughout these forty days

St. Flavian

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. Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again.

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 W850—Holy, holy, holy Lord

Jonathan Dimmock
from *Missa Appalachia*

Ho-ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,—

hea-ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na

in the high - est. Blest is the one who comes in the

name of the Lord. Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na,

Ho - san - na in the high - est, the high - est.

The people may stand or kneel

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,

The Lord's Prayer—*traditional language*

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 MO43—O Lamb of God

Jonathan Dimmock
from *Missa Appalachia*

O Lamb of God that tak - est a - way the sins of the

world, have mer - cy, have mer - cy on us.

O Lamb of God that tak - est a - way the sins of the

world, have mer - cy, have mer - cy on us.

O Lamb of God that tak - est a - way the

sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

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 Motet—Asperges me

Josef Gruber

Epiphany Choir

Asperges me, Domine, hyssopo et mundabor, lavabis me, et super nivem dealbabor. Miserere mei, Deus, secundum magnam misericordiam tuam. Gloria Patri et Filio et Spiritui Sancto. Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper, et in saecula saeculorum. Amen. (Asperge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy lovingkindness. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.)

Communion Hymn 147—Now let us all with one accord

Bourbon

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.

Solemn Prayer—Celebrant

Grant, Almighty God, that your people may recognize their weakness and put their whole trust in your strength, so that they may rejoice for ever in the protection of your loving providence; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Hymn 686—Come, thou fount of every blessing

Nettleton

The Dismissal

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

† † †

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Names of friends and family are listed for a month. Contact the parish office if you would like them listed for another month.

For members who are bidding our prayers: Pam Hall • Les Howell (husband of Cliff Edge) • Richard Shirah • Kim Boswell • Larry Wilcox • Mike Curry • Wes, Kelly & Lillian Wright • Laraine Fraijo-Paul • Chris Miller • Ellen Mintzmyer • Philip Anderson • Louise Bedrossian (wife of Bob Thompson) • Barbara Belcore • Esther Harbert • Veta Smith (mother of Cecilia Democko) • Sally Brockington

For friends and family: Keren Clay, neighbor of Susan & Richard Messner • Cherise & Bob, friends of Cliff Edge • Nancy & Ron, neighbors of Linda & Paul Parisi • Sally Williams, daughter of Susan & Loren Williams • Mark McCord, cousin of Pam Tipton • Kay Harris, mother of Rebecca Webb • Danny Nodine, brother of Larry Nodine • Mark Thornhill, uncle of Kurt Erskine • Louise Peters, grandmother of Tristen Webb • Sherri Sharpe, cousin of Terri Lawrence & Julie Ryder • 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 • Ann Rowles • Pat Spivey • Beth Towers • Michael Towers, Jr. • Wayne & Judy Urban • Larry Wilcox • Colleen

For those who have died: Pat Johnson, aunt of Leslie Jo Tottenham • Marshall McGraw, uncle of Chris McGraw

For those celebrating anniversaries the week of 2/22-28: Brent Henderson & Calvin Houts

For those celebrating birthdays the week of 2/22-28: Nick Christian • Bill Gary • Claire Tobin • Brian Wright • Wayne Richardson • Maggie Reetz • Bekka DePew • Amanda Kay Seals • Mike Towers • Jim Hoesterey • Eloise Wierwille • Finley Williamson

Did we miss your anniversary or birthday? Send the full date of your anniversary and/or your date of birth to the parish office at parishadmin@epiphany.org so that we can update our records.

TODAY AT EPIPHANY

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES | Children's Chapel—during the service

Children up to 3rd grade are invited to gather at the cross by the Choir Loft during the last verse of the Sequence Hymn and follow the cross to chapel after the reading of the Gospel. They return at the Peace. Parents are welcome to join them.

FORMATION | Adults—Sundays at 11:30 a.m. through March 22 • parish hall

This Lent we will journey with Jesus on the way to Jerusalem using *Walking the Way: Following Jesus on the Lenten Journey of Gospel Nonviolence* by John Dear as our guide. We will reflect on the nonviolence of Jesus as he sets his face toward the cross—teaching, healing, practicing civil disobedience, sharing bread and wine, praying, and meeting suffering with steadfast love. Drawing connections to figures like Gandhi and Dr. King, John Dear invites us to consider what it means to follow the nonviolent Jesus today. This course will be led by the Rev. Amy-Dills Wright, the Rev. Carmie McDonald, Paul Hinson, and Suzanne Yoder.

FORMATION | Children—Sundays at 11:30 a.m. • locations vary

Visit epiphany.org/rsvp to register your children and youth for formation.

- Room 206—Godly Play for children 3 years old through 2nd grade.
- Room 205—Children in 3rd through 5th grade—a lectionary based curriculum for older children

FORMATION | Youth—Sundays at 11:30 a.m. • lower-level classroom / donut den

The Youth (6th - 12th grade) curriculum, *Current: Seeking God Together*, explores 13 spiritual practices that can deepen and transform our relationship with God and others using interactive, age-appropriate strategies to help children and youth connect with God and the church as whole.

- **Provide donuts for Youth Formation:** Help sweeten up Sunday mornings for our youth by bringing one dozen donuts to the lower-level classroom (Donut Den) before 11:30 a.m. Visit epiphany.org/rsvp if you would like to take a turn to provide the donuts.

YOUTH MINISTRIES | Youth Group—5:00 to 6:30 p.m. • *varies*

Our youth group event will be a Tie-Dye activity that explores the themes of waiting and revelation in Lent. We will begin at 4:45 p.m. in the meadow and will end at 5:45 p.m. All materials will be provided, but students are asked to wear clothes they would not mind getting dye on. **Next Sunday, March 1**, parents are invited to join the youth group for a night of dinner and games in the Epiphany parish hall from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m.

WORSHIP | Prayers in the Wilderness: A Service of Prayer & Lament—Tonight at 6:00 p.m.

2/22—In our baptismal covenant we commit to strive for justice and peace and to respect the dignity of every human being. Recent events related to immigration enforcement have left many of us feeling distressed about the treatment of others and in a kind of wilderness ourselves. If you're feeling the need for space to gather with others in your grief or anger, the need for prayer and lament, the need to be reminded of the light that continues to shine in our world, we invite you to gather on this evening, February 22 at 6:00 p.m. for a candlelight service we are calling **Prayers in the Wilderness: A Service of Prayer & Lament**.

THE ARRANGEMENTS AT THE ALTAR ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD and in memory of Neil Banfield, by Rod & 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.

THIS WEEK AT EPIPHANY

Due to persistent scams, parishioner contact information is not published. Please use the parish directory in Realm.

WORSHIP | Weekday Services—visit epiphany.org/worship-services for details

- Weekday Morning Prayer—9:00 a.m. online, request the login link from the parish office.
- Tuesday Morning Prayer (Holy Eucharist 1st Tuesdays)—7:00 a.m. in the side chapel.

CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRIES | New Beginnings

2/23 DEADLINE—Monday, February 23 is the last day to register for New Beginnings 51 for middle school students. Visit eycdioatl.com for details and registration.

PASTORAL CARE | The Community of Hope's Circle of Care—Last Monday of the month • *parish hall*

2/23—Members gather to pray, learn, and provide each other with mutual support as they reflect on their emotional and spiritual responses to pastoral encounters. If you or a loved one would like to receive a pastoral visit or home communion by one of the trained caregivers, please contact Ann Fowler.

PARISH GROUP | Men's Breakfast Group—Tuesdays following the 7:00 a.m. service

2/24—The Men's Breakfast Group gathers for breakfast and discussion following the 7:00 a.m. Tuesday service and are typically on their way by 8:00 a.m. Contact Dave Thompson with any questions.

MUSIC | Choirs for Children & Youth—Tuesdays

If you have not done so already, please register your child for choir at epiphany.org/rsvp.

- 2/24—Beginning Choristers meet from 4:45 to 5:15 p.m.
- 2/24—Junior Choir meets from 5:15 to 6:00 p.m.

PARISH GROUPS | Trivia Group—Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. • *Wild Heaven in Avondale Estates*

2/24—All are invited to join the Epiphany Trivia Group on Tuesdays at Wild Heaven in Avondale. Trivia begins at 7:00 p.m. and ends by 9:00 p.m. Contacts: Edie Brush or Jacob Geiger.

NOTICE | Epiphany Endowment Grant Submission Period CLOSING THIS THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25

Applications for the Epiphany Endowment Grant are available online at epiphany.org/endowment-fund and in the gallery tract rack. Grants may be for capital improvements; scholarships or grants to members; or community outreach projects. Application deadline is February 25, 2026.

FORMATION | Midweek Lenten Bible Study—Wednesdays at 12:00 p.m. • *parish hall*

Join the Rev. Carmie McDonald on Wednesdays at noon during Lent—February 25, March 4, 11, 18, and 25—

for a midweek Bible study centered on prayer, reflection, and conversation. Together we will engage a five-part video series led by Bishop Wright, *We Confess*, which explores the Old Testament lectionary readings for the season. All are invited to pause in the middle of the week as we join with others on the Lenten journey.

MUSIC | Choirs for Adults & Youth—Wednesdays

- 2/25—The Epiphany Ringers rehearse from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. in the Choir Loft.
- 2/25—Our all-volunteer Epiphany Choir rehearses from 6:45 to 8:30 p.m. in the Music Suite.

FORMATION | Contemplative Book Group—Thursdays at 11:00 a.m. through March 12 • Room 201

2/26—The Contemplative Book Group are studying *A Midwinter God: Encountering the Divine in Seasons of Darkness* by Christine Valters Paintner. Join us in Room 201 at 11:00 a.m. This study will end on Thursday, March 12. Register at epiphany.org/rsvp.

CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRIES | Volunteer Check In—This Thursday at 6:00 p.m. • Zoom

2/26—All Children and youth volunteers are encouraged to attend a mid-year check in on Thursday, February 26, at 6:00 p.m. on Zoom. We will recap the program year thus far and review resources safeguarding policies that are important for all volunteers. For questions, please contact Taylor Irwin at tirwin@epiphany.org.

UPCOMING SERVICES & EVENTS

PARISH GROUPS | Epiphany Men's Fellowship Dinners—Gumbo Rescheduled • Register by 3/5

3/7—The Epiphany Men's Fellowship Dinners (EMFD) group rescheduled the Gumbo gathering for Saturday, March 7 at 6:00 p.m. No agenda—just a gathering to prepare a meal and enjoy conversation. Cost including drinks, is \$30 per person. We are asking everyone to bring a new pair of sweat pants and/or a sweat shirt for those in need at a local psychiatric hospital. Register by Friday, March 5, so we know how much food is needed. For questions or suggestions, contact Brian Wright or Joel Fowler.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES | Family Eucharist & Service Project—all activities in the parish hall

3/10—We look forward to seeing you for this family and kid focused celebration of the Eucharist. Please arrive at 5:00 p.m. for the service project, 6:00 p.m. for pizza (RSVP at epiphany.org/rsvp), and 6:15 p.m. for the start of the service.

YOUTH MINISTRIES | Youth Art Show in the Gallery this Spring

SUBMISSIONS DUE 3/15—This spring the Epiphany Art Ministry will include an exhibit featuring work from the Epiphany Youth! Youth are invited to bring up to three pieces of artwork in any medium. Funds will be split 50% to the artist and 50% to the Youth Group fund. All submissions are due by Tuesday, March 15. For questions, contact Liefy Smith or Page Love Smith.

YOUTH MINISTRIES | Youth Pilgrimage to Camp Mikell—June and July

This year, our youth pilgrimage takes a new shape as students are invited to attend Camp Mikell's Intermediate Camp (June 16–22 for rising 7th–9th graders) and Work Camp (July 12–18 for rising 10th graders through recent graduates). Money raised during youth fundraisers in the coming months will help offset registration costs, and we will travel together to and from Toccoa. Taylor will join students for check-ins and some evening meals. Visit campmikell.com to register and experience the Mikell magic this summer!

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES | Vacation Bible School—June 27, July 11, July 25

This year's VBS will take a new shape! Families with children ages 3 through 5th grade are invited to gather for three Saturdays this summer for a shared experience of storytelling, service, and Sacrament. Join us on June 27, July 11, and July 25, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Mark your calendars and stay tuned for more information about youth counselors and adult volunteer opportunities.

PARISH GROUPS & ONGOING PROGRAMS

PASTORAL CARE | The Grief Pastoral Care Group—1st Thursdays at 12:00 p.m. • Zoom

3/5—The group meets online each month for a healing and faith-based conversation around grief and loss. It is

led by parishioner and trained psychotherapist, Nancy Thompson. Please contact Nancy before attending for the first time.

PARISH GROUPS | Fireside Sit & Sip—monthly at 7:00 p.m. • *Courtyard*

3/5—The Fireside Sit and Sip at Epiphany is for women primarily in their 40s, 50s, and 60s to come together just as you are. Bring a camp chair and join us around the fire pit in the courtyard to sit, sip, and enjoy conversation with other women on the journey. Our next gathering will be on Thursday, February 5 at 7:00 p.m. Please RSVP at epiphany.org/rsvp and sign up to bring drinks or snacks. Contact Kathy Corcoran or the Rev. Carmie McDonald. **Future Dates:** 4/2 and 5/7.

PARISH GROUPS | Epiphany Book Group—2nd Mondays at 7:00 p.m. • *location varies*

3/9—The Epiphany Book meets on the second Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. For March: *Citizens of London*, by Lynne Olsen (at Epiphany). All are welcome. Contact Linda Ryder-Wolf if you have any questions. For April: *The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store* by James McBride (at Epiphany).

PARISH GROUPS | The Episcopal Church Women (ECW)—2nd Tuesdays at 9:30/11:00 a.m. • *parish hall*

3/10—The ECW meets monthly at 9:30 a.m. to make sandwiches for Emmaus House. The meeting and program begin at 11:00 a.m. in the parish hall. Afterwards, we will adjourn to Melton's App & Tap for lunch. All women of Epiphany are invited to attend.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT | Gateway Center Meal Ministry—meals served 2nd Fridays of the month

3/11-13—Volunteers cook in the Epiphany kitchen and then serve the meal at Gateway Shelter once a month. To help prepare, cook, or serve the meal, visit epiphany.org/rsvp.

PARISH GROUPS | Epiphany Earth & Soul—3rd Tuesdays at 5:00 p.m. • *Hybrid*

3/17—This group focuses on practicing Celtic Spirituality, where we gather to discuss and experience the beauty of nature and celebrate the divine in all creatures, including ourselves. Led by the steering group of Carol Bartlett, Nan Ross, and April Maa. Contact April for more information, to be placed on the email list, or to receive a link to the virtual meeting. In-person meetings are in Room 201. To learn more about Celtic Spirituality in general, one resource is www.earthandsoul.org.

PASTORAL CARE | Caregiver Support Group—3rd Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m. • *Zoom*

3/17—The Caregiver Support Group meets monthly over Zoom. Parish members who are caring for a loved one gather to talk about their experience and support one another. The group is co-facilitated by parishioner Nancy Thompson, a Georgia-licensed psychologist. Contact Nancy if you are interested in joining this group.

PARISH GROUPS | The Munch Bunch—3rd Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m. • *Thinking Man Tavern*

3/18—Give yourself a mid-week-treat and join friends and friends-to-be for lunch at 1:00 p.m. at the Thinking Man Tavern on Howard Avenue in Decatur. No agenda. No reservation needed. Just fun. Contact: Laura Keys.

PARISH GROUPS | Social Justice Action Group—virtual group

This social advocacy group promotes social and cultural change. The group identifies community events in which we can participate, and provides a curated list of local community happenings via Realm Groups. If you'd like to be part of this group, join via Realm Groups to view current opportunities of social justice action in our area.

LENTEN PRACTICES - February 22 through March 22

GIVING | United thank Offering (UTO)—make a practice of thank offerings during Lent

In 1889, two Episcopal women envisioned a way to collect small thank offerings in homes as a personal expression of gratitude. Today, UTO contributions from Episcopalians around the world support more than 5,300 Episcopal missions and ministries. UTO boxes/envelopes are in the Gallery. Make checks out to The Episcopal Church Women, noting UTO in the memo. Ingathering will be Sunday, April 12, but checks can be made out to the ECW anytime between now and April 12.

DEVOTIONALS | From Living Compass—free in the gallery, limited supply

If you are looking for a Lenten devotional to read as a spiritual practice during Lent, pick up one of the Living Compass booklets in the gallery: *Living Well Through Lent 2026: Cultivating Healing and Wholeness in Heart, Soul,*

Strength, and Mind. Prefer a digital practice? A free PDF version is also available at livingcompass.org. You can also sign up to receive a daily email of each reflection for free.

MEDITATIONS | From Episcopal Relief & Development (ERD)—free online

This year, Episcopal Relief & Development is offering Lenten Meditations with spiritual reflections from author and TikTok influencer Sister Monica Clare, on the holy habits that bring us closer to God. Visit episcopalrelief.org/church-in-action/lent/ to sign up for daily meditation emails, read them online, or download their booklet.

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS — 40 words or less — are due by NOON on Wednesdays. Longer versions may run in the *Friday eNews*. Email submissions to parishadmin@epiphany.org.

LITURGICAL & EVENT CALENDAR THROUGH SPRING

Season of Lent

February 22—First Sunday in Lent • 10:00 a.m.

February 22—Prayers in the Wilderness: A Service of Prayer & Lament • 6:00 p.m.

— EACH WEEK DURING LENT —

Sunday Holy Eucharist • 10:00 a.m.

Weekday Morning Prayer • 9:00 a.m. (Zoom only, request link from office)

Tuesday Morning Prayer (Eucharist 1st Tuesdays) • 7:00 a.m.

Wednesday Lenten Bible Study • 12:00 p.m.

Holy Week

March 29—Palm Sunday • 10:00 a.m.

March 30—Contemplative Anointing Service • 6:00 p.m.

April 2—Agápe Supper (RSVP) • 6:00 p.m.

April 2—Maundy Thursday Liturgy • 7:00 p.m.

April 3—Stations of the Cross • 11:30 a.m.

April 3—Good Friday Liturgy • 12:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday – April 5

The Great Vigil of Easter • 6:00 a.m. (incense)

Easter Day Services • 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Easter Breakfast • 10:00 - 10:45 a.m.

Easter Egg Hunt • 10:15 a.m.