

The **EPISCOPAL CHURCH** of the

EPIPHANY

THE CELEBRATION OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST

The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost—Proper 18C Season of Creation

September 7, 2025 № 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 <u>altar rail</u> 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 <u>floor station</u>, 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 livestreamed 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

Assisting Priests: The Rev. Barbara Ryder, The Rev. Bobbi Patterson **Wardens:** Sally Walker, *Senior Warden*; Matthew May, *Junior Warden*



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SEASON OF CREATION



The Season of Creation, September 1 through October 4, is celebrated by Christians around the world as a time for renewing, repairing, and restoring our relationship to God, one another, and all of creation. The Episcopal Church joins this international effort for prayer and action for climate justice and an end to environmental racism and ecological destruction.

The 2025 theme is *Peace with Creation*. In celebrating the Season, we are invited to consider anew our ecological, economic, and political ways of living.

A Reading from

Our Relationship with Creation

by Br. Keith Nelson, SSJE

When we violate, abuse, exploit, or even simply ignore non-human creatures, we are rejecting a core dimension of our humanity and of God's calling for us. We are crucifying the earth. We are interrupting, speaking over, or bickering with God's gentle language of love, in which each creature is like a syllable of the living Word. Each creature is an instance of Divine Gift, God's gift to Godself, the love language of the Trinity. We believe God became a Creature in Jesus Christ and redeemed Creation from the inside out so that we creatures can participate directly in this infinite pattern of God's giving-and-receiving.

Br. Keith Nelson was raised Baptist, studied at Kenyon College and Harvard Divinity School, and practiced Buddhist meditation before life professing as an Episcopal monastic with the Society of St. John the Evangelist in 2019.

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

Voluntary—Sicilienne

Maria Theresia von Paradis

Alvin Blount, guest organist

Processional Hymn 390—Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation

Lobe den Herren

Celebrant This is the day the Creator has made.

People Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

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 455-O love of God how strong and true

Dunedin

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant God be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Together, let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Grant us, O God, the courage to choose Jesus' way even at great cost, bearing our cross and releasing our possessions, for the liberation and healing of your world; through Jesus Christ the Wisdom of Creation, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.

The First Lesson Jeremiah 18:1-11

The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD: "Come, go down to the potter's house, and there I will let you hear my words." So I went down to the potter's house, and there he was working at his wheel. The vessel he was making of clay was spoiled in the potter's hand, and he reworked it into another vessel, as seemed good to him.

Then the word of the LORD came to me: Can I not do with you, O house of Israel, just as this potter has done? says the LORD. Just like the clay in the potter's hand, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel. At one moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom, that I will pluck up and break down and destroy it, but if that nation, concerning which I have spoken, turns from its evil, I will change my mind about the disaster that I intended to bring on it. And at another moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom that I will build and plant it, but if it does evil in my sight, not listening to my voice, then I will change my mind about the good that I had intended to do to it. Now, therefore, say to the people of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem: Thus says the LORD: Look, I am a potter shaping evil against you and devising a plan against you. Turn now, all of you from your evil way, and amend your ways and your doings.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God

Psalm 139:1-5, 12-17-Sung by all

Robert K. Kennedy

Domine, probasti



- 1 LORD, you have searched me out and / known me; * you know my sitting down and my rising up; you discern my thoughts from a-/far.
- You trace my journeys and my / resting-places * and are acquainted with all my / ways.



- Indeed there is not a word on my / lips, * but you O LORD know it alto-/gether.
- 4 You press upon me behind and be-/fore * and lay your hand u-/pon me.
- † 5 Such knowledge is too wonderful for / me; * it is so high that I cannot at / tain to it.
 - 12 For you yourself created my inmost / parts; * you knit me together in my mother's / womb.
 - 13 I will thank you because I am marvelously / made; * your works are wonderful, and I know it / well.
 - 14 My body was not hidden from / you, * while I was being made in secret, and woven in the depths of the / earth.
 - 15 Your eyes beheld my limbs yet unfinished in the womb; all of them were written in your / book; * they were fashioned day by day, when as yet there was / none of them.
 - 16 How deep I find your thoughts O / God! * how great is the / sum of them!
 - 17 If I were to count them, they would be more in number than the / sand; * to count them all, my life span would need to be like / yours.

The Second Lesson Philemon 1-21

Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To Philemon our dear friend and co-worker, to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church in your house: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

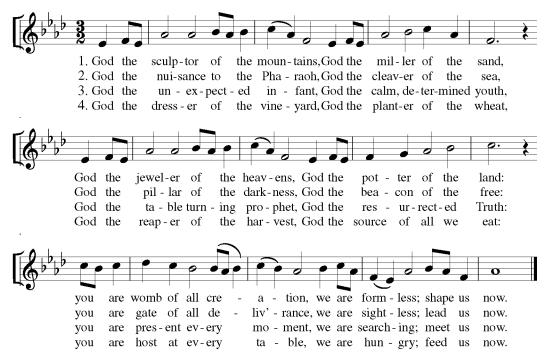
When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother.

For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty, yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to me. I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel; but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back forever, no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

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 Gosbel and Children's Chapel



The Gospel Luke 14:25-33

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Now large crowds were traveling with Jesus; and he turned and said to them, "Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.' Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions."

Gospeller The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev. Carmie McDonald

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.

Prayers of the People: A Litany for the Earth, Form A

Let us offer our prayers to God who gives life and breath to all creatures, saying, "God of glory, hear us."

We pray for the mission of the church throughout the world, for sharing the promise of abundant life and working toward it for all.

God of glory, hear us.

We pray for the leaders of the nations, and for all who make or influence decisions for the health of our planet and the well-being of its peoples.

God of glory, hear us.

We pray for peace with justice around the world, especially for an end to violent competition for limited resources.

God of glory, hear us.

We pray for those who suffer illness, want, or exile because of environmental degradation.

God of glory, hear us.

We pray for the environmental concerns that you may lift up now, either silently or aloud.

Silence, during which the people may offer their concerns.

We turn to you in our distress and fear,

God of glory, hear us.

We pray for those who in their daily work are stewards and protectors of God's creation in ways large and small; for gardeners, farmers, and ranchers; for rangers and park managers; for fishers and foresters; for climate scientists, ecologists, and activists, and for all who work to restore and heal our wounded Earth.

God of glory, hear us.

We pray for the needs and concerns of this congregation.

We pray for those who have died.

For those who taught us to marvel in all God's works.

God of glory, hear us.

Celebrant's concluding collect

Creator God, you call us into being. Inspire us with your extravagant generosity, and sustain us with hope in resurrection life. All this we ask in the name of Jesus Christ, the Good Shepherd. **Amen.**

Confession of Sin-Celebrant

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence

Celebrant and People

God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

Celebrant

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 Peace with yourself. Peace with Creation. Peace with one another.

The peace of Christ be always with you.

People And also with you.

Welcome

Epiphany Choir

Kentucky Harmony, Arr. Susan Matsui

The Lord into his garden comes, the spices yield a rich perfume, the lilies grow and thrive. Refreshing showers of grace divine from Jesus flow to every vine, and make the dead revive. Come, children, you who love the Lord, who taste the sweetness of his word, In Jesus' word now live! Unfurling to the Light divine, let your leaves and blossoms intertwine, bearing fruit in Christian love.

Presentation Hymn 380–From all that dwell below the skies

Old 100th

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer 2

Enriching our Worship

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.

Celebrant

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing.

You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love.

And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:

Celebrant and People

Holy, holy, holy Lord S128

William Mathias



Then the Celebrant continues

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, 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."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice. Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made. In the fullness of time bring us, with all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. AMEN.

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

The Lord's Prayer—A Celtic Version

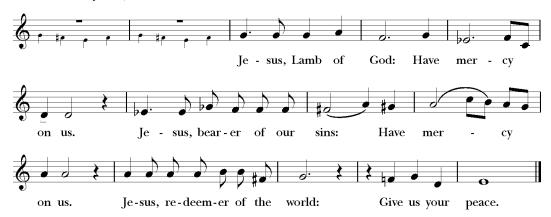
Holy One beyond all names, Eternal Wellspring: may love rise again in us today, with food for every table, shelter for every family, and reverence for every life. Forgive us our failings in love and free us from all falseness, that the light of our souls may shine, and the strength of our spirits endure. For Earth and all its people this day, tonight, and forever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

Fraction Anthem S165—Jesus, Lamb of God

William Mathias



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 <u>altar rail</u> 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 <u>floor station</u>, 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 395—Creating God, your fingers trace *Sung by all*

King

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.

Through the gifts we have received, create in us a new heart and a new vision, O God, that your Spirit may work in us and renew the face of the earth. May we be one with you so that our work is yours and your work is ours. Lead us to transform our lives to reflect your glory in Creation; through Jesus Christ our Savior who is alive with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and for ever. Amen.

Blessing—Celebrant

Go out into the world rejoicing, and encounter the Creator who waits to meet you there; rejoice in its richness and diversity and live as those who praise God for its bounty; and the blessing of the Creator God, the Risen Son and the Promised Holy Spirit bless you that you might be a blessing to all creation now and always. **Amen.**

Hymn 347–Go forth for God, go to the world in peace

Litton

The Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth into all creation, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People Thanks be to God.

Voluntary—Lobe den Herren

Johann Gottfried Walther

THE ARRANGEMENTS AT THE ALTAR ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD in loving memory of Terry-Lee Ross, by George Ross.

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.

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: Mike Curry • Cliff Edge • Carol Bartlett • Wes, Kelly & Lillian Wright • Laraine Fraijo-Paul • Evelyn Stewart • Jarrod Moody • Chris Miller • Ellen Mintzmyer • Philip Anderson • Bruce & Ann Fort • Louise Bedrossian (wife of Bob Thompson) • Barbara Belcore • Esther Harbert • Veta Smith (mother of Cecilia Democko) • Anne Warner • Sally Brockington

For friends and family: Shelly Williams, cousin of Lisa Carlson • Isabel Mintzmyer, great-niece of Ellen Mintzmyer • Dawn-Marie, friend of Tracy Laird • Ray Piper, husband of Charlotte Piper • 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 • Mike Curry • Pat & Bill Graves • Esther Harbert • Robin Hairston • John Keys • Rod MacLeod • Sally McClintock • Chris Miller & Ron Hutcheson • Tom Mundy • Ann Rowles • Pat Spivey • Beth Towers • Michael Towers, Jr. • Wayne & Judy Urban • Larry Wilcox • Colleen

For those celebrating anniversaries the week of 9/7-13: Sally Brockington & Ed Van Ness • Kathy & John Corcoran

For those celebrating birthdays the week of 9/7-13: Beth Towers • Catherine McBath • Polly Nodine • Caroline Walden • Kim Winslow • Kristin Mann • Jarrod Moody • Sabra Hanson • Chris Braden

For the birth of a child: Maeve Belcore Ulman, granddaughter of Barbara Belcore, who was born on August 23.

For our Haitian siblings and the Episcopal Diocese of Haiti.

For racial justice: We pray for our siblings who have come to this country seeking refuge from violence, from poverty, from injustice. Lead them to sanctuary, and strengthen them for the challenges of the path ahead.

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 3^{rd} 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.

CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRIES | Formation Begins

Our 2025 - 2026 Formation year for children and youth begins TODAY. For more information and to register your child for formation, visit epiphany.org/rsvp.

CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRIES | Acolyte Training

Training for acolytes and those 4th grade and above interested in becoming acolytes will take place TODAY from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. We will play games, review acolyte roles and responsibilities, and get to know our new Acolyte coordinators, Cecilia & Tom Democko!

ENDOWMENT | Making the Most of your Third Act—aging with intention and preparation

Join us for a panel discussion after services at 11:30 a.m. TODAY in the parish hall. Panelists will be sharing valuable information on aging, home health care, and final affairs such as funeral planning, advance directives, planned giving and organ donation. Come join us as we learn, share, and celebrate the possibilities of our "third act." Let's make aging not something to avoid, but something to live—fully, intentionally, and together. The Endowment Board will provide refreshments.

YOUTH MINISTRIES | Youth Group Cookout

Middle and high school students are invited to join us for the youth group kickoff event—a Youth Group Cookout THIS EVENING! We'll have plenty of food, and weather permitting, there will be outdoor games. Come kick off the new (program) year with us at 5:00 p.m.—and bring a friend! Register at epiphany.org/rsvp.

PARISH GROUPS | Young Adults—6:30 in the Parish Hall

Young Adults will gather for Potluck and Planning to set our schedule for the upcoming year THIS EVENING in the parish hall. Pizza will be provided; please bring a side or dessert if you are able to. This group is open to all at Epiphany who are in their 20s and 30s and meets approximately once a month. If you need information or want to be added to the group's email and text list, please contact Edie Brush, Jordan Moody, or Nick Theyerl.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT | Art Ministry

Epiphany's Art Ministry welcomes fiber art by Roxanne Brown. Her work focuses on "thread painting" with a sewing machine, a method where the sewing machine needle moves freely in any direction, similar to drawing. Roxanne is visiting with us today. Please greet her in the gallery. Learn more about the artist and the art ministry at epiphany.org/epiphany-gallery.

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.
- Wednesday Healing Service & Eucharist in the side chapel at 12:15 p.m. on 1st & 3rd Wednesdays.

PARISH GROUPS | Epiphany Book Group—Returns in September

9/8—The Epiphany Book Group will resume meeting on the second Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. in September at Epiphany. Our book selection is two books: *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, by Mark Twain, and *James*, by Everett Percival. Contact: Linda Ryder-Wolf.

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

9/9—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 John Yntema with any questions.

PARISH GROUPS | The Episcopal Church Women (ECW)—2nd Tuesdays at 9:30/11:30 a.m. • parish hall 9/9—The ECW meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 9:30 a.m. to make sandwiches for Emmaus House. The meeting and program begins 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.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES | Tuesday Night Family Eucharist Returns

9/9—Our Family Eucharist Service is back, starting September 9! Our September service project will be in support of the Decatur Emergency Assistance Ministry (DEAM). 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, and 6:15 p.m. for the start of the service.

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

9/9—All are invited to join the Epiphany Trivia Group. Trivia begins at 7:00 p.m. and ends by 9:00 p.m. Questions? Contact Edie Brush or Jacob Geiger.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT | Gateway Center Meal Ministry—meals served 2nd Fridays of the month 9/10-12—Volunteers cook in the Epiphany kitchen and then serve the meal at Gateway Shelter on 2nd Fridays. To help prepare, cook, or serve the meal, visit epiphany.org/rsvp.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT | Harvey Fund Grant Application Cycle—September 10 - October 10 9/10-10/10—The Catherine D. Harvey Legacy Fund grant application cycle opens on September 10. Applications must be received by Monday, October 10. If you are aware of an organization that might qualify, please share the application found at https://www.epiphany.org/communityengagement. Questions? Email the Harvey Fund Advisory Board at harveyfundadvisory@epiphany.org.

FORMATION | Contemplative Book Group—a five-week study (began on 8/14)

9/11—We are reading Carl McColman's new book *Read the Bible Like a Mystic*. More and more Christians are troubled by how difficult passages in the Bible can be used to harm, and how sterile, flat readings of scripture offer little more. Register at epiphany.org/rsvp and attend the sessions as you're able—don't worry if you already know you're going to miss one or more. The group meets Thursday at 11:00 a.m. in Room 201.

PASTORAL CARE | Caregiver Support Group—2nd Fridays at 11:45 a.m. • Zoom

9/12—The Caregiver Support Group meets on the 2nd Friday of the month at 11:45 a.m. on 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, and by parishioner Anne Bucey, a trained spiritual advisor. If you are interested in joining this group, please contact Nancy Thompson.

GIVING | Provide Donuts for the Youth Formation Hour!

Help sweeten up Sunday mornings for our youth by providing donuts for their Formation Hour (11:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.). We ask that you buy 1 dozen donuts and drop them off in 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.

UPCOMING SERVICES & EVENTS

FORMATION | Adults—join us at 11:30 a.m. • parish hall

- 9/14—Staying Centered through Spiritual Practice: Spiritual practices are deliberate actions, repeated over time—often in community—that engage our senses, draw us into awareness of God's presence, and open our hearts to God's vision for creation. Throughout the year, we'll explore different practices that help us stay centered in difficult times. During the Season of Creation, we'll focus on the Examen, a practice that helps us recognize God's presence and activity in the world around us. The class will be led by Rev. Amy Dills-Wright and Rev. Carmie McDonald.
- 9/21—Without Borders: Compassionate Medical Care in a Changing World: Epiphany member Keri Geiger sees her work with the global medical humanitarian organization Doctors Without Borders as a way of living out our baptismal covenant to seek and serve Christ in all people. Keri will present on the organization's global work and how the changing humanitarian landscape and geopolitical climate make this mission more vital than ever.

PARISH LIFE | Chez Epiphany Cooking Class—Topic: Pizza Fritta • kitchen & parish hall 9/25—This time the Chez Epiphany Cooking Class will be making Pizza Fritta! Join us on Thursday, September 25 from 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. in the church kitchen and Parish Hall with Joel Fowler. We'll make and roll out the dough, prepare toppings and fillings and then, of course, cook and eat what we've made. No previous experience is needed. Cost is \$30 per person, which includes the class and the dinner we have together from what we cook. RSVP at epiphany.org/rsvp.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT | Interfaith River Clean-Up for World Rivers Day

9/28—Adults and children of all ages are invited to join the Epiphany Community and our interfaith partners for a river cleanup on Sunday, September 28 from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. at the Clyde Shepherd Nature Preserve. In addition to serving alongside our Ismaili Muslim neighbors, this year we are excited to partner with our Jewish neighbors from ADAMAH Atlanta. This is a unique opportunity for neighbors of all faiths to come together and live out our shared commitment to environmental stewardship and the protection of our common home. Clean water is a right for all living beings—and together, we can help protect it. Register at epiphany.org/rsvp.

MUSIC | Choirs for Children & Youth—registration is now open

9/30—Choirs for Children & Youth return on Tuesday, September 30! Learn more about the choirs and register your children and youth at epiphany.org/rsvp. Contact: Julie Ryder / music@epiphany.org.

PARISH GROUPS | Fireside Sit & Sip—7:00 p.m. • courtyard

9/11—The Fireside Sit and Sip group 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. Our next gathering will be on Thursday, September 11 at 7:00 p.m. Please RSVP at epiphany.org/rsvp

and sign up to bring drinks or snacks. Questions? Use Realm to contact Kathy Corcoran or the Rev. Carmie McDonald. Upcoming Dates: 10/2, 11/6, and 12/4.

UPCOMING MEETINGS & ONGOING PROGRAMS

FORMATION | Contemplative Practice—2nd Sundays in the Choir Loft at 4:00 p.m.

9/14—Come gather with us on 2nd Sundays at 4:00 p.m. for a time of reflection, meditation instruction, and gathering with others seeking a more grounded way of being in the world. Led by Bobbi Patterson, Elizabeth Ura and Amy Dills-Wright. Contact the Rev. Amy Dills-Wright if you have any questions.

PARISH GROUPS | The Munch Bunch—3rd Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m. • Thinking Man Tavern 9/17—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. Log into Realm to contact Laura Keys if you have any questions.

PASTORAL CARE | The Community of Hope's Circle of Care—Last Monday of the month • parish hall 9/29—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.

PASTORAL CARE | The Grief Pastoral Care Group—1st Thursdays at 12:00 p.m. • Zoom 10/2—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 log into Realm to contact Nancy before attending for the first time.

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

LITURGICAL & EVENT CALENDAR FOR FALL

SEPTEMBER

- 9/7 Season of Creation Begins
- 9/7 Children & Youth Formation Begins 11:30 a.m.
- 9/7 Acolyte Training 11:30 a.m.
- 9/7 Making the Most of Your Third Act 11:30 a.m.
- 9/7 Youth Back to School Cookout 5:00 p.m.
- 9/7 Young Adult Potluck 6:30 p.m.
- 9/9 Tuesday Family Dinner & Eucharist 6:15 p.m. | dinner rsvp
- 9/14 Adult Formation Begins 11:30 a.m.
- 9/19-21 Parish Retreat at The Mountain | rsvp
- 9/25 Chez Epiphany 11:30 a.m. | rsvp
- 9/28 Ministry Fair 11:30 a.m.
- 9/28 Interfaith River Cleanup 2:00 p.m.
- 9/30 Children's & Youth Choirs Rehearsals Begin

OCTOBER

- 10/1 Epiphany Ringers Rehearsals Begin
- 10/4 Oktoberfest 5:00 p.m.
- 10/5 − St. Francis Animal Blessing 10:00 a.m. service
- 10/5 Pet Burial Service 12:30 p.m. in the Pet Memorial Garden
- 10/7 Tuesday Family Dinner & Eucharist 6:15 p.m. | dinner rsvp
- 10/19 The Bach/Biber Project 4:00 p.m.

NOVEMBER

- 11/1 Parish Work Day 9:30 a.m.
- 11/2 All Saints' Holy Baptism 10:00 a.m. service
- 11/2 All Souls' Evensong with Eucharist 5:00 p.m. | incense will be used
- 11/2 All Souls' Reception 6:00 p.m.
- 11/9 Veterans' Recognition 10:00 a.m. service
- 11/11 Tuesday Family Dinner & Eucharist 6:15 p.m. | dinner rsvp

Updated on 9/4/2025