The Episcopal Church of the Epiphany

The Celebration of the Holy Eucharist

The Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
Proper 27A

November 8, 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 Rector*

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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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.

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

Voluntary—Be thou my vision Paul Manz
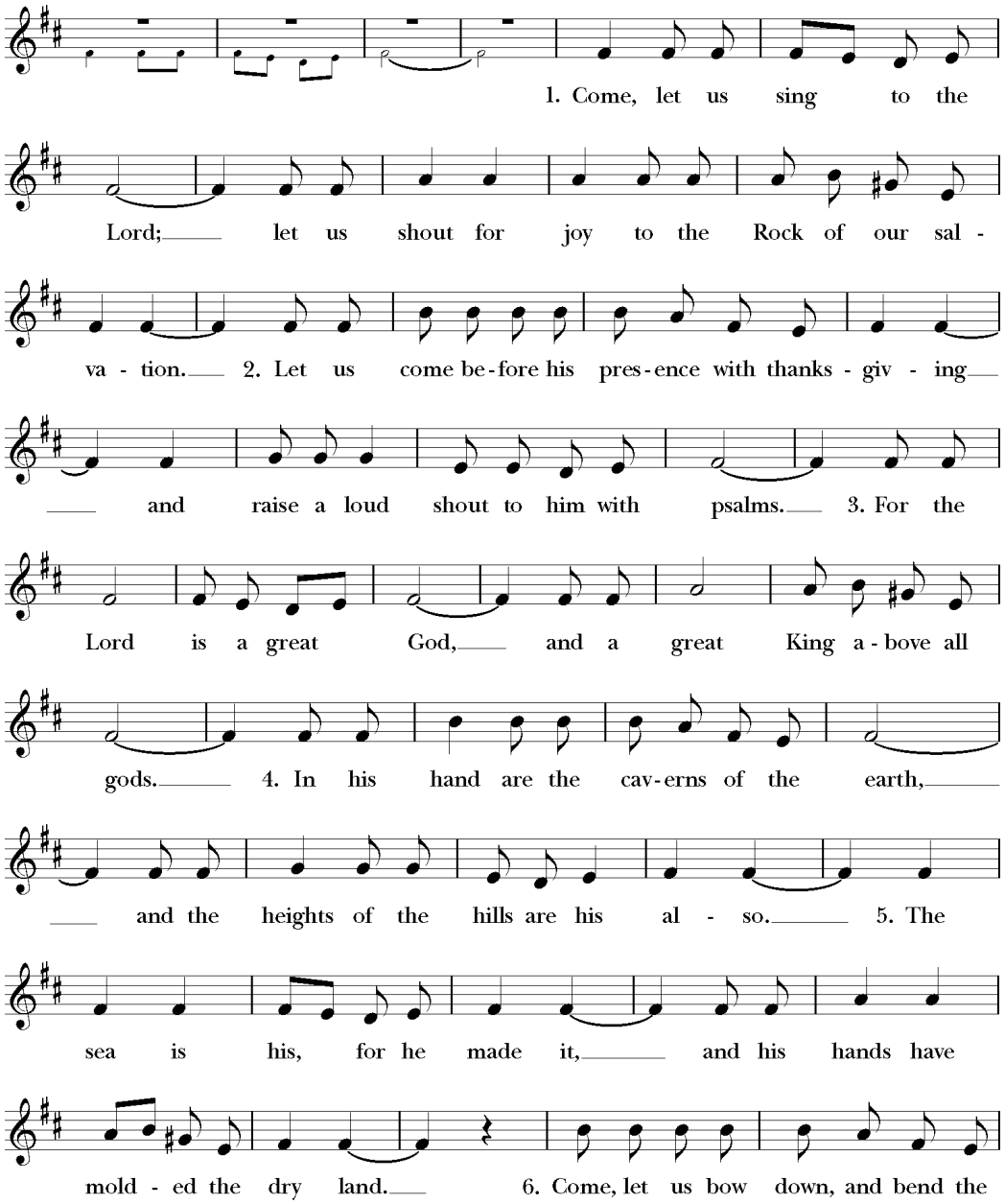
Processional Hymn 665—All my hope on God is founded *Michael*

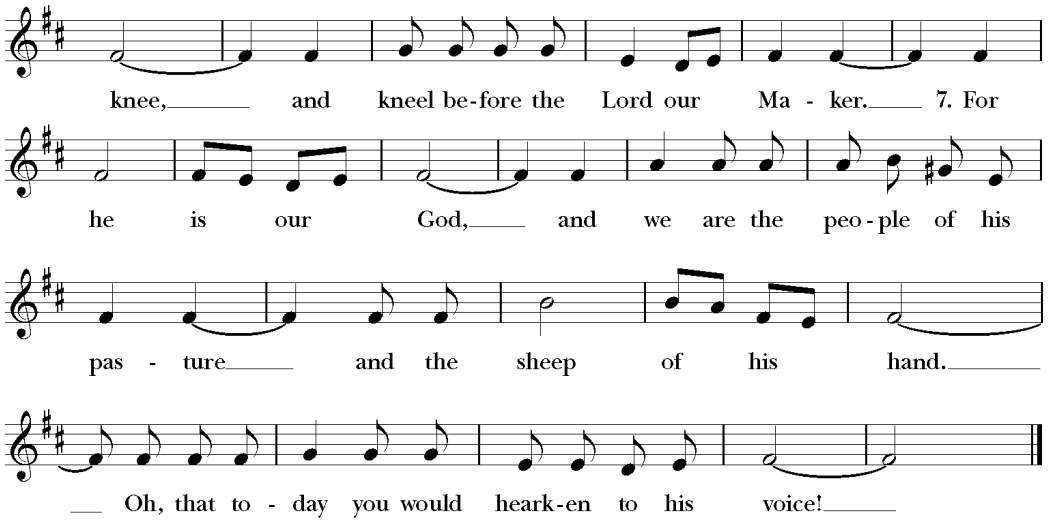
Celebrant Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.
People **Glory to God for ever and ever. Amen.**

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 S 35—Venite Jack Noble White





The Collect of the Day

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

Celebrant and People

O God, whose blessed Son came into the world that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves as he is pure; that, when he comes again with power and great glory, we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

The First Lesson Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. And Joshua said to all the people, "Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors—Terah and his sons Abraham and Nahor—lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods. Then I took your father Abraham from beyond the River and led him through all the land of Canaan and made his offspring many.

"Now therefore revere the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. Now if you are unwilling to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD."
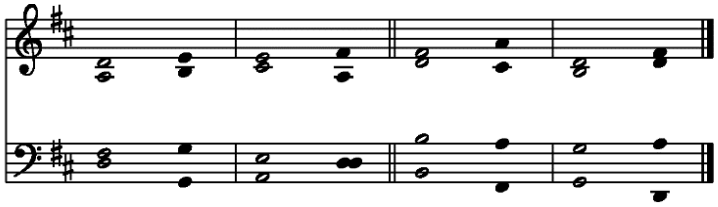
Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods; for it is the LORD our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; and the LORD drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the LORD, for he is our God."

But Joshua said to the people, "You cannot serve the LORD, for he is a holy God. He is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions or your sins. If you forsake the LORD and serve foreign gods, then he will turn and do you harm, and consume you, after having done you good." And the people said to Joshua, "No, we will serve the LORD!" Then Joshua said to the people, "You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the LORD, to serve him." And they said, "We are witnesses." He said, "Then put away the foreign gods that are among you, and incline your hearts to the LORD, the God of Israel." The people said to Joshua, "The LORD our God we will serve, and him we will obey." So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and made statutes and ordinances for them at Shechem.

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

Psalm 78:1-7—*Sung by all* Jerome Webster Meachen

Attendite, popule



1 Hear my teaching, O my / **people;** *
incline your ears to the words of my / **mouth.**

2 I will open my mouth in a / **parable;** *
I will declare the mysteries of ancient / **times.**

3 That which we have heard and known, and what our forefathers have / **told us,** *
we will not hide from their / **children.**

4 We will recount to generations to come the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the / **LORD,** *
and the wonderful works he has / **done.**

5 He gave his decrees to Jacob and established a law for / **Israel,** *
which he commanded them to teach their / **children;**

6 That the generations to come might know, and the children yet un-/**born;** *
that they in their turn might tell it to their / **children;**

† 7 So that they might put their trust in / **God,** *
and not forget the deeds of God, but keep his com-/**mandments.**

The Second Lesson 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

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 524—I love thy kingdom Lord *St. Thomas*

The Gospel Matthew 25:1-13

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

Jesus said, "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

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

The Sermon The Rev. Amy Dills-Wright

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, Form V

In peace, let us pray to the Lord, saying, Lord, have mercy.

For the holy Church of God, that it may be filled with truth and love, and be found without fault at the day of your coming, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For Sean our Presiding Bishop, for Rob our own Bishop, for all bishops and other ministers, and for all the holy people of God, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For all who fear God and believe in you, Lord Christ, that our divisions may cease, and that all may be one as you and the Father are one, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness it may preach the Gospel to the ends of the earth, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the world, that a spirit of respect and forbearance may grow among nations and peoples, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For those in positions of public trust especially Donald, our President; Brian, our Governor; and Andre, our Mayor; that they may serve justice, and promote the dignity and freedom of every person, and for wise discernment in upcoming elections, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer; for refugees, prisoners, and all who are in danger; that they may be relieved and protected, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For this congregation, that we may be delivered from hardness of heart, and show forth your glory in all that we do, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For all who have commended themselves to our prayers;
for our families, friends, and neighbors; that being freed from anxiety, they may live in joy, peace, and health, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For all who have died in the communion of your Church, and those whose faith is known to you alone, that, with all the saints, they may have rest in that place where there is no pain or grief, but life eternal, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life to Christ our God.
To you, O Lord our God.

Silence

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect, or the following Doxology

For yours is the majesty, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, now and for ever. **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— Steal away — Westley Art Hodges
Epiphany Choir • Brent Henderson, soloist

Steal away, steal away, steal away to Jesus. Steal away, steal away home, I ain't got long to stay here. My Lord, he calls me, he calls me by the thunder; the trumpet sounds within-a my soul; I ain't got long to stay here. Green trees a-bending, poor sinner stands a-trembling the trumpet sounds within-a my soul; I ain't got long to stay here.

Presentation Hymn 288—Praise to God immortal praise — *Dix*

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer B, Expansive Language

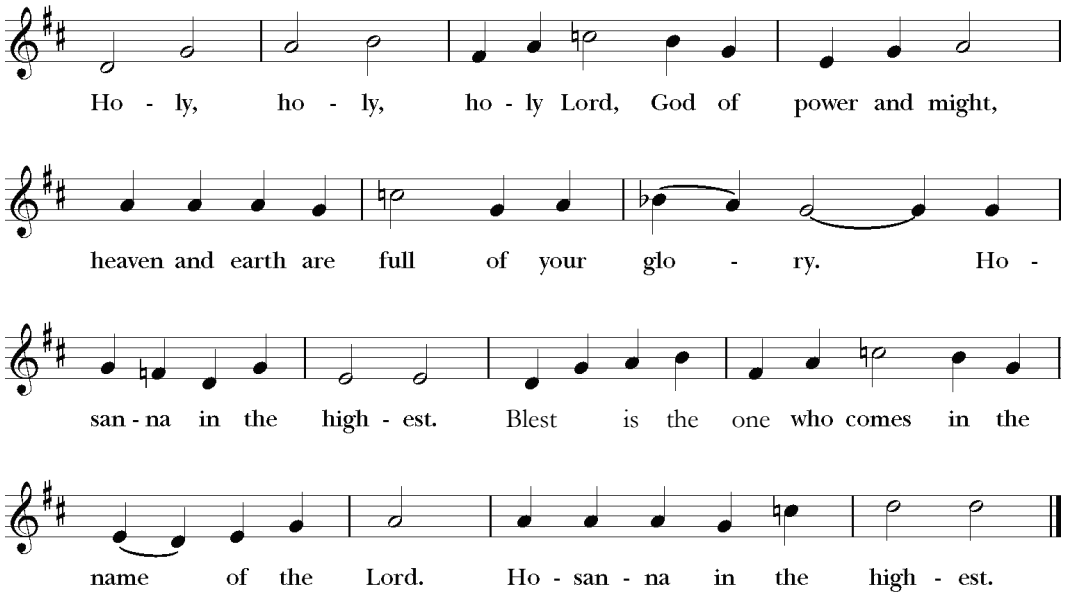
Celebrant God be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to the Lord.**
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Celebrant

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth. For you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord. 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 S 131—Holy, holy, holy Lord Gerald R. Near



The people stand or kneel

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. For in these last days you sent Jesus to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In Christ, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In Christ, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

We remember Christ's death,
We proclaim Christ's resurrection,
We await Christ's coming in glory;

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Savior of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, through whom we are acceptable to you, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your children; through Jesus Christ our Savior, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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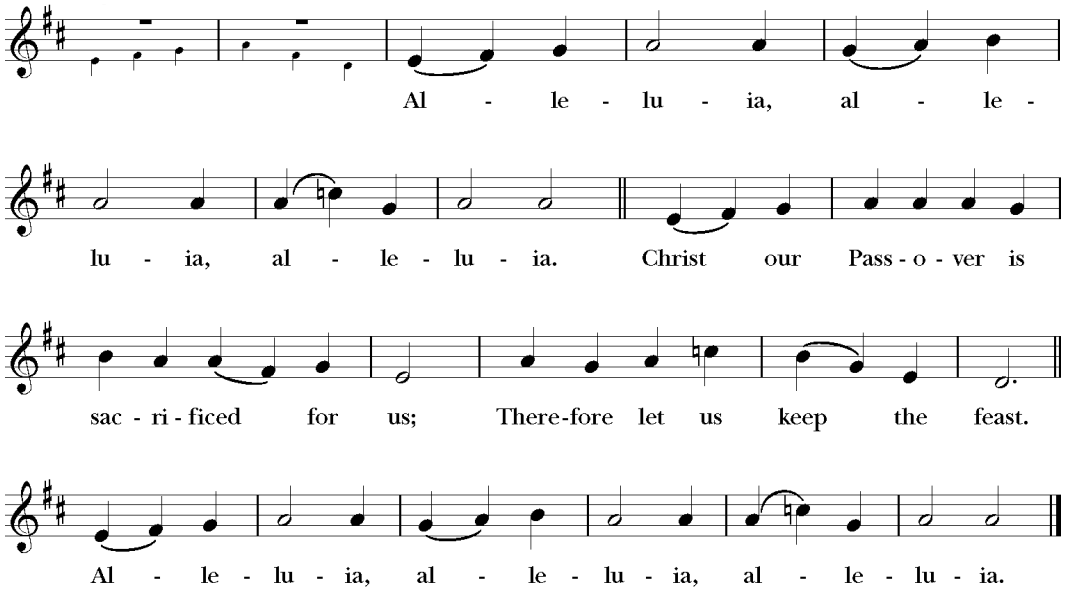
And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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: Jesus, Lamb of God S 155 Gerald R. Near



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 620—Jerusalem, my happy home *Land of Rest*

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 and People*

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.

Blessing—*Celebrant*

Hymn 655—O Jesus, I have promised *Nyland*

The Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Voluntary—Now let us to God, the Lord, give thanks Johann Pachelbel

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: Johanna Hinman • Pam Tipton • Chris Prikkel • Lucy Davidson • Daniel Hyland (spouse of Paul Hinson) • Dick Gonter (spouse of Ann Williamson) • Paul Hinson • Judy Cox • Michele MacLeod • Alix Janke • Joy Boyden • Lisa Gray • Larry Wilcox • Mike Curry • Chris Miller & Ron Hutcheson • Philip Anderson • Louise Bedrossian (spouse of Bob Thompson) • Barbara Belcore • Esther Harbert • Sally Brockington

For friends and family: Melissa Keating, friend of Linda Ryder Wolf • Jean McGraw, mother of Chris McGraw • Maddie Ferrell Mixon, granddaughter of Sheila & Richard Ferrell • Bill Conkell, friend of Richard & Susan Messner • Fran Block, mother of Erin Braden • Juan, friend of Christen & Kurt Erskine • The Rev. Walter Jones, father of Carmie McDonald • 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: Joyce Hitchcock, sister-in-law of Ruth Olson • Kay Harris, mother of Rebecca Webb • Frances Ellison-Dansby, friend of Cliff Edge

For those celebrating birthdays the week of 11/8-14: Mark McDonald • Collier Chaffins • Jeff McGrath • Ellen Mintzmyer • Nancy Chandler • Amaranthe Parker • Mary Beth Nelson • Eliza Neel

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.

THE ARRANGEMENTS AT THE ALTAR AND THE SANCTUARY LIGHT ARE 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

11/15	Veterans' Recognition • 10:00 a.m. service
11/15	Newcomers' Gathering • 12:30 p.m. | light lunch rsvp
11/15	Emmaus House Thanksgiving at Home bags due
11/17	Family Dinner & Eucharist • 6:00/6:15 p.m. | dinner rsvp
11/29	Advent 1
11/29	Advent Wreath Workshop • 11:30 p.m. | rsvp

DECEMBER

12/5	Advent Cookie Baking Event • 10:00 a.m.
12/6	Nativities Collection goes on display
	Advent 2 • 10:00 a.m.
	St. Nicholas Event • 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 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.