

CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY



EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
September 26, 2021—10:30 am

CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY

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A Note To Our Guests:

Welcome to Epiphany, we are glad to have you join us this morning as we celebrate Holy Eucharist! You are also invited to sign a pew card.

Guests sometimes worry about what to do next...where to turn in the book and whether to stand, sit or kneel. From time to time you will receive page number guidance from the clergy, and you may watch to see what others do. The “BCP” page numbers refer to the Book of Common Prayer, the black book. The “S” numbers refer to the Service Music in the front of the blue Hymnal 1982. But we invite you into worship and just to enjoy the service. All baptized Christians are welcome to receive communion at the Lord’s Table. If you prefer not to receive, but wish to come forward for a blessing, please do so, crossing your arms against your chest.

We are blessed to have you with us! So, sing the hymns, join in, and celebrate the joy of our Lord’s life, death, and resurrection!

Again, welcome ...We wish you God’s peace and joy!

Faithfully,
The People of Church of the Epiphany

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Holy Eucharist (Rite I)—Sunday 8:00 a.m.
Holy Eucharist (Rite II)—Sunday 10:30 a.m.

Morning Prayer via Zoom
Tuesday and Thursday 7:00 a.m.

THE EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 26, 2021

Holy Eucharist - Rite II - 9:30 am

A time of quiet reflection or personal prayer is requested prior to the service.

PROCESSIONAL	<i>O Worship the King, All Glorious Above</i>	Hymn 388
OPENING ACCLAMATION		BCP 355
GLORIA	<i>Glory to God</i>	Hymn S-280

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

FIRST LESSON *Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22*

The king and Haman went in to feast with Queen Esther. On the second day, as they were drinking wine, the king again said to Esther, “What is your petition, Queen Esther? It shall be granted you. And what is your request? Even to the half of my kingdom, it shall be fulfilled.” Then Queen Esther answered, “If I have won your favor, O king, and if it pleases the king, let my life be given me—that is my petition—and the lives of my people—that is my request. For we have been sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be killed, and to be annihilated. If we had been sold merely as slaves, men and women, I would have held my peace; but no enemy can compensate for this damage to the king.” Then King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther, “Who is he, and where is he, who has presumed to do this?” Esther said, “A foe and enemy, this wicked Haman!” Then Haman was terrified before the king and the queen.

Then Harbona, one of the eunuchs in attendance on the king, said, “Look, the very gallows that Haman has prepared for Mordecai, whose word saved the king, stands at Haman’s house, fifty cubits high.” And the king said, “Hang him

on that.” So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then the anger of the king abated.

Mordecai recorded these things, and sent letters to all the Jews who were in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, both near and far, enjoining them that they should keep the fourteenth day of the month Adar and also the fifteenth day of the same month, year by year, as the days on which the Jews gained relief from their enemies, and as the month that had been turned for them from sorrow into gladness and from mourning into a holiday; that they should make them days of feasting and gladness, days for sending gifts of food to one another and presents to the poor.

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

THE PSALM

Psalm 19:7-14

- ⁷ The law of the LORD is perfect
and revives the soul; *
the testimony of the LORD is sure
and gives wisdom to the innocent.
- ⁸ The statutes of the LORD are just
and rejoice the heart; *
the commandment of the LORD is clear
and gives light to the eyes.
- ⁹ The fear of the LORD is clean
and endures for ever; *
the judgments of the LORD are true
and righteous altogether.
- ¹⁰ More to be desired are they than gold,
more than much fine gold, *
sweeter far than honey,
than honey in the comb.
- ¹¹ By them also is your servant enlightened, *
and in keeping them there is great reward.
- ¹² Who can tell how often he offends? *
cleanse me from my secret faults.
- ¹³ Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins;
let them not get dominion over me; *

then shall I be whole and sound,
and innocent of a great offense.

¹⁴ Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my
heart be acceptable in your sight, *
O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.

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

THE EPISTLE

James 5:13-20

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

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

GOSPEL HYMN

Before Thy Throne, O God, We Kneel

Hymn 574

THE GOSPEL

Mark 9:38-50

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

John said to Jesus, "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us." But Jesus said, "Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell

you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

“If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

“For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.”

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

SERMON	Fr. Stace Tafoya	
THE NICENE CREED		BCP 358
PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE		BCP 388
THE PEACE		
OFFERTORY MUSIC	<i>Fairest Lord Jesus</i>	Hymn 383
DOXOLOGY	Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here below; Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.	
GREAT THANKSGIVING		BCP 361
SANCTUS		Hymn S-125
GREAT AMEN		Hymn S-146

FRACTION ANTHEM

Belmont

**Alleluia,
Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us, therefore let us keep the feast;
Blood of Christ, shed for us,
take in remembrance of Him, in remembrance of Him.**

COMMUNION MUSIC

Be Thou My Vision

Hymn 488

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BCP 365

RECESSIONAL

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty

Hymn 362

—Hymn & Verse of the Month—

All Praise to Thee, for Thou, O King Divine

Hymn 477

¹ All praise to thee, for thou, O King divine,
Didst yield the glory that of right was thine,
That in our darkened hearts thy grace might shine: Alleluia!

² Thou cam'st to us in lowliness of thought;
By thee the outcast and the poor were sought;
And by thy death was God's salvation wrought: Alleluia!

³ Let this mind be in us which was in thee,
Who wast a servant that we might be free,
Humbling thyself to death on Calvary: Alleluia!

⁴ Wherefore, by God's eternal purpose, thou
Art high exalted o'er all creatures now,
And given the name to which all knees shall bow: Alleluia!

⁵ Let every tongue confess with one accord
In heaven and earth that Jesus Christ is Lord:
And God the Father be by all adored: Alleluia! Amen

Philippians 2:5-11

⁵ Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, ⁷ but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, ⁸ he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. ⁹ Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

*We are a community of discipleship, healing and worship.
We are committed to God, one another and
the transformation of the world in Jesus Christ.*

NEWS

Nursery—Child care for babies up to 3 year-olds is now available! Nursery attendants will be masked and fully vaccinated. They will take temperatures upon entry.

Renovation!—The long anticipated work on the roof has begun so please pardon any inconvenience. Parking lot resurfacing will begin the week September 27th and parking may not be available on Sunday, Oct 3rd

Fall Sunday School—October 3rd to November 21st

Teen & Adult Class—Join us for in-person classes from 9:30-10:15am to discuss *The Imitation of Christ*. We will follow the biblical literacy calendar loosely and outside reading is encouraged but not necessary; each class will be self contained.

Elementary Age—Fr. Stace will check-in with elementary kids over Zoom from 9:15-9:30am to discuss what they've been reading in the Biblical literacy program.

Kids & Teen Book Club—Stay tuned for a book club for kids and teens with Jen & Ann, TBA

COVID Delta Variant—We ask that all unvaccinated people wear masks inside the church. Anyone who is medically compromised or lives or works with vulnerable people is also encouraged to mask up.

Spiritual Formation —Suggested Calendar for the week of September 26 th				
<i>The Story Bible</i> (Engelbrecht) Ages 2-8	<i>The Child's Story Bible</i> (Vos) Ages 9 and Up	<i>Growth in the Word</i> (Shafer) Grades 7-12	<i>Experiencing the Presence of God</i> (Tozer)	<i>The Imitation of Christ with Commentary</i> (à Kempis/Billy)
Suggested pace: about 2-4 stories per week	Suggested pace: about 4-6 chapters per week	Suggested pace: about one lesson per week	Suggested pace: about one chapter every 2 weeks	Suggested pace: about 3 chapters per week
<i>The Way of God, The 12 Spies in Canaan, The Bronze Serpent, Good-bye Moses</i>	<i>The Children of Israel Leave Egypt, The End of the Egyptians, Israel in the Wilderness</i>	Chapter 3 <i>Doctrine Study in Colossians</i> Lesson 1	Chapter 4 <i>Our Personal Guide into God's Presence</i>	23. Of Thinking About Death, 24. Of Judgment and Punishment, 25. Of Improving Our Lives