

# CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY



**THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
**December 19, 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 FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

December 19, 2021

Holy Eucharist - Rite II - 9:30 am

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

**CALL TO WORSHIP**                      *Canticle 9: The First Song of Isaiah*                      Hymn S-213

**SILENT MEDIATION**                      *Psalm 96:9*

*Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness;  
let the whole earth tremble before Him.*

**PROCESSIONAL**                      *The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came*                      Hymn 265

**OPENING ACCLAMATION**                      BCP 355

**GLORIA**                      *All Glory Be to God on High*                      Hymn 421

**THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.  
**People** **And also with you.**  
*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**FIRST LESSON**                      *Micah 5:2-5a*

You, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,  
who are one of the little clans of Judah,  
  
from you shall come forth for me  
one who is to rule in Israel,  
  
whose origin is from of old,  
from ancient days.

Therefore he shall give them up until the time  
when she who is in labor has brought forth;

then the rest of his kindred shall return  
to the people of Israel.

And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord,  
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.

And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great  
to the ends of the earth;

and he shall be the one of peace.

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

**THE RESPONSE**                      *Canticle 15: The Song of Mary*                      Hymn S-247

**THE EPISTLE**                      *Hebrews 10:5-10*

When Christ came into the world, he said,  
“Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,  
but a body you have prepared for me;  
in burnt offerings and sin offerings  
you have taken no pleasure.  
Then I said, ‘See, God, I have come to do your will, O God’  
(in the scroll of the book it is written of me).”

When he said above, “You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings” (these are offered according to the law), then he added, “See, I have come to do your will.” He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God’s will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

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

**GOSPEL HYMN**                      *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*                      Hymn 81

**All Sing** Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia.

**THE GOSPEL** *Luke 1:39-45*

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

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth.

When Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.”

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

**SERMON** Fr. Stace Tafoya

**SILENT MEDITATION** *Habbakuk 2:20*

*The LORD is in His holy temple;  
let all the earth keep silence before Him.*

**THE NICENE CREED** BCP 358

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE** BCP 388

**THE PEACE**

**OFFERTORY** *Ave Maria* (Arcadelt)

**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 367

**SANCTUS** Hymn S-127

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

**GREAT AMEN** Hymn S-147

**FRACTION ANTHEM** Hymn S-164

**Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.  
Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.  
Jesus, redeemer, redeemer of the world:  
give us your peace, give us your peace.**

**COMMUNION MUSIC** *Sing of Mary* Hymn 277  
*In the Bleak Midwinter* Hymn 112

**POST COMMUNION PRAYER** BCP 365

**RECESSIONAL** *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing* Hymn 87

**—Hymn & Verse of the Month—**

**There's a Voice in the Wilderness Crying**      Hymn 75

<sup>1</sup> There's a voice in the wilderness crying,      <sup>3</sup> But the word of our God endureth,  
 a call from the ways untrod:      the arm of the Lord is strong;  
 Prepare in the desert a highway,      he stands in the midst of nations,  
 a highway for our God!      and he will right the wrong.  
 The valleys shall be exalted,      He shall feed His flock like a shepherd,  
 the lofty hills brought low;      the lambs he'll gently hold;  
 make straight all the crooked places,      to pastures of peace he'll lead them,  
 where the Lord our God may go!      and bring them safe to his fold.

<sup>2</sup> O Zion, that bringest good tidings,  
 get thee up to the heights and sing!  
 Proclaim to a desolate people  
 the coming of their king.  
 Like the flowers of the field they perish,  
 like grass our works decay,  
 the power and pomp of nations  
 shall pass like a dream away;

**Isaiah 25:9**

It will be said on that day,  
 "Lo, this is our God;  
 we have waited for him, so that he might save us.  
 This is the Lord for whom we have waited;  
 let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation."

*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**

**Christmas Eve Candlelight Service—December 24<sup>th</sup> at 4:00pm**

**COVID Mask Mandate**—Denver and surrounding counties have re-instituted a mask mandate for all public indoor gatherings due to rising hospitalizations.

**Hymn & Verse of the Month for December**—Pick up your bookmarks in the commons!  
*There's a Voice in the Wilderness Crying* - Hymn 75 and Isaiah 25:9

**Fall Sunday School—continuing through Advent**

**Teen & Adult Class**—Join us for in-person classes from 9:30-10:15am to discuss *The Imitation of Christ*. 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. Use the Zoom ID: 950 217 2940

**Year-End Giving**—Please note: According to IRS rules, contributions are effective when *delivered*. This means that a check deposited in the offering in January cannot be deducted in the previous year even if it is backdated. The one exception is for checks that are *postmarked* in 2021 even if it is not received by the church until 2022.

<b>Spiritual Formation</b> —Suggested Calendar for the week of December 19 <sup>th</sup>				
<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> (àKempis/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 Birth of John, An Angel Visits Joseph, The Birth of Jesus</i>	<i>Elijah the Stern Prophet, Stories About Israel's Wicked King</i>	Chapter 5 Lesson 8	Chapter 10 <i>The Sanctum Santorum of God's Presence</i>	<i>Book 3 Chapters 22, 23, 24</i>