

CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY



THE FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS
December 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 FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

December 26, 2021

Holy Eucharist - Rite II - 10:30 am

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

CALL TO WORSHIP *The Song of Mary* Hymn S-247

PROCESSIONAL *While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks by Night* Hymn 95

OPENING ACCLAMATION BCP 355

GLORIA *Angels We Have Heard on High* Hymn 96

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word:
Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives;
through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the
Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

FIRST LESSON *Isaiah 61:10-62:3*

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,
my whole being shall exult in my God;
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.
For as the earth brings forth its shoots,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,
so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise
to spring up before all the nations.
For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,

until her vindication shines out like the dawn,
and her salvation like a burning torch.

The nations shall see your vindication,
and all the kings your glory;

and you shall be called by a new name
that the mouth of the LORD will give.

You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD,
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

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

THE PSALM *Psalms 147:13-21*

¹³ Worship the LORD, O Jerusalem; *
praise your God, O Zion;

¹⁴ For he has strengthened the bars of your gates; *
he has blessed your children within you.

¹⁵ He has established peace on your borders; *
he satisfies you with the finest wheat.

¹⁶ He sends out his command to the earth, *
and his word runs very swiftly.

¹⁷ He gives snow like wool; *
he scatters hoarfrost like ashes.

¹⁸ He scatters his hail like bread crumbs; *
who can stand against his cold?

¹⁹ He sends forth his word and melts them; *
he blows with his wind, and the waters flow.

²⁰ He declares his word to Jacob, *
his statutes and his judgments to Israel.

²¹ He has not done so to any other nation; *
to them he has not revealed his judgments.
Hallelujah!

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

THE EPISTLE

Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian.

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

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

GOSPEL HYMN

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

Hymn 90

THE GOSPEL

John 1:1-18

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

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

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

SERMON

Fr. Dcn. Gary Stoddard

THE NICENE CREED

BCP 358

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

BCP 388

THE PEACE

OFFERTORY

On This Day Earth Shall Ring

Hymn 92

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-125

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

GREAT AMEN

Hymn S-146

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

A Stable Lamp is Lighted

Hymn 104

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BCP 365

RECESSIONAL

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

Hymn 107

*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

COVID Mask Mandate—In keeping with the Denver’s city order, we are once again requiring face coverings in the building for all attendees, regardless of vaccination status

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.

Spiritual Formation—Suggested Calendar for the week of December 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> (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 Death of Ahab, God Protects His People, The Chariot of Fire</i>			<i>Book 3 Chapters 25, 26, 27</i>