

CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY



THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
December 5, 2021—10:30 am

CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY

100 Colorado Blvd.
Denver, CO 80206
epiphanydenver.org

Rector
Fr. Stace Timothy Tafoya
303-229-0208

Office
office@epiphanydenver.org
303-321-0813

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 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 5, 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 14: A Song of Penitence* Hymn S-237

SILENT MEDIATION *Psalm 96:9*

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

PROCESSIONAL *Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Sounding* Hymn 59

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.

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

FIRST LESSON *Malachi 3:1-4*

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

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

THE RESPONSE

Canticle 16: The Song of Zechariah

Antiphon In the tender compassion of our God
the dawn from on high shall break upon us.

¹ Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel;
he has come to his people and set them free.

² He has raised up for us a might savior,
born of the house of his servant David.

³ Through his holy prophets he promised of old,
that he would save us from our enemies,
from the hands of all who hate us.

⁴ He promised to show mercy to our fathers
and to remember his holy covenant.

⁵ This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham,
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

⁶ Free to worship him without fear,
holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.

⁷ You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,

⁸ To give his people knowledge of salvation
by the forgiveness of their sins.

⁹ In the tender compassion of our God
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

¹⁰ To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death,
and to guide our feet into the way of peace. (*repeat antiphon*)

THE EPISTLE*Philippians 1:3-11*

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

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

GOSPEL HYMN*On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry*

Hymn 67

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

THE GOSPEL*Luke 3:1-6*

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

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
 ‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
 make his paths straight.
 Every valley shall be filled,
 and every mountain and hill shall be made low,

and the crooked shall be made straight,
and the rough ways made smooth;
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.””

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

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

SERMON Nicholas, Bishop of Myra

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 *Sing of Mary*

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-128

GREAT AMEN Hymn S-147

**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

What is the Crying at Jordan?

Hymn 69

There's a Voice in the Wilderness Crying

Hymn 75

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BCP 365

RECESSIONAL

Blessed Be the God of Israel

Hymn 444

—Hymn & Verse of the Month—

There's a Voice in the Wilderness Crying

Hymn 75

¹ There's a voice in the wilderness crying,
 a call from the ways untrod:
 Prepare in the desert a highway,
 a highway for our God!
 The valleys shall be exalted,
 the lofty hills brought low;
 make straight all the crooked places,
 where the Lord our God may go!

³ But the word of our God endureth,
 the arm of the Lord is strong;
 he stands in the midst of nations,
 and he will right the wrong.
 He shall feed His flock like a shepherd,
 the lambs he'll gently hold;
 to pastures of peace he'll lead them,
 and bring them safe to his fold.

² 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

Lessons & Carols—Next week at 10:30am! Christmas Eve Candlelight Service—December 24th 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

Stewardship—Pick up your 2022 pledge cards in the commons and prayerfully consider if you can contribute your time to church ministries. Or, you may email our bookkeeper directly with your pledge amount at: LesleyWilliamsCPA@gmail.com

| Spiritual Formation —Suggested Calendar for the week of December 5 th | | | | |
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| <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>New Temple, A New Wall, Esther & the King, The Lord Saves Esther</i> | <i>The Plan of a Bad Son, The Failure of the Plot, The Wisest Man in the World</i> | Chapter 5 Lesson 6 | Chapter 9 <i>Enjoying the Manifest, Conscious Presence of God</i> | <i>Book 3 Chapters 16, 17, 18</i> |