

# CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY



**THE TWENTIETH SUNDAY  
AFTER PENTECOST  
October 15, 2023—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!

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*

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## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

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

Morning Prayer via Zoom  
Tuesday and Thursday 8:30 a.m.

# THE TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 15, 2023

Holy Eucharist - Rite II - 10:30 am

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

**PROCESSIONAL**

*O God Our Help in Ages Past*

Hymn 680

**OPENING ACCLAMATION**

BCP 355

**GLORIA**

Hymn S-280

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

**People** **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Lord, we pray that your grace may always precede and follow us, that we may continually be given to good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**FIRST LESSON**

*Isaiah 25:1-9*

O LORD, you are my God;

I will exalt you, I will praise your name;  
for you have done wonderful things,  
plans formed of old, faithful and sure.

For you have made the city a heap,  
the fortified city a ruin;  
the palace of aliens is a city no more,  
it will never be rebuilt.

Therefore strong peoples will glorify you;  
cities of ruthless nations will fear you.

For you have been a refuge to the poor,  
a refuge to the needy in their distress,  
a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat.

When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm,  
the noise of aliens like heat in a dry place,  
you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds;  
the song of the ruthless was stilled.

On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples  
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines,  
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.

And he will destroy on this mountain  
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,  
the sheet that is spread over all nations;  
he will swallow up death forever.

Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces,  
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth,  
for the LORD has spoken.

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.

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

**THE PSALM**

*Psalm 23*

**All** **I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.**

*Cantor* The LORD is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.  
Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose.  
Near restful waters he leads me; he revives my soul.

**All** **I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.**

*Cantor* He guides me along the right path, for the sake of his name.  
Though I should walk in the valley of the shadow of death,  
No evil would I fear, for you are with me.  
Your crook and your staff will give me comfort

**All** **I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.**

*Cantor* You have prepared a table before me in the sight of my foes.  
My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing.

**All I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.**

*Cantor* Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life.  
In the LORD's own house shall I dwell for length of days unending.

**All I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.**

**THE EPISTLE**

*Philippians 4:1-9*

My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life.

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

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

**GOSPEL HYMN**

*O For a Closer Walk with God*

Hymn 684

**THE GOSPEL***Matthew 22:1-14**Lector*  
**People**The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.  
**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Once more Jesus spoke to the people in parables, saying: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other slaves, saying, ‘Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.’ But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, ‘The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.’ Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

“But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?’ And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ For many are called, but few are chosen.”

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

Dcn. Gary Stoddard

**NICENE CREED**

BCP 358

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

BCP 383

**OFFERTORY***Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones*

Hymn 618

**DOXOLOGY**

**GREAT THANKSGIVING**

BCP 362

**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.

**COMMUNION MUSIC**

*Here, O My Lord, I See Thee Face to Face*

Hymn 318

*The Lord My God My Shepherd Is*

Hymn 663

**POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

BCP 365

**RECESSIONAL**

*Rejoice, the Lord is King!*

Hymn 481

*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

**Sunday School**—All children are welcome to join us upstairs at 9:15am! Ages 3-6 meet in for the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd upstairs. Ages 6-12 meet in the Scriptorium room.

**Adult/Teen Class**—All teens and adults are welcome to come to class in the St. Martha's room at 9:30am. This Fall the adult/teen class will study 'By the Rivers of Babylon,' a study of the major prophets (Ezekiel, Jeremiah and Isaiah).

**Stewardship Season Coming Soon**—Watch for new pledge cards coming soon for 2024. Every contribution helps Epiphany achieve our mission.

**Building Update**—Epiphany was blessed in 2022 with a very generous anonymous gift. We were able to finally protect the nave with a long term roof solution. Next, the vesting and sacristy rooms were given a long-overdue makeover last year.

The art & design committee is working with the vestry to identify aesthetic and practical upgrades needed in different areas of the church. The next project in the works is a renovation to our entryway to make it a better transition from the outside world to the sacred space inside. Much work has been done behind the scenes and hopefully the congregation will be able to view sketches in a few weeks.

DATE	LECTOR	CHALICE	ACOLYTES
10/15		Shirley	Outshine, Excel
10/22		Don	Megan, Francis
10/29			
11/5		Shirley	Luke, Jacob, Pascal