

CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
December 3, 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

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.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
December 3, 2023
Holy Eucharist - Rite II - 10:30 am

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

PROCESSIONAL *Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus* Hymn 66

OPENING ACCLAMATION BCP 355

GLORIA Hymn S-277

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

FIRST LESSON *Isaiah 64:1-9*

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
so that the mountains would quake at your presence—

as when fire kindles brushwood
and the fire causes water to boil—

to make your name known to your adversaries,
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!

When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.

From ages past no one has heard,
no ear has perceived,
no eye has seen any God besides you,
who works for those who wait for him.
You meet those who gladly do right,
those who remember you in your ways.
But you were angry, and we sinned;
because you hid yourself we transgressed.
We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.
We all fade like a leaf,
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.
There is no one who calls on your name,
or attempts to take hold of you;
for you have hidden your face from us,
and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.
Yet, O LORD, you are our Father;
we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand.
Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD,
and do not remember iniquity forever.
Now consider, we are all your people.

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

THE PSALM

Psalm 80

All **Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.**

Cantor O shepherd of Israel, hearken from your throne upon the cherubim, shine forth.
Rouse your power, and come to save us.

All **Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.**

Cantor Once again, O LORD of hosts, look down from heaven, and see;
take care of this vine, and protect what your right hand has planted,
the son of man whom you yourself made strong.

All **Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.**

Cantor May your help be with the man of your right hand,
with the son of man whom you yourself made strong.
Then we will no more withdraw from you;
give us new life, and we will call upon your name.

All **Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.**

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THE EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind— just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you— so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

GOSPEL HYMN

Come Down, O Love Divine

Hymn 516

THE GOSPEL

Mark 13:24-37

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

Jesus said, “In those days, after that suffering,
the sun will be darkened,
and the moon will not give its light,
and the stars will be falling from heaven,
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

“But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

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

SERMON Fr. Stace Tafoya

NICENE CREED BCP 358

HEALING PRAYER BCP 0

OFFERTORY *Prepare the Way, O Zion* (Ortega)

DOXOLOGY

GREAT THANKSGIVING BCP 361

SANCTUS Hymn S-124

GREAT AMEN Hymn S-143

FRACTION ANTHEM Hymn S-154

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia**

COMMUNION MUSIC *O Very God of Very God* Hymn 672

“Thy Kingdom Come!” On Bended Knee Hymn 615

POST COMMUNION PRAYER BCP 365

RECESSIONAL *Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending* Hymn 57

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE	DATE	LECTOR	CHALICE	ACOLYTES
	12/3		Shirley	Luke, Jacob, Pascal
	12/10	Jeff	John	Genter kids
	12/17	Lessons & Carols Lectors: Jeff, Shirely, Sherry,		
	12/24 10:30	Shirley	Don	Rennie girls
	12/24 4:00			

*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.*

Advent & Christmas Events

Dec 10 th	2 nd Sunday of Advent	St. Nicholas' Visit Greening of the Church & Lunch - Noon
Dec 17 th	3 rd Sunday of Advent	8:00am service Lessons & Carols at 10:30am
Dec 24 th	4 th Sunday of Advent	(regular services)
Dec 24 th	Christmas Eve Service	4:00pm Candlelight Service
Dec 31 st		(regular services)
Jan 7 th	Epiphany Celebration	Pig Roast at Noon!

News

Our dear friend Linda Downing passed away on November 29th. Service details to come. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, December 16th at 10am.

Stewardship Season—New pledge cards are available for 2024! Every contribution helps Epiphany achieve our mission. Look on the back side for ways to get involved in different ministries at Epiphany. You may also email our bookkeeper directly with your pledge at accountant@epiphanydenver.org

Advent Enrichment Opportunities

- Advent Zoom Book Club with Fr. Joseph of Christ Church Thursdays at 6:30 beginning November 30th Register at ChristChurchDenver.org
- An Advent devotional by Bishop Robert Barron is available for \$2 in the commons.
- The adult/teen Sunday class will take time to reflect on the art and music of the season beginning TODAY.