

The First Sunday of Advent
December 3, 2023, 10:00 a.m.



THE CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY

The Episcopal Church in Agoura, Oak Park, and Westlake Village

The Rev. Jamie Barnett, Vicar

WELCOME

Visitors: We are delighted you have come to worship with us today! If you are interested in learning more about our church, please fill out the purple information card found in the slot in front of your seat and place it on the collection plate. We are excited to meet you and would love to get to know you! Please join us for coffee, donuts, and fellowship in the Bishop's Hall directly after the service.

This booklet contains the full order of service. If you are unfamiliar with our rituals and customs, just be present with us in this ancient liturgy and let the rest of the congregation carry you in worship. The bold type indicates where the people are invited to respond or pray.

Restrooms: Proceed through the office door to the right of the church and go straight down the hall and to the left. Both restrooms have baby changing tables.

Assisted listening devices: Available from the ushers in the back of the church.

Children: We welcome children in our worship. Their sounds are a gift from God – no need to subdue them! Our *prayground* is located in the side chapel and has quiet activities for parents and younger children to use while still in worship. Children ages 3-11 are welcome to join the atrium for our Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Sunday School program located in Mitchel Hall. Ask the ushers for directions. Children return to the service for communion.

Contact: Office hours are Tuesday-Thursday from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. and the sanctuary is open during these hours for private prayer or meditation. To speak with The Rev. Jamie Barnett, please call the office and make an appointment. Her office hours are Tuesday through Thursday.

THE CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY

The Episcopal Church in Agoura, Oak Park, and Westlake Village
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Connect to the Staff

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THE BISHOP'S COMMITTEE

Bishop's Warden – Steve Stephens
People's Warden – Susan Halligan
Co-Treasurers – Eileen Hannemann and Shay Hass
Clerk – Laura Paden

John Brunson '23
Shay Hass '23
Katie Roberts '23

Susan Halligan '24
Gabriel Rueda '24
Bob Thomson '24

Claudia Dempster '25
Laura Paden '25
Bob Schneider '25

The Holy Eucharist, Rite II

PRELUDE

Es ist gewißlich an der Zeit

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH (1685-1750)

*“O Jesus Christ, do not delay,
But hasten our salvation”*

The Word of God

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Catechist: Blessed are you, Sovereign Lord, God of our ancestors: to you be praise and glory for ever! You called those of old to live by the light of faith and to journey in the hope of your promised fulfillment. May we be obedient to your call and be ready and watchful to receive your Christ, a lamp to our feet and a light to our path; for you are our light and our salvation.

All: **Blessed be God for ever.**

Catechist: God of Abraham and Sarah, and of all the matriarchs and patriarchs of old, you are our God, too. is revealed to us in Jesus Christ, Son of God and Son of David. Help us in preparing to celebrate his birth to make our hearts ready for your Holy Spirit to make a home within us. We ask this through Jesus Christ, the light who is coming into the world.

All: **Lord Jesus, Light of the world, born like David to be a king:
Be born in our hearts this Christmastide, be Lord of our lives today. Amen.**

At the sound of the bell, all stand as able and sing

ENTRANCE HYMN

Hymn 596

Judge eternal, robed in splendor

KOMM, O KOMM DU GEIST DES LEBENS

OPENING ACCLAMATION

The people standing, the Presider says

Presider Blessed are you, holy and living One.

People **You come to your people and set them free.**

COLLECT FOR PURITY

The Presider may say

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

OPENING ANTHEM OR SONG OF PRAISE S 88 Kyrie eleison (Greek) (Robinson)

The following is sung, all standing

Cantor or Choir



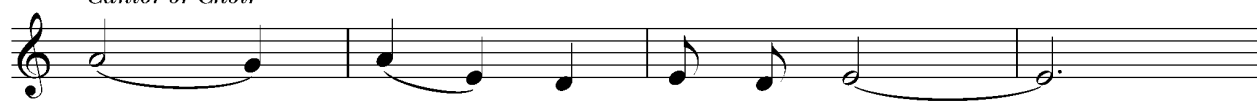
Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. _____

All



Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. _____

Cantor or Choir



Chri - ste e - le - i - son. _____

All




Chri - ste e - le - i - son. _____

Cantor or Choir *All*



Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. _____ Ky - ri -



e e - le - i - son. _____

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider 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.**

The Lessons

FIRST READING: Isaiah 64:1-9

The people sit.

A Reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

¹O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
so that the mountains would quake at your presence—
²as 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!
³When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.
⁴From 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.
⁵You 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.
⁶We 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.
⁷There 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.
⁸Yet, O LORD, you are our Father;
we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand.
⁹Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD,
and do not remember iniquity forever.
Now consider, we are all your people.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Silence may follow.

PSALM: Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18 (*sung by all*)

Remain seated.



S-409 | © 1979, Robert Knox Kennedy.

- 1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a | flock; *
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the | cherubim.
- 2 In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Ma|nasseh, *
stir up your strength and come to | help us.
- 3 Restore us, O God of | hosts, *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be | saved.
- 4 O LORD God of | hosts, *
how long will you be angered
despite the prayers of your | people.
- 5 You have fed them with the bread of | tears; *
you have given them bowls of tears to | drink.
- 6 You have made us the derision of our | neighbors, *
and our enemies laugh us to | scorn.
- 7 Restore us, O God of | hosts: *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be | saved.
- 16 Let your hand be upon the man of your right | hand, *
the son of man you have made so strong for your|self.
- 17 And so will we never turn a|way from you: *
give us life, that we may call upon your | Name.
- 18 Restore us, O God of | hosts: *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be | saved.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

A Reading from Paul's First letter to the Church in Corinth.

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—⁶just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—⁷so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁸He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

Silence may follow.

SEQUENCE HYMN

All stand and sing.

Hymn 56, verses 1-2 only O come, O come, Emmanuel

VENI, VENI, EMMANUEL

GOSPEL: Mark 13:24-37

Remain standing

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

[Jesus said,] ²⁴“In those days, after that suffering,

the sun will be darkened,
and the moon will not give its light,
²⁵and the stars will be falling from heaven,
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

²⁶Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory. ²⁷Then 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.

²⁸“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. ²⁹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. ³⁰Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. ³¹Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³²“But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. ³⁴It 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. ³⁵Therefore, 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, ³⁶or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. ³⁷And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

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

THE SERMON

THE CREED

All stand.

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**
**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,**

**begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

All remain standing.

Creator of the stars in the sky, the sun, and the moon, You are the light by which we wake and work.

Illuminate our darkness, and keep us alert.

Surround your church, her leaders, and people, with your armor of light. We pray especially for Michael, our presiding bishop; John, our bishop; and Jamie, our Presider. Strengthen them as they reach out to you in prayer and hope. Open their hearts to your will.

Illuminate our darkness, and keep us alert.

We pray for our leaders: especially Joe, our president; Gavin, our governor; and the Congress and courts of this land. Savior of the nations, guide those who govern, and awaken those they lead, that we may all live in the spirit of cooperation and share so that all have enough: food, care, and peace.

Illuminate our darkness, and keep us alert.

For people across the world whose spirits bend under the yoke of oppression and struggle, give the people of this community a sense of togetherness and support. Open our eyes to those who fall by the wayside and whose faces and needs remain invisible.

Illuminate our darkness, and keep us alert.

Lover of our souls, you continue to mold us in your image and hold us in your hands. We ask your blessing on those who struggle with illness, anxiety, grief, or isolation. We pray for those on our parish prayer list: John,

George, Debbi, Kay, and Holly. We pray also for those who have requested our prayers and who wish to remain anonymous and for those on our long-term prayer list.

Illuminate our darkness, and keep us alert.

Father of us all, we pray for those who have recently returned to your embrace and those who are broken with grief.

Illuminate our darkness, and keep us alert. Amen.

CONFESSION OF SIN

The Presider says

Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People

God of all mercy,

**we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.**

**We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.**

**We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.**

**Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love
and serve only your will. Amen.**

The Presider stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

All stand.

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

The Holy Communion

OFFERTORY MUSIC

O Heiland reiss die Himmel auf

WALTHER HAFFNER (1925-2002)

*“O Saviour, tear open the heavens,
flow down to us from heaven above”*

PRESENTATION HYMN

Hymn 61

“Sleepers, wake!” a voice astounds us

WACHET AUF

The Great Thanksgiving

The People remain standing.

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Presider

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God,
source of life abundant.

From before time you made ready the creation.

Your Spirit moved over the deep
and brought all things into being:

sun, moon, and stars;

earth, winds, and waters;

and every living thing.

You made us in your image,

and taught us to walk in your ways.

But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away;

and yet, as a mother cares for her children,

you would not forget us.

Time and again you called us

to live in the fullness of your love.

And so this day we join with Saints and Angels

in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity,

lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:

Presider and People
SANCTUS S-129

ROBERT POWELL (b. 1932)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est._____

The Presider continues

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God.
To deliver us from the power of sin and death
and to reveal the riches of your grace,
you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant,
that she might conceive and bear a son,
Jesus the holy child of God.
Living among us, Jesus loved us.
He broke bread with outcasts and sinners,
healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor.
He yearned to draw all the world to himself
yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love.
Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross
the sacrifice of his life,
and to be glorified by you.
On the night before he died for us,
Jesus was at table with his friends.
He took bread, gave thanks to you,
broke it, and gave it to them, and said:
“Take, eat:
This is my Body, which is given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.”
As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine.
Again, he gave thanks to you,
gave it to them, and said:
“Drink this, all of you:
This is my Blood of the new Covenant,

which is poured out for you and for all
for the forgiveness of sins.
Whenever you drink it,
do this for the remembrance of me.”

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation,
and remembering Christ, crucified and risen,
who was and is and is to come,
we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine,
and ourselves, a living sacrifice.
Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts
that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ.
Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth
and make us your new creation,
the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.
In the fullness of time bring us,
with the Blessed Virgin Mary and all your saints,
from every tribe and language and people and nation,
to feast at the banquet prepared
from the foundation of the world.
Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
to you be honor, glory, and praise,
for ever and ever. *AMEN.*

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say, in the language of our hearts,

People and Presider

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

**Padre nuestro que estás en el cielo,
santificado sea tu nombre,
venga tu reino,
hágase tu voluntad,
en la tierra como en el cielo.
Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada día,
Perdona nuestras ofensas
como también nosotros perdonamos
a los que nos ofenden.
No nos dejes caer en la tentación,
y líbranos del mal.
Porque tuyo es el reino,
el poder, y la gloria,
ahora y por siempre. Amén.**

The Breaking of the Bread

FRACTION ANTHEM-HYMN 324, v.1 Let all mortal flesh keep silence

PICARDY

1 Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and
trembling stand; ponder nothing earthly -
minded, for with blessing in his hand
Christ our God to earth descendeth,
our full homage to demand.

The Presider says

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

DISTRIBUTION

The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.

Presider This is Christ's Banquet. It is made ready for those who love God, and for those who want to love God more. So, come, you who have much faith and you who have little, you who have been here often, and you who have not been here long. You who have tried to follow Jesus, and you who have gotten lost. Come, because it is Christ who invites you.

During the distribution of Communion, we welcome you to receive the sacrament or a prayer of blessing. If receiving a blessing, please come forward and simply cross your hands over your chest as you walk up to the presider. If you would like a gluten-free wafer, please tell the presider when you reach the front.

Put your hands out one on top of the other, and the wafer will be placed in your hand. Leave the wafer in place and move to the chalice bearer, who will then take it, dip it in the wine, and hand it back to you. If you do not wish to receive the wine, simply consume the wafer and then you may place your hands on the base of the chalice and the chalice bearer will say the words of administration.

COMMUNION HYMN

(All are invited to sing)

Wait for the Lord, his day is near.

5
Wait for the Lord, be strong, take heart.

After Communion, the Presider says
Let us pray.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

After Communion, the Presider says
Let us pray.

Presider and People

**Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

The Presider blesses the people.

POST-COMMUNION HYMN

Hymn 57

Lo! he comes with clouds descending

HELMSLEY

DISMISSAL

Presider Alleluia, alleluia! Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

POSTLUDE

Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme

MAX REGER (1873-1916)

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“Sanctus (Holy, holy, holy Lord)” by Robert Powell. © 1985 The Church Pension Fund. Reproduced under OneLicense.net license # A-717483. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

“Let all mortal flesh keep silence.” Public domain.

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For the Week of Sunday, December 3, 2023

EPIPHANY CONNECTIONS

www.tcote.org

THIS WEEK IN EPIPHANY

- | | | |
|-------|------------|-----------------------------|
| 12/3 | 9:45 a.m. | Children in the Atrium |
| | 10:00 a.m. | Holy Eucharist |
| | 11:30 a.m. | Epiphany Youth Group |
| | 4:00 p.m. | Advent Lessons and Carols |
| 12/4 | 6:30 p.m. | RDV Monday Night Fellowship |
| | 7:00 p.m. | EfM meeting |
| 12/6 | 6:30 p.m. | Advent Study Group |
| | 7:00 p.m. | Lectio Divina |
| 12/7 | 6:30 p.m. | Schola Rehearsal |
| | 7:45 p.m. | Parish Choir rehearsal |
| 12/10 | 9:45 a.m. | Children in the Atrium |
| | 10:00 a.m. | Holy Eucharist |
| | 11:30 a.m. | Epiphany Youth Group |
| | 11:30 a.m. | Outreach meeting |

ADVENT LESSONS AND CAROLS



**TODAY,
4:00 p.m.**

Please join us. This service gives us a unique opportunity to observe the season of Advent as a time to reflect on God's great love for us and to ponder the coming of the kingdom of God. It gives us an occasion to pause in the midst of our physical preparations for Christmas and to prepare our spirits for Christ's coming in our own lives, as it walks us through the story of our separation from God, God's reaching out to, and covenant with, humanity as told by the prophets, and the promise of the birth of one who will reveal to us God's great loving purpose.

NATIVITY SET DISPLAY



During Advent we will have a display of various nativity sets in Ascension Chapel. If you have a small set that is either handmade, an unusual medium, or from a different part of the world, and would be willing to lend it to us please leave it at the church office in a box/container clearly labeled with your name and contact info and where the set originated. You can also provide a clear photo if your set is a family heirloom and better kept at home. Any questions? Please email Karen James at kjames@tcote.org.



Subscribe to our *Connections Newsletter* at www.tcote.org/newsletter/

GIVE



Your ongoing financial support allows us to embrace and engage in the mission and ministry of The Church of the Epiphany. Visit www.tcote.org/give or scan the QR code to the left.

CHRISTMAS COOKIE EXCHANGE



On **December 17**, Outreach will hold the beloved Christmas Cookie Exchange once again. We will be asking for donations of 3 dozen Christmas cookies that day. So, as you are

beginning your Christmas baking, remember the Cookie Exchange! You can sign up to bring cookies at yvonnellux@gmail.com.

DECEMBER OWLS EVENT



Please join us **Thursday, December 14 from noon – 2:00 p.m.** for our traditional Christmas lunch and fun...Please bring a \$10 wrapped gift for our gift exchange. We will be singing songs and having lots of holiday cheer!!

We ask for a \$10 donation to cover the cost of lunch. Please RSVP by December 11 to Michelle Ponticelli at 805-320-5003 or email her at mponticelli@tcote.org.

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS EVE SCHEDULE



December 3 - First Sunday of Advent

9:45 a.m. - Children in the Atrium
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
4:00 p.m. Advent Lessons and Carols

December 10 - Second Sunday of Advent

9:45 a.m. - Children in the Atrium
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

December 17 - Third Sunday of Advent

9:45 a.m. - Children in the Atrium
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

December 24 - Fourth Sunday of Advent

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist - Children in Church

Christmas Eve Services – Sunday, December 24

4:00 p.m. Family Eucharist with Nativity Narrative

In place of a homily, the children will be invited to join Karen James to share in experiencing the joy of the Christmas story. Jay Wilcox organist.
This service is not livestreamed.

8:30 p.m. Carol Sing-a-long

9:00 p.m. Festival Choral Eucharist with the Parish Choir and Schola

The Rev. Jamie Barnett preaches. Jay Wilcox organist.

NO SERVICE CHRISTMAS DAY

MONDAY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP



Who surrounds us as we worship? Gather together to delve into a Bible verse, barrel taste RDV wine (optional) and explore the connections we have with one another at **6:30 – 7:30 p.m. on Monday, December 4.**

HARBOR HOUSE LUNCHES FOR DINNER



This month Harbor House has asked us for 60 lunches on **December 13**. Please let me know if you are able to help. Thanks so much! yvonnellux@gmail.com.

Lunches for 10 people - Include sandwich- turkey, egg salad, lunch meat, or pb & j, three snacks, fruit, and a drink. Drinks and fruit should be separate. Drop off is between 4:00 and 4:30 at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church at Avenida de las Flores and Mt. Clef. The parking lot is in the back.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS 2023

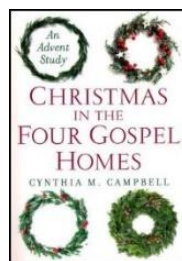


As in the past, our church will be magnificently decorated for Christmas. Please consider contributing to the Flower Fund to help beautify the church.

Contributions can be made in thanksgiving for anyone or anything or in memory of a loved one in your life. Please fill out the form in the church pews, mail it to the church office or drop it in the offering plate with your check and with “Flower Fund” in the memo field or donate at www.tcote.org.

All donations received by December 17 will be acknowledged in our special Christmas bulletin. Any donations received after December 17 will be acknowledged in the new year.

ADVENT STUDY GROUP



Whether or not you have the book, please join us on **Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.** in the chapel when we will gather to discuss and share our thoughts and any questions that arise from our study of the book *Christmas in the Four Gospel Homes: An Advent Study*. Beautiful illustrations will help us

reimagine each of the four Gospels as a house, and what that house might look like for Christmas based on what each Gospel says about it. Each of the four sections will reflect upon the distinctive perspective of the birth of Jesus (or the incarnation) offered in each Gospel. **Please join us as we wait and prepare for the coming of God with us!**

Note: Feeding the Spirit Bible Study will be suspended during this time.

MINISTRIES – FIND YOUR CONNECTION

For more information on these and other ministries, please visit www.tcote.org



Want to help on Sundays during the service? If you are interested in being an **usher, reader, oblationer, or LEM**, please contact the church at

info@tcote.org



Meeting weekly for one-hour at noon on Wednesdays in Bishop's Hall, **Feeding the Spirit** Bible study is focused on upcoming lessons for the week and the themes found within. Bring a lunch! Upcoming readings will be found in our weekly *Connections* newsletter or <https://lectionarypage.net>



Red Door Vineyard's vision is to be a source of congregational growth, strength and spirituality as we share in the journey of crafting wine in God's name. In addition to ongoing vineyard activities, we gather monthly for Monday Night Fellowship and Friday Evening Happy Hour and arrange a variety of social and cultural experiences. Contact: Stacey Stephens reddoorvineyard@tcote.org



Members of the **Altar Guild** prepare all that is necessary for the celebration of all of the sacraments of the church. Contact: Leigh Wallace mizeinla@gmail.com



Coffee hour is a tradition of hospitality and fellowship, a time to catch up with friends and acquaint yourself with new people of the congregation. Interested in being a **Coffee Host**? Contact:

info@tcote.org



The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd program is highly child-centered and allows children to enter into a relationship with God in their own ways, and in their own time. All children are welcome. Contact: Laurie Burns lburns@tcote.org



At Epiphany, we embrace and appreciate the capacity and insight of our teen parishioners. **EYG** is a safe, encouraging space for spiritual exploration and the asking of important questions. We meet every Sunday from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Contact: Laurie Burns lburns@tcote.org



PFLAG's vision is to create a world where difference is celebrated, and all people are valued inclusive of their sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression. We meet on the *second Monday of each month* at 7:00 p.m. Contact: info@tcote.org



Laundry Love is a nationwide program that assists low-income families and individuals in doing their laundry. We meet on the *last Tuesday of each month* from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. Contact: Karen

James kjames@tcote.org



The Lunch Bunch prepares and delivers 70-80 brown bag lunches to Harbor House once a month for low income and homeless families and individuals. Join us! Contact: Yvonne Lux yvonnlux@gmail.com



Creation Care at The Church of the Epiphany is about helping each other to grow in care for God's Creation. Seasonal Sacred Hikes help to create a personal bond and connection. Contact:

Mari Mendenhall mmidsgr@sbcglobal.net



The Women's Interfaith Network (WIN) has many opportunities to serve those in need in our community. Please check their page at www.tcote.org. Contact: Aggie

Winston (805) 807-5001.



Lectio Divina is a practice of scriptural reading, meditation, and prayer opening to a deeper communion with God. We meet via Zoom every Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. Link at www.tcote.org/lectio-divina/ or contact: Barry Burns burnscreative@gmail.com.



A grief shared meets on the *fourth Tuesday of every month* from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in Ascension Chapel.

Wherever and however you are experiencing grief, we invite you to

come and share your story in a safe and supportive space. Contact: Laurie Burns lburns@tcote.org



The Epiphany Music Guild furthers the church's outreach mission to the community by providing a regular series of musical and other artistic events, enriching people's lives and giving them opportunities to encounter beauty in a sacred space.

www.tcote.org/music/



The **Pastoral Care Team** cares for parishioners who may be sick, recovering from surgery or experiencing other life changes. We make phone calls, visit hospitals and homes, and help with the unmet needs they may have, such as providing an occasional meal following surgery or illness. If you would like to be a part of this rewarding ministry, contact Sharon Schneider:

sschneider@tcote.org



OWLS (Older Wiser Laity) strives to create community and fellowship opportunities among the more senior members of our church and the greater area, meeting monthly for lunch and a variety of enriching programs from

October-May. Contact Michelle Ponticelli:

mponticelli@tcote.org



The **Music Ministry** at The Church of the Epiphany offers a variety of opportunities for participation and welcomes all. You may join the choir at any

time. Contact: Jay jwilcox@tcote.org

Be sure to follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/EpiphanyOakpark/ and Instagram at www.instagram.com/tcoteoakpark

PRAYERS

Please pray for those on our Parish Prayer List:

John, George, Debbi, Kay, Holly

Please pray for those on our Long-Term Parish

Prayer list: Boyd, Neil and Sarah, Tom and Donna, Arturo, Judith, Kathy, Curt, Steve, Joe, Rhonda, Lynn, Dan, Amanda, Tabitha, Judie, Georgia, Bishop Michael Curry, Steve, Paul, Peter, Glenn and Family, Madden, Norma, Hailey, baby Noah, Benny, and Carol

To access the bulletin from either your tablet or your cell phone, please scan the QR code:

