The First Sunday of Advent
November 29, 2026, 10:00 a.m.



THE CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY

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

The Rev. Jamie Barnett, Vicar
Jay Wilcox, Music Director

WELCOME

***Out of consideration for your fellow worshipers, please either turn off or silence your cell phones*.**

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!

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.

Coffee Hour: Whether you are just visiting or have been here often, we would love for you to join us for a time of fellowship with coffee and donuts in the Bishop's Hall directly after the service. If you are new and are not sure where the Bishop's Hall is, please ask anyone and they will be happy to show you!

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 are 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 at the back of the church and has quiet activities for parents and younger children to use while still allowing families to participate 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 Monday-Friday from 9 a.m.-2 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.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We, the Church of The Epiphany, remember and honor the Indigenous people of the world, especially the Chumash, on whose ancestral land we now stand. This region was once their home, providing an abundance of resources, including fresh water, acorns, and wildlife. The Chumash are still here, having lived in harmony with the land for thousands of years prior to European contact.

We give thanks for the Chumash people and express our gratitude for their witness on how to live a life that is honorable, humble, and respectful to the environment. We have much to learn from our Chumash siblings.

May we always remember that the Earth does not belong to us, that we belong to the Earth, and that all peoples are relatives in life.

May we learn from past mistakes and be instruments of justice and peace for all people in today's world, particularly the original Indigenous inhabitants of this land.

The Holy Eucharist, Rite II

PRELUDE Es ist gewißlich an der Zeit Gottfried August Homilius (1714-1785)

The day is surely drawing near when God's Son, the Anointed, shall with great majesty appear
From the German Chorale *Es ist gewißlich an der Zeit*

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. Your love 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 73 The King shall come when morning dawns ST. STEPHEN

OPENING ACCLAMATION
The people standing, the Presider says

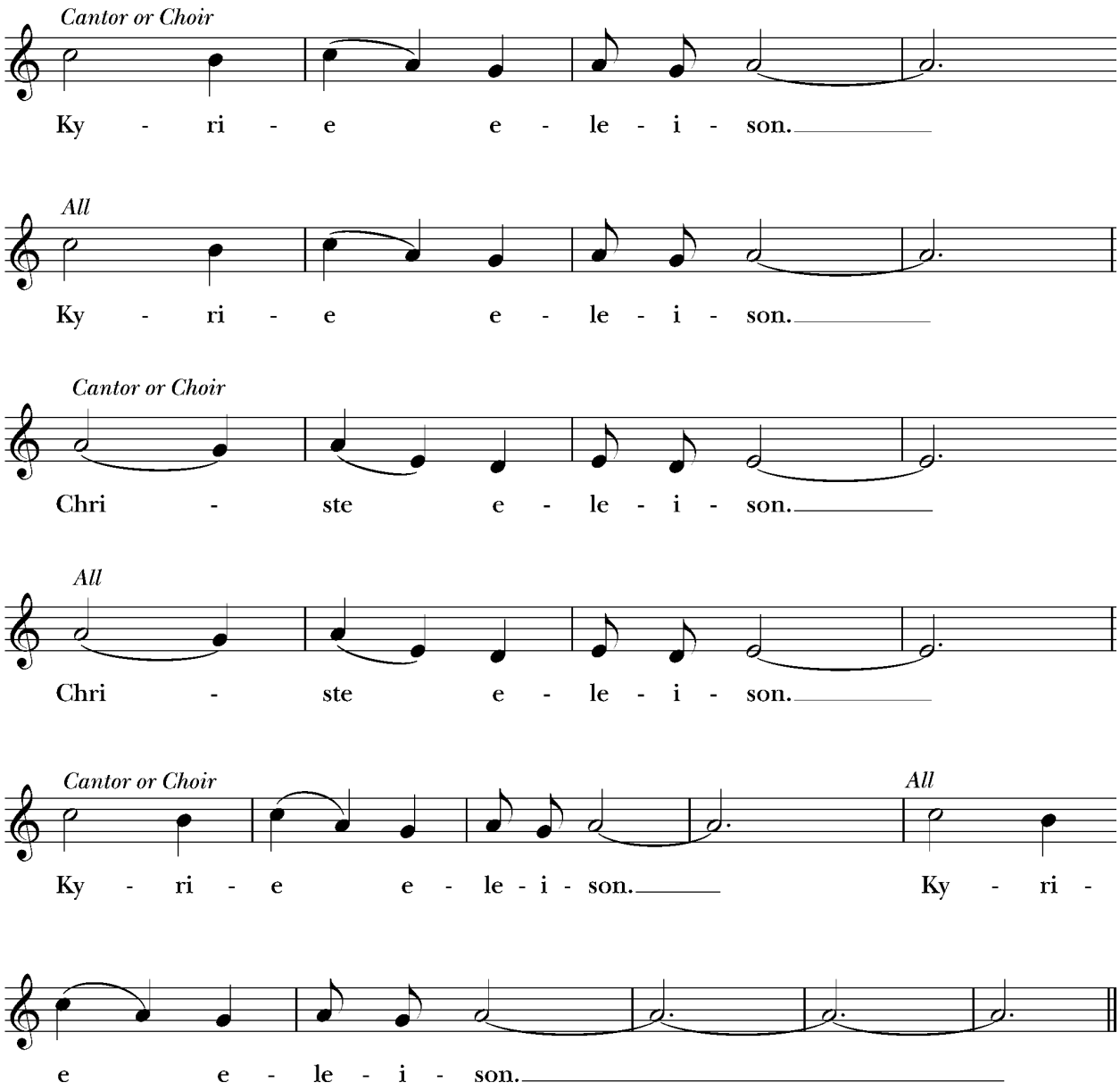
Presider Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be God's reign, now and for ever. Amen.**

COLLECT FOR PURITY
The Presider says

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 S 88 Kyrie eleison McNeil Robinson II (1943-2015)

The following is sung, all standing



THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider God dwells in you
People **And also in 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*.**

FIRST READING: Isaiah 64:1-9
The people sit.

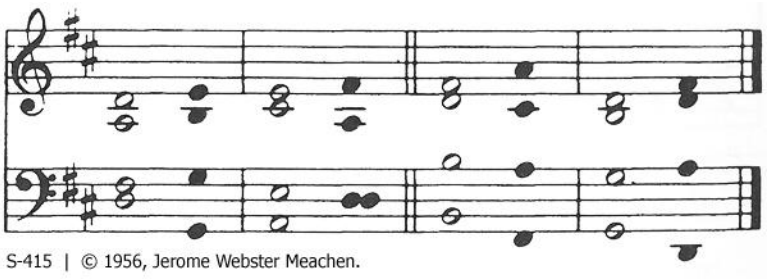
A Reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

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

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**



PSALM 80:1-7, 16-18
Sung by all



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.

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

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

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

All stand and sing.
SEQUENCE HYMN
Hymn 56 (vv. 1-2 only) O come, O come, Emmanuel VENI, VENI, EMMANUEL

GOSPEL: Mark 13:24-37
All stand as able

Gospeler 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."

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

THE SERMON The Rev. Jamie Barnett

THE CREED
All stand as able

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.

Illumine our darkness, and keep us alert.

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

Illumine our darkness, and keep us alert.

Savior of the nations, we pray for our nation's leaders, for Congress, and the courts of this land. Guide those who govern, and awaken those they lead, that we may all live in the spirit of cooperation.

Illumine our darkness, and keep us alert.

Enfold 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.

Illumine 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 especially for those on our parish prayer list: Aubrey, Brian, Mike, Kyle, Joanne, Bill M, Kenneth, Ron, Vicky, Lynette, Peter, Zachary, Steve, and Barry. We pray also for those who have requested our prayers, but who prefer to remain anonymous and for those on our long-term prayer list.

Illumine 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.

Illumine our darkness, and keep us alert.

We pray in the name of Christ, whose words will never pass away. **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN
The Presider says
Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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 might abide in your love
and serve only your will. Amen.

The Priest stands and says
Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord 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, as able.

Presider The Peace of Christ be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

All may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER FOR BIRTHDAYS

All **Watch over your *children*, O Lord, as *their* days increase; bless and guide *them* wherever they may be. Strengthen *them* when *they* stand; comfort *them* when discouraged or sorrowful; raise *them* up if *they* fall; and in *their* hearts may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of *their* lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Holy Communion

OFFERTORY ANTHEM In night's dim shadows lying *(sung by the Parish Choir)*

In night's dim shadows lying,
our limbs fast locked in sleep,
to Thee with faithful sighing,
our souls their vigil keep.

Desire of ev'ry nation,
hear, Lord, our piteous cry,
Thou Word the world's salvation,
uplift us where we lie.

Lord, be Thine Advent hasten'd,
lest sin Thy people mar,
the gates which Adam fasten'd,
the gates of heav'n unbar.

Son, to Thine endless merit,
Redeemer, Saviour, Friend,
with Sire and Holy Spirit
be praises without end.

Text: C. COFFIN (1676-1749), ED. W. J. BLEW (1808-1894)
Music: MELODY FROM *KATHOLISCHES GESANGBUCH* (1608), ARR. GEORGE GUEST (1924-2002)

HYMN AT THE PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS
Hymn 61 "Sleepers, wake!" a voice astounds us WACHET AUF

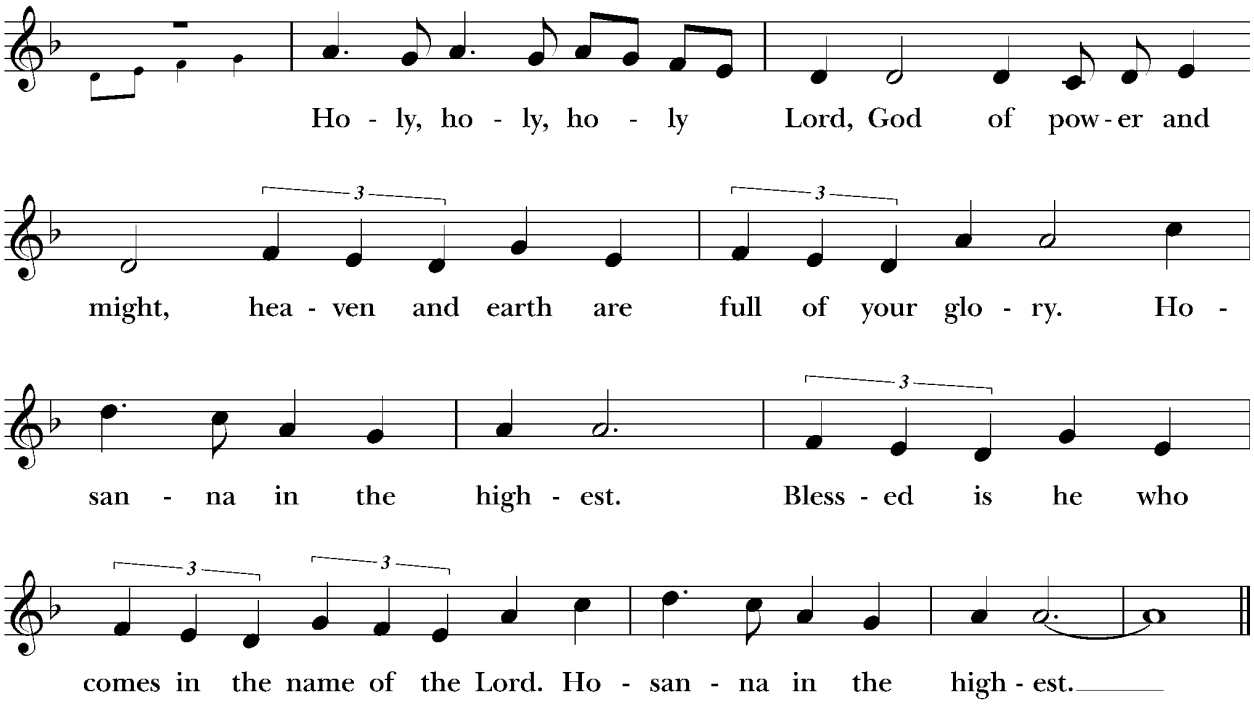
The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant God dwells in you.
People **And also in you.**
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to the Lord.**
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Facing the Holy Table, the Presider proceeds
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:

SANCTUS S-129 Holy, holy, holy Robert Powell (1932-2025)
Celebrant and People sing



The Celebrant 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 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.***

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

People and Presider

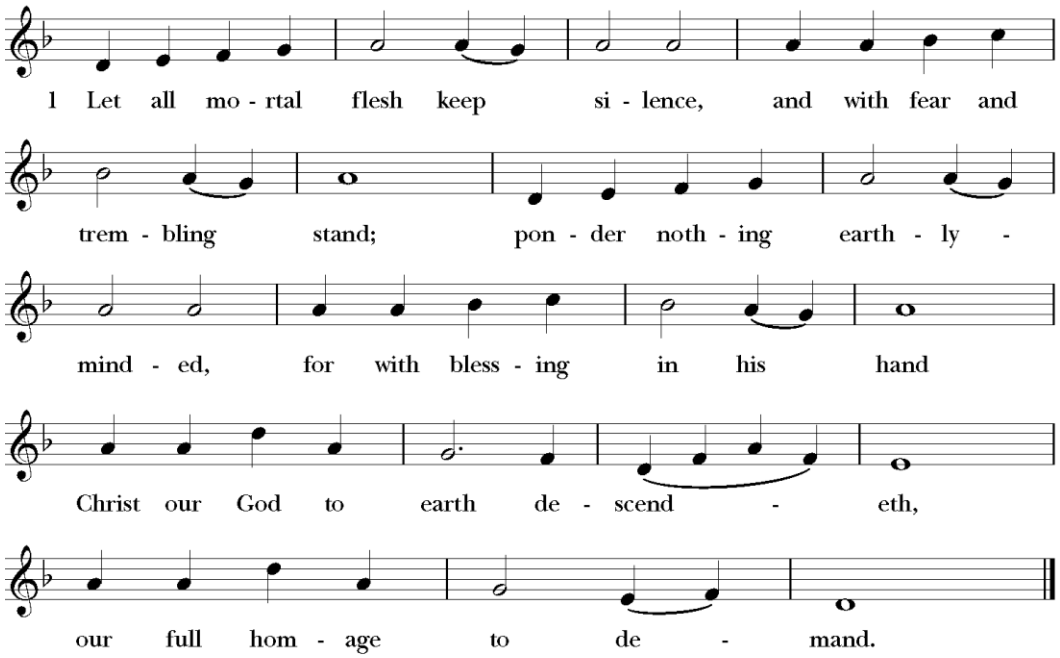
Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the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

The Breaking of the Bread

FRACTION ANTHEM

Hymn 324, v. 1 Let all mortal flesh keep silence PICARDY



The Presider says
The Gifts of God for the People of God.

DISTRIBUTION

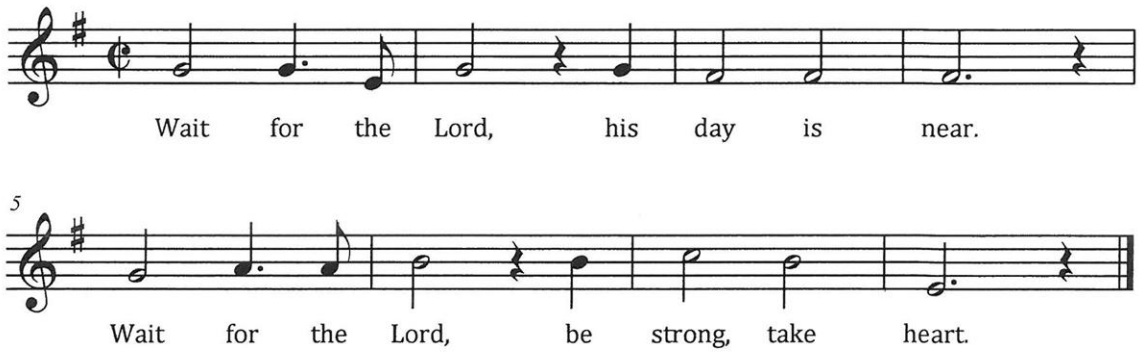
Presider This is Christ's Banquet. It is made ready for those who love God, and for those who want to love God more. So, come, you who have much faith and you who have little, you who have been here often, and you who have not been here long. You who have tried to follow Jesus, and you who have gotten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

All who seek God and desire a deeper life in Christ are welcome to receive Holy Communion. 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 priest.

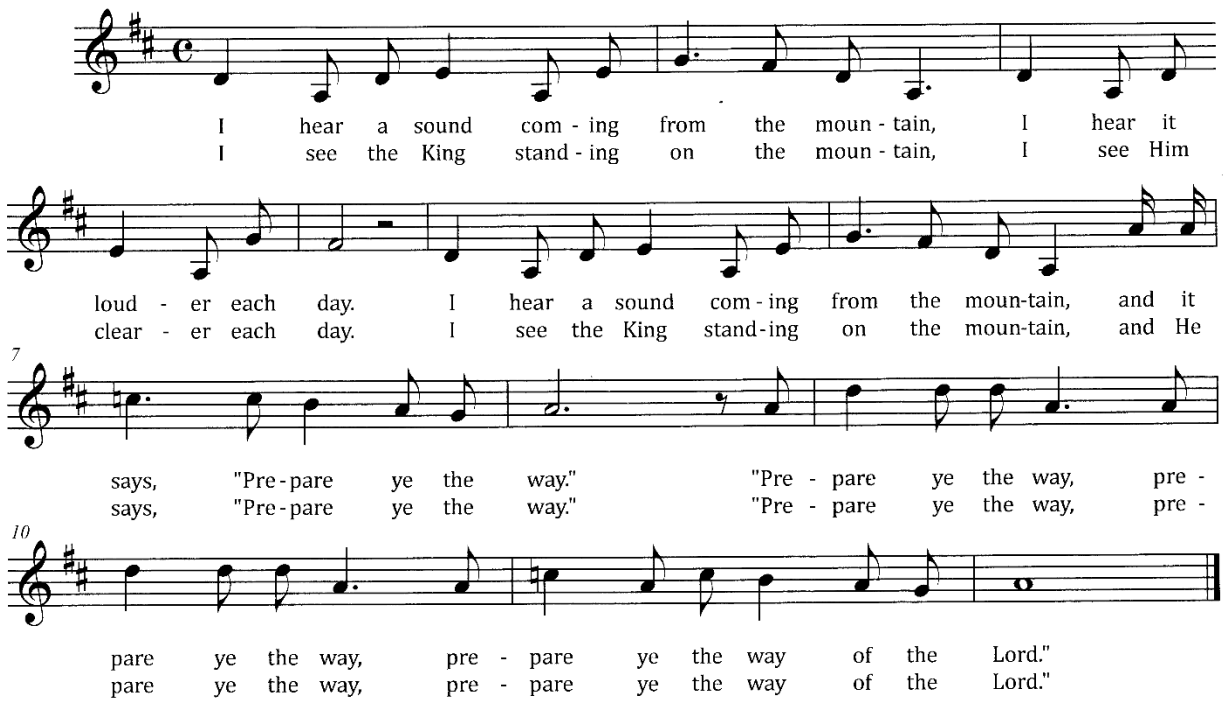
To receive the host, hold your hands out with your palms facing up. If you wish to drink from the chalice, consume the wafer and the chalice bearer will come to you. If you wish to have the wafer intincted in the wine, leave the wafer in the palm of your hand and the chalice bearer will take it, dip it in the wine, and give it back to you for you to consume.

Should you need a gluten-free wafer, indicate that to the priest. It is sufficient for full communion to receive only the host, so if you do not wish to receive the wine, simply consume the wafer and place your hands on the base of the chalice, and the chalice bearer will say the words of administration.

COMMUNION MUSIC
All are invited to sing
Taizé Song Wait for the Lord Jacques Berthier (1923-1994)



***



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.

BLESSING
The Presider blesses the people.

POST-COMMUNION HYMN
All stand as able and sing.
Hymn 57 Lo! he comes with clouds descending HELMSLEY

DISMISSAL
Presider Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia!
People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

POSTLUDE O Heiland, reiss die Himmel auf Rolf Schweizer (1936-2016)

O Saviour, tear open the heavens,
flow down to us from heaven above;
tear off heaven's gate and door,
tear off every lock and bar.

First verse of *O Heiland, reiss die Himmel auf*

Please remember in your prayers those on our long-term prayer list:



Stephanie, Marilyn, Don, Pat, Katie, Anna J, Fred, Brian Z, Lori, Bill M, Dania, Bill, Mary, Eileen, Daren, George, Marsha, Valorie, Michelle, Clara, Chad, Lori, Steve, Ken, Jennifer, Janine, Hazel, Nancy, Dave, Tony, Blair, and Tracy

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"Let all mortal flesh keep silence." Public domain.

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COFFEE HOUR

All are invited to join our vibrant Coffee Hour in the Bishop's Hall immediately following the service. Just follow the crowd for a chance to indulge in a donut and a cup of fresh brewed coffee, while you mix and mingle with the friendly and welcoming Epiphany community!

DONATE

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

THE CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY

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The Bishop's Committee

Bishop's Warden – Stacey Stephens
People's Warden – Celeste Thiel
Treasurer – Shay Hass
Clerk – Elizabeth Bryant

Joseph Cooper '26	Andrew Loosemore '28	Aggie Winston '28
Severin Peck '26	Julie Stalzer '28	
Tina Thomson '28	Rick Wigen '28	

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to ask any member of our staff, our Wardens, or any member of our Bishop's Committee, and they will be happy to assist you.