

TEACHING AND PREACHING, SIGNS AND WONDERS

The Season after the Epiphany

January 7, 2023
St. John's, Powell

WELCOME

We are so happy you are with us. Please add your voice and heart to the prayers. Help others find a place near you and greet the person next to you as we prepare to worship together. Please stand and sit as you are comfortable.

APPEARING LIVE

Jesus taught with his body, his presence, his voice. It is our responsibility to do the same, and we do it all year. In these weeks of January, we will hear from our leadership at the microphone about our presence, our voice, and our servant ministry in short reports of our “**outward signs**” of invisible grace during each service. We will learn about each other and our work, which will help us prepare for the annual meeting of our membership on February 4, 2024. Today, Susan McEvoy will report on Congregational Care, and Meg Nickles will recap formation.

THE SEASON

“Epiphany” comes from a Greek word meaning “showing forth, appearance, manifestation, revelation.” On January 6th we recognize the Manifestation, (or revelation) of Christ to the Gentiles when the **three kings** arrived with gifts for the newborn Jesus. The **star** that guides them is part of the imagery of this season, as are the celestial **sun and moon**.

The Feast of the Epiphany is followed by the “Sundays after the Epiphany.” The length of this season of Epiphany varies from four to nine Sundays, depending on the date of Easter. This year, the season lasts through January to February 11.

SERVICE TEXTS

The Affirmation of Faith for Epiphany is written by The Rev. Dr. Amanda Burr, a United Methodist elder.

The other words of this service are adapted from *Feasting on the Word® Worship Companion*, © 2013 Westminster John Knox Press, Louisville, Kentucky.

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MINISTERS

PRAYER CONCERNS

PRELUDE

“Sending You Light,” Ana Hernandez & Fran McKendree.

HYMN



1. Ev - 'ry na - tion sees the glo - ry of a
2. Ev - 'ry tongue shall sing the prais - es of his
3. Once a - gain may we dis - cov - er Word made
4. Gath - er, God, the world to - geth - er in the



star that pierced the night. As we tell the won-drous
birth in deep - est night. He is heal - ing for the
flesh sent from a - bove In our neigh - bor, sis - ter,
bright-ness of your day. Fill our hearts with joy for -



sto - ry we are bathed in ra - dian't light. Star sent
a - ges; he is Christ, our God's de - light. He pro -
broth - er, in the lone - ly and un - loved. May we
ev - er; help us walk the ho - ly way. May your



forth from high - est heav - en, danc - ing light of God's de -
clams with - in his be - ing all our hopes, our great de -
touch him, may we hold him, may we cra - dle him with
jus - tice rule the na - tions; may all peo - ple live as



sign, Shine up - on the gift that's giv - en: Word made
sires. He shall die to rise re - deem - ing all who
care As we learn to love each oth - er, bring - ing
one. Now we see our true sal - va - tion in the



flesh now born in time.
fol - low with their lives.
hope from out de - spair.
glo - ry of your Son.

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GATHERING

Christ is the fountain of life.

In Christ we behold the light of God.

Yours, O God, is the power to make all things new,
to keep us in sunlight and moonlight.

PSALM 103:1-5

¹My soul, praise the LORD!

Every part of me, praise his holy name!

²My soul, praise the LORD

and never forget how kind he is!

³He forgives all our sins

and heals all our sicknesses.

⁴He saves us from the grave,

and he gives us love and compassion.

⁵He gives us plenty of good things.

He makes us young again,

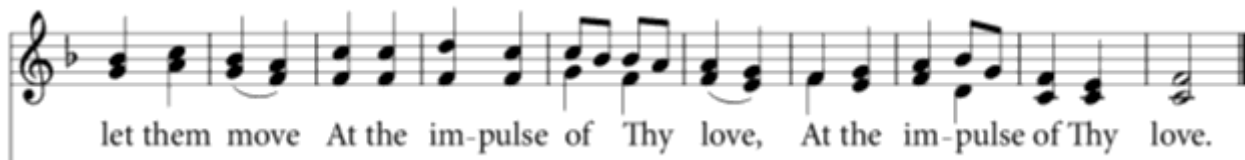
like an eagle that grows new feathers.

SONG OF RENEWAL



1. Take my life, and let it be Con-se - crat-ed, Lord, to Thee. Take my hands, and

2. Take my voice and let me sing al-ways, on - ly, for my King. Take my lips and



let them move At the im-pulse of Thy love, At the im-pulse of Thy love.

let them be filled with messa - ges from thee, filled with messages from thee.

SCRIPTURE

O God, you spoke your word and revealed your good news in Jesus.
Fill all creation with that word again,
so that by proclaiming your joyful promises to all nations
and singing of your glorious hope to all peoples,
we may become one living body,
your incarnate presence on the earth.

Amen.

A reading from Mark.

After the reading

The Word of God, the light of life.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

PRAYERS

Mothering God, in every gathering of Christian believers,
you bring together a people of gifts, strengths, and needs
to manifest the universal body of Christ.

In peace we pray, saying

God of radiance and warmth, **hear our prayer.**

The intercessor continues with the prayers, concluding with

God, you are the giver of all good things:

Receive our prayers that we offer.

In all things, grant us the courage
to exercise your gifts for the good of our world,
through Christ, in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

As our Savior taught us, we now pray.

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,**

**your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

OUTWARD SIGNS

AFFIRMATION

We stand.

We believe in God,
the creator of all things,
the giver of life and breath.
We believe in Jesus Christ,
born Emmanuel, God with us,
baptized and revealed the most beloved child of God;
he sought to heal humanity by taking our brokenness upon himself,
suffering, dying,
and being raised from the dead
for the sake of all the world.
We believe that he will come again.
We believe in the Holy Spirit,
continually pouring herself out refreshing our lives,
leading us into a new day,
ever-birthing the church.
This Spirit is our companion and counselor of truth
reminding us of the gift of faith,
the ever-presence of God
and the promise of eternal life.
Thanks be to God! Amen.

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

We may greet one another in the name of God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY

Bring offerings and tributes with thanks and praise;
for the gifts we give are the gifts of God.

MUSIC

GREAT THANKSGIVING

God is with you.

And also with you.

Let us open our hearts.

We open them up to our God.

Let us give thanks to the God of Light.

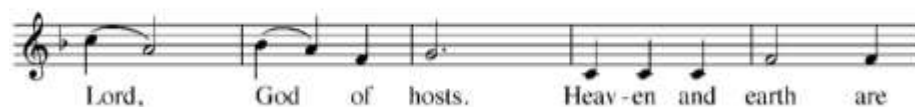
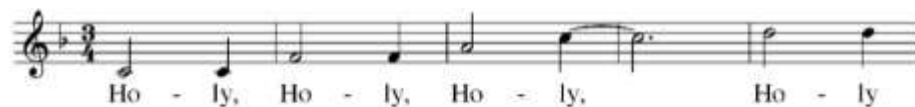
It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Bright shining God, inner light of all faithful souls, we celebrate your gifts of love, creation, and art. We rejoice that you have made us in your image and call us to live in your limitless love. You bring people to the dawn of your rising.

You sent your only child, our morning star, to light a way in our night and lead us to justice and peace. Your Holy Spirit shines good news into our lives.

Each daybreak you call us to feed the hungry, bring recovery of sight, liberate the oppressed, heal the brokenhearted and bind up their wounds, and keep watch for the dawn of your commonwealth on earth.

For all of this we give you thanks. And we praise you, joining our voices with all life on earth and the company of heaven, who forever sing their hymns to proclaim the glory of your name.



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On the night he was betrayed, Jesus took bread,
and after giving thanks broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying,
Take, eat; this is my body given for you. Whenever you do this,
do it in remembrance of me.

After supper, he took the cup, saying,
This cup is the new covenant, sealed in my blood,
shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.
Whenever you drink it, do it in remembrance of me.

This is the mystery of faith:



When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we pro-
claim your Death, O Lord, un-til you come a - gain.

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By your Spirit bless this bread and this cup
that they may become for us the presence of Christ among us.

Shine your light and your love on the offering of our lives.
Enlighten us that we may be your people, the body of the risen Christ,
the light of the world, set apart to serve this earth that you have made.

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
we praise you now and forever, O Eternal Light.



A - men, a - men. A - men, a - men.

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We break the bread of life,
and that life is the light of the world.
God here among us, light in the midst of us,
bring us to light and life.
God's gifts for God's people.

THE COMMUNION

Please come to the table, whether you are single, married or divorced, drinking, using or sober, abled, disabled, or ill, gay, straight, or discovering, wealthy, getting by or in debt. Christ meets us all.

We approach the altar beginning with those sitting in the last rows; they shall be first. Approach the rail from the left aisle and take a cup; used cups go on the tray on the right. You may receive only bread or only wine. Our Eucharistic bread is handmade and robust. If you prefer a wafer, please tell your server.

Receiving the bread and wine is a central act of worship in the Episcopal Church.

MUSIC

PRAYER OF THANKS

We stand.

Let us pray.

In gratitude, O God,
we have come to your table,
into your presence, into your house.
For all that you have done for us,
the bread, the wine, the Word, the song,
for bringing us into the light of Jesus Christ,
we offer our thanks and praise.

We long to live as children of light,
doing what is pleasing to you through Jesus Christ,
who awakens those who sleep,
and raises those who are dead to new life.

In his name we pray.

Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

1 Ye ser - vants of God, your Mas - ter pro - claim,
 2 God rul - eth on high, al - might - y to save;
 3 Sal - va - tion to God who sits on the throne!
 4 Then let us a - dore, and give him his right:

and pub - lish a - broad his won - der - ful Name;
 and still he is nigh: his pres - ence we have.
 Let all cry a - loud, and hon - or the Son.
 All glo - ry and power, all wis - dom and might,

the Name all - vic - to - rious of Je - sus ex - tol:
 The great con - gre - ga - tion his tri - umph shall sing,
 The prais - es of Je - sus the an - gels pro - claim,
 and hon - or and bless - ing, with an - gels a - bove,

his king - dom is glo - rious; he rules o - ver all.
 as - crib - ing sal - va - tion to Je - sus our King.
 fall down on their fa - ces, and wor - ship the Lamb.
 and thanks nev - er - ceas - ing and in - fi - nite love.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt. Music: Paderborn, melody from *Catolisch-Paderbornisches Gesang-buch*, 1765; harm. Sydney Hugo Nicholson (1875-1947).

SENDING

Go peaceably, looking upon the hearts of others,
and proclaiming the Good News.

We go with the light of Christ upon us.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

“Precious Lord, Take My Hand/Just A Closer Walk With Thee,” Selah.