

# EPIPHANY SUNDAY

*Welcome to our home!  
We would love for you to  
join our family!*

JANUARY 7, 2024

## We Gather

**Processional Hymn: #117      *Brightest and best of the stars*      *Please stand & sing as you are able.***  
**(v. 1, 2, 3, 5)**

### Opening Acclamation

*Celebrant:* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*People:* **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

### Collect For Purity

*Celebrant:* 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.**

### Gloria: #S-278

*Please remain standing.*

### Collect of the Day

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant:* Let us pray. O God, by the leading of a star you manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: Lead us, who know you now by faith, to your presence, where we may see your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## We Hear God's Word

### First Lesson: Isaiah 60:1-6

*Please be seated.*

*Reader:* A reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

*People:* **Thanks be to God.**

### Psalms 72:1-7, 10-14

*Read responsively by half verse.*

*Reader:* Give the King your justice, O God,

*People:* **and your righteousness to the King's Son;**

*Reader:* That he may rule your people righteously

*People:* **and the poor with justice;**

*Reader:* That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people,

*People:* **and the little hills bring righteousness.**

*Reader:* He shall defend the needy among the people;

*People:* **he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.**

*Reader:* He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure,  
*People:* **from one generation to another.**

*Reader:* He shall come down like rain upon the mown field,  
*People:* **like showers that water the earth.**

*Reader:* In his time shall the righteous flourish;  
*People:* **there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.**

*Reader:* The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay tribute,  
*People:* **and the kings of Arabia and Saba offer gifts.**

*Reader:* All kings shall bow down before him,  
*People:* **and all the nations do him service.**

*Reader:* For he shall deliver the poor who cries out in distress,  
*People:* **and the oppressed who has no helper.**

*Reader:* He shall have pity on the lowly and poor;  
*People:* **he shall preserve the lives of the needy.**

*Reader:* He shall redeem their lives from oppression and violence,  
*People:* **and dear shall their blood be in his sight.**

## Second Lesson: Ephesians 3:1-12

*Reader:* A reading from the letter to the Ephesians.

This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles—for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

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

## Sequence Hymn: #115

***What child is this  
(v. 1 before, v. 3 after Gospel)***

*Please stand & sing as you are able.*

## Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

*Please remain standing.*

*Celebrant:* The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.  
*People:* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them

where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: `And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'"

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

*Celebrant:* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People:* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**Sermon:** The Rev. Chris Cole

*Please be seated.*

## **We Pray**

### **Nicene Creed**

*Please stand as you are 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.**

### **Prayers of the People**

*Please kneel, sit, or stand.*

*Reader:* Bound together in Christ in the communion of the Holy Spirit, let us pray with one heart and mind to God our Father.

*Reader:* For peace from things that separate us from one another and for our salvation.

*People:* **Lord, have mercy.**

*Reader:* For the peace of the whole world, for the welfare of the holy churches of God, especially...

*People:* **St. Mark's, Perry; St. James, Oklahoma City; Diocese of Cuba; Diocese of Haiti; Diocese of Long Island; The Anglican Church of Burundi.**

*Reader:* For this holy gathering and for those who enter with faith, reverence, and fear of God.

*People:* **Lord, have mercy.**



*Reader:* We pray for...

*People:* **Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Poulson, our Bishop; Chris & Tom, our clergy; Alex & Audrey, our wardens; vestry, delegates, all who minister in Christ, and for all the holy people of God. Lord, have mercy.**

*Reader:* For the world and its leaders, our nation and its people. We pray for our leaders, especially...

*People:* **Joe, our President; Kamala, our Vice-president; Josh, our Congressman; James & Markwayne, our Senators; Kevin, our Governor; and Marlon, our Mayor. Lord, have mercy.**

*Reader:* For prisoners, the oppressed, all those in need or suffering, especially...

*People:* **the Johnson family, Ronnie, Mike, John, Geneva, Glenn, Rose, Karen, Paul, Tracey, Adriana, Fred, Stuart, John Paul, Michael, Joey, Nancy, Dale, Gary, Brittney, Thomas, Catheryne, Jennifer, Patricia, Cathy, Dustin, Paula, Phillip, Marlene, Taylor, Richard, those impacted by war and violence, all emergency responders, United States Military, and those whose suffering is known only to God.**

*Reader:* We pray for those who have died, (*especially...*)

*People:* **Lord, have mercy.**

*Reader:* For ourselves, our families, and those we love. We pray for those in our parish, especially ...

*People:* **Shelia, Tom, Heather, Cornelia, and Richard.**

*Reader:* Heavenly Father, you have promised to hear what we ask in the Name of your Son: Accept and fulfill our petitions, we pray, not as we ask in our ignorance, nor as we deserve in our sinfulness, but as you know and love us in your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **Confession and Absolution**

*Please kneel, sit, or stand.*

*Celebrant:* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbors.

*Silence is observed.*

*Celebrant & People:* **Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

*Celebrant:* 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.**

## **Peace**

*Please stand as you are able.*

*Celebrant:* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

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

*Greet one another in the name of Christ.*

## **Announcements, Birthdays & Anniversary Blessings**

*Please be seated.*

*Welcome to our guests today. If you are new to Grace for the first time or even if you have been here once or twice before, please fill out a visitor card and put it in the plate. We promise not to harass you, but we would like to include you on our weekly email broadcasts and other event notifications. Thank you for the blessing of your presence today.*

## Offertory

*Celebrant:* Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2*

## Offertory Hymn: #128

### *We three kings*

*Please remain seated.*

## Doxology: #380 v. 3

*Please stand & sing as you are able.*

## We Share the Meal

*Eucharistic Prayer B*

## Sursum Corda: #S-120

*Please remain standing.*

*Celebrant* *People*  
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

*Celebrant* *People*  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

*Celebrant*  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

*Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds.*

*Celebrant:* It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

## Sanctus: #S-125

*Please sit or kneel after the Sanctus.*

*Celebrant:* † We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." † † †

**Celebrant:** After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." † † †

Therefore according to his command, O Father:

**Celebrant & People:** **We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;**

**Celebrant:** And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

### Lord's Prayer

**Celebrant:** And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**Celebrant & People:** **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, for ever and ever. Amen.**

### Breaking of the Bread

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.*

### Fraction Anthem: LEVAS #271

Leader

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world: have

Response

mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world: have

Leader

mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world:

Response

grant us peace.

**Celebrant:** The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*At Grace Episcopal Church, all baptized persons are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Please tell the usher if you need communion brought to you at your seat. IF you wish to receive the bread only, hold your palms upward, consume the bread, and cross your arms over your chest when the chalice bearer approaches. Those who do not wish to receive Holy Communion are invited to come to the altar rail to receive a Blessing, indicate this by crossing your arms over your chest when the priest approaches.*

**Communion Hymn: #333**

***Now the silence, now the peace***

## **We Go Into the World**

### **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**Celebrant:** Let us pray.

**Celebrant & 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.**

### **Epiphany Blessing**

**Celebrant:** May Almighty God, who led the Wise Men by the shining of a star to find the Christ, the Light from Light, lead you also, in your pilgrimage, to find the Lord. **Amen.**

May God, who sent the Holy Spirit to rest upon the Only-begotten at his baptism in the Jordan River, pour out that Spirit on you who have come to the waters of new birth. **Amen.**

May God, by the power that turned water into wine at the wedding feast at Cana, transform your lives and make glad your hearts. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you forever. **Amen.**

**Recessional Hymn: #119**

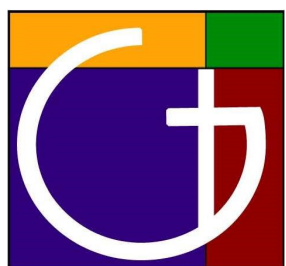
***As with gladness men of old***

*Please stand & sing.*

### **Dismissal**

**Celebrant:** Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**



Grace Episcopal

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**Ministers:** All the People of God (BCP p. 855)

**Priest in Charge:** The Rev. Chris Cole

**Sr. Warden:** Alex Wilson

**Jr. Warden:** Audrey Stone

**Deacon Emeritus:** The Rev. Thomas A. Harrington

**Organist/Choirmaster:** Malcolm McGuire

**Youth & Children's Director:** Nancy Scott

