

Worship & Ministry Leaders

	Today	Next Week
Usher/Greeter	Phyllis & Jim Foster	Susan & John Joseph
Lay Reader	Scott Cudney	Mick McDonald
Intercessor	Bonnie Magno	Kit Huggard

The Epiphany of our Lord

January 5, 2025, 9:00 am

Holy Eucharist, Rite II

*Welcome to worship at St. James' or on Facebook Live.
Please use this Service Leaflet along with your
Book of Common Prayer and Hymnal to join our hearts
and minds in thanks and praise to our Lord God.*

THE WORD OF GOD

Processional: What star is this, with beams so bright Hymnal 124

Opening Sentence

BCP 355

The Gloria

S280, BCP 356

The Collect

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.

First Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6

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.

Psalms 72:1-7, 10-14

BCP 685

1 Give the King your justice, O God, *

and your righteousness to the King's Son;

2 That he may rule your people righteously *

and the poor with justice;

3 That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, *

and the little hills bring righteousness.

Seek Christ. Live Christ. Share Christ.

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- 4 He shall defend the needy among the people; *
he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.
- 5 He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, *
from one generation to another.
- 6 He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, *
like showers that water the earth.
- 7 In his time shall the righteous flourish; *
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall
be no more.
- 10 The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay tribute, *
and the kings of Arabia and Saba offer gifts.
- 11 All kings shall bow down before him, *
and all the nations do him service.
- 12 For he shall deliver the poor who cries out in distress, *
and the oppressed who has no helper.
- 13 He shall have pity on the lowly and poor; *
he shall preserve the lives of the needy.
- 14 He shall redeem their lives from oppression and violence, *
and dear shall their blood be in his sight.

Epistle: Ephesians 3:1-12

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 to 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 to 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.

Gradual Hymn: Brightest and best of the stars (vs 1) Hymnal 117

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

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.

The Sermon

- The Nicene Creed
- Prayers of the People, Form VI
- The Confession of Sin
- The Peace

The Rev. Laura Miller

- BCP 358
- BCP 392
- BCP 393
- BCP 360

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory: A Hallelujah Christmas

[Vs 1] I've heard about this baby boy
Who's come to earth to bring us joy
And I just want to sing this song to you
It goes like this, the fourth, the fifth
The minor fall, the major lift
With every breath, I'm singing Hallelujah

[Refrain] Hallelujah, Hallelujah
Hallelujah, Hallelujah

[Vs 2] A couple came to Bethlehem
Expecting child, they searched the inn
To find a place, for You were coming soon
There was no room for them to stay
So in a manger filled with hay
God's only Son was born, oh, Hallelujah

[Refrain] Hallelujah, Hallelujah
Hallelujah, Hallelujah

[Vs 3] The shepherds left their flocks by night
To see this baby wrapped in light
A host of angels led them all to You
It was just as the angels said
"You'll find Him in a manger bed"
Immanuel and Savior, Hallelujah

[Refrain] Hallelujah, Hallelujah
Hallelujah, Hallelujah

[Vs 4] A star shone bright, up in the east
To Bethlehem, the wise-men three
Came many miles and journeyed long for You
And to the place at which You were
Their frankincense and gold and myrrh
They gave to You and cried out Hallelujah

[Refrain] Hallelujah, Hallelujah
Hallelujah, Hallelujah

[Vs 5] I know You came to rescue me
This baby boy would grow to be
A man and one day die for me and you
My sins would drive the nails in You
That rugged cross was my cross too
Still every breath You drew was Hallelujah

[Refrain] Hallelujah, Hallelujah
Hallelujah, Hallelujah
Hallelujah, Hallelujah
Hallelujah, Hallelujah

The Great Thanksgiving, Eucharistic Prayer B
The Sanctus
The Lord's Prayer
The Breaking of the Bread

BCP 367
S125, BCP 368
BCP 364

*All baptized persons are welcome
to receive communion at God's holy table.*

Prayer of Spiritual Communion

In union, dear Lord, with the faithful at every altar of your Church where your Blessed Body and Blood are being offered to the Father, I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament. And since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I pray you to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself to you, and embrace you with all the affection of my soul. Let me never be separated from you. Let me live and die in your love.

Come Lord Jesus, dwell in your servant in the fullness of your strength, in the perfection of your ways, and in the holiness of your spirit, and rule over every hostile power in the might of your Spirit, and to the glory of your Father.

May the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ preserve my body and soul into everlasting life. Amen

Post Communion Hymn: We three kings (vs 1-2) Hymnal 128

Post Communion Prayer BCP 365

The Blessing

Recessional: We three kings (vs 3-5) Hymnal 128

The Dismissal

The altar flowers are given to the Glory of God

Music with permission CCLI # 1152334

Welcome to Worship

Welcome to our guests this morning! We are delighted you've joined us for worship in person or on FaceBook Live. Visiting? Please sign our guest book on the welcome table and join us for coffee after the service. If you join us on FaceBook, please like or share us that we might know that you have joined us for worship.

Prayer request cards are located in the bell tower window. Please fill out a card and place it in the offering plate or drop it off at the office. Names will stay on the prayer list for six weeks.

Daily devotional: For only \$1 you can begin each day with a short reading and meditation on the word of the Lord. Pick up a *Forward Day by Day* from the welcome table to use in your daily prayers.

To keep in your prayers

We pray for the peace of Jerusalem, especially Christ Church ministering there. We pray for the Church in New Zealand, and the Dioceses of Alabama and Alaska, In our Diocese we pray for the Cathedral of All Saints in Albany, and for all parishes without clergy.

We pray for protection and keeping for Douglas, Jody, Lindsey, and all our men and women who have served or are now serving in our Armed Forces, here and abroad.

We pray for comfort, strength, and healing for all who are in sickness, trouble or need, especially Duane, Heidi, Mikela, Sharon, Bill, Sally, Jack, Al, Joe, Judy, Jamie, Denise, Rebecca, Bonnie, Susi, Dori, Jackie, Vicki, Marion, Pam, Holly, for all those affected by violence, wars, and natural disasters, for all those still struggling from the effects of COVID and those known only to God.

We pray for wisdom and discernment for our Vestry: Barbara, Bonnie, Kitty, Michele, Mick, Scott, Betsy and Elaine.

We give thanks for James Wallace who celebrated a birthday last Friday.

Read, Mark, and Inwardly Digest

This week at St. James'

Today: Join us for coffee hour after the service.

Pledge envelopes: If you requested envelopes, they are on the welcome table. If you forgot to request and you want them, please contact Michele in the office.

Community Dinner - January 8 at Sacred Heart, 5 pm. Host to be announced.

Looking for a way to help? Join a committee on fundraising and event planning. See Mtr. Laura.

Weekly at St. James'

AA meets on Saturday evenings at 6:30 pm, and AA board meets the 2nd Wednesday of every month at 7:00 pm in the parish Hall.

Monday & Tuesday: Living Resources uses Tuttle Hall during the day.

Tuesdays: Knit Wits meets in the Parish Hall from 4:00-5:30 pm. Join us to knit or crochet for social concerns.

Saturdays: Grace Communion International holds services in our Parish Hall from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm.

Coming soon...

Bible Study - stay tuned for our next session.