



THE CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY

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

**The First Sunday of Advent
November 28, 2021**

Welcome to the Church of the Epiphany! We are delighted you have come to worship with us today. We are part of the Episcopal Church; if you are unfamiliar with our rituals and customs, just be present with this ancient liturgy and let the rest of the congregation carry you in worship. Thanks for joining us today!

If you are interested in learning more about our church, please fill out the information card and place it in the collection plate; we are excited to meet you and would love to get to know you. Start by joining us for coffee after the service!

In case you need one, Assisted Listening Devices are available from the ushers in the back of the Church.

The Celebration of the Holy Eucharist

PRELUDE

Von Gott will ich nicht lassen, BWV 658
(I will not abandon God)

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH (1685-1750)

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 and sing

PROCESSIONAL HYMN-HYMN 616 Hail to the Lord's Anointed

ES FLOG EIN KLEINS WALDVÖGELEIN

ACCLAMATION

Priest In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord.

People **Make straight in the desert a highway for our God.**

KYRIE (S-96)

FRANZ SCHUBERT (1797-1828),
ARR. RICHARD PROULX (1937-2010)

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have
mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have
mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have
mer - cy, have mer - cy.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Priest The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Priest 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.

All: **Amen.**

All sit for the readings.

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 33:14-16

Bible, p. 727

After the reading:

Reader: The word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

All remain seated and say together

PSALM 25: 1-9

- 1 To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul;
my God, I put my trust in you; *
let me not be humiliated,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.
- 2 Let none who look to you be put to shame; *
let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.
- 3 Show me your ways, O LORD, *
and teach me your paths.
- 4 Lead me in your truth and teach me, *
for you are the God of my salvation;
in you have I trusted all the day long.

- 5 Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love, *
for they are from everlasting.
- 6 Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; *
remember me according to your love
and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.
- 7 Gracious and upright is the LORD; *
therefore he teaches sinners in his way.
- 8 He guides the humble in doing right *
and teaches his way to the lowly.
- 9 All the paths of the LORD are love and faithfulness *
to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

SECOND READING

1Thessalonians 3:9-13

Bible, p. 1346

After the reading:

Reader: The word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SEQUENCE HYMN-HYMN 56, vv. 1-2 O come, O come, Emmanuel

VENI, VENI, EMMANUEL

✠ THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 21:25-36

Bible, p. 1230

Priest: The Holy Gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ, according to Luke.

All: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

All sit for

THE HOMILY

The Reverend Jamie Barnett

We observe a time of silence after the homily.

All stand and say together

THE NICENE CREED

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 sin. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Let us pray for grace as we prepare for the coming of the Lord.

Keep the Church faithful to heed your warnings and to trust in your promises...

Make her ministers ever watchful to protect your people against evil and to lead them into the way of truth.

Leader: Lord, in your mercy,

All: **Hear our prayer.**

Look with compassion on the world where many are weighed down by care and trapped in the desire for ever-increasing pleasure...

Heal the hostilities which divide nations, and bring to the whole earth the blessing of peace.

Leader: Lord, in your mercy,

All: **Hear our prayer.**

Lift up our eyes to see the signs of our redemption at this present time...

When troubles distress us, give strength to us, to our families, friends and neighbors, and free our hearts from fear.

Leader: Lord, in your mercy,

All: **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who are afflicted, for the victims of war and violence, for those in peril from natural disasters...

Bring the calm of your presence to all whose lives are stunted by fear and anxiety.

Leader: Lord, in your mercy,

All: **Hear our prayer.**

Receive into eternal life the souls of all who have passed through the dangers of this world and come to their rest...

Keep us mindful that after the death of the body we shall stand before the Son of Man, and grant us mercy in that day.

Leader: Lord, in your mercy,

All: **Hear our prayer.**

We pray in the name of Christ, whose words will not pass away. **Amen.**

The celebrant may add a concluding collect here, after which all respond: Amen.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Priest Let us confess our sins against God

Silence

All **Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;
in your compassion forgive us our sins,
known and unknown,
things done and left undone;
and so uphold us by your Spirit
that we may live and serve you in newness of life,**

**to the honor and glory of your Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

The priest concludes with an absolution, after which all respond: Amen.

THE PEACE

Priest The peace of Christ be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

All are invited to 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

The Lord will come and not be slow

(SUNG BY THE PARISH CHOIR)

The Lord will come and not be slow, his footsteps cannot err;
before him righteousness shall go, his royal harbinger.

Truth from the earth, like to a flower, shall bud and blossom then;
and justice from her heavenly bower, look down on mortal men.

Surely to those that do God love salvation is at hand!
And glory shall ere long appear and dwell within the land.

The nations all whom thou hast made shall come, and all shall frame
to bow them low before thee, Lord, and glorify thy name.

For great thou art, and wonders great by thy strong hand are done:
thou in thy everlasting seat remainest God alone.

TEXT: PORTIONS OF PSALMS 82, 85, AND 86 ADAPTED BY JOHN MILTON (1608-1674), ALT.
MUSIC: MELODY BY WILLIAM WHEALE (1696-1727), ARRANGED BY JAY WILCOX (B. 1954);
VERSE 2 HARMONIZATION FROM *SONGS OF PRAISE* (1931), VERSE 3 ACCOMPANIMENT
BY EDWARD BAIRSTOW (1874-1946)

PRESENTATION HYMN-HYMN 73 The King shall come when morning dawns

ST. STEPHEN

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Book of Common Prayer, p. 361

Priest The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Priest Lift up your hearts.

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

Priest Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

The priest continues with the prayer.

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 people remain standing or may kneel, as the priest continues the prayer.

Priest Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

People **We remember his death,**

We proclaim his resurrection,

We await his coming in glory.

The priest continues with the prayer, at the end of which all respond: AMEN.

All say together

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

1 Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and
 trem - bling stand; pon - der noth - ing earth - ly -
 mind - ed, for with bless - ing in his hand
 Christ our God to earth de - scend - eth,
 our full hom - age to de - mand.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Priest 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 failed. Come, because it is Christ who invites you.

THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

All are welcome and encouraged to come forward to receive the holy food of new and everlasting life in Jesus Christ. As you come forward, the bread will be placed in your hand for you to consume. Those who prefer not to receive the Sacrament may receive a blessing or prayer (please cross your arms across your chest). If you would like to receive the Sacrament and mobility is an issue, please let an usher know so that Communion may be brought to you.

COMMUNION MUSIC

All are invited to sing:

Wait for the Lord, his day is near.
 5
 Wait for the Lord, be strong, take heart.

All stand for the

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Priest Let us pray.

People **Almighty and everliving God,
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
And now, Father, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

The priest gives a blessing

All sing

CLOSING HYMN- HYMN 57 Lo! he comes with clouds descending

HELMSLEY

THE DISMISSAL

Priest: As we await our coming Savior, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

POSTLUDE

Auf meinen lieben Gott (“In my beloved God I trust”)

JOHANN LUDWIG KREBS (1713-1780)

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Otherwise, delete the text box.

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Week of Sunday, November 28, 2021

EPIPHANY CONNECTIONS

THIS WEEK AT EPIPHANY

- 11/28 9:00 a.m. Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (Zoom)
- 9:45 a.m. Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (Atrium – Room 2 Mitchel Hall)
- 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist (Nave and tcote.org)
- 11:30 a.m. Epiphany Youth Group (EYG)

- 12/1 7:00 p.m. Education for Ministry (EfM)

- 12/1 7:00 p.m. Lectio Divina (Zoom)

- 12/2 6:30 p.m. Schola rehearsal
- 7:45 p.m. Parish Choir rehearsal

- 12/5 9:00 a.m. Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (Zoom)
- 9:45 a.m. Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (Atrium – Room 2 Mitchel Hall)
- 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist (Nave and tcote.org)
- 11:30 a.m. Epiphany Youth Group (EYG)
- 4:00 p.m. Advent Service of Lessons and Carols

ADVENT SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS



Please join us on Sunday, December 5, at 4 p.m., as we acknowledge the season of Advent in our annual Advent Service of Lessons and Carols. The service tells in scripture and song of the saving work of God. It begins with the story of the fall of humanity, continues with prophecies of the coming of the Messiah, tells of God’s great love for God’s people, and concludes with the Annunciation and Mary’s visit to Elizabeth, when Mary proclaims God’s greatness and glory. Each lesson will be followed by a musical response in the form of either a congregational hymn or a choral anthem. This service helps us to look forward to Christmas with expectation and hope.

ADOPT-A-FAMILY 2021

Help Harbor House fulfill the Christmas dream of families and others in the Conejo Valley who might otherwise go without by donating to the Adopt-a-Family program. We at Epiphany have pledged to donate \$3,000 to adopt 20 families that have four children in each family. Our pledge will cover the cost of a \$50.00 grocery gift card for each family, and a \$25 Target gift card for each child. (Harbor House will purchase the cards with our donation.) Please make your check payable to The Church of the Epiphany and write Adopt-a-Family on the memo line. Donations will be accepted through Sunday, December 5, 2021. If you have questions, please feel free to contact Elizabeth Olson, Yvonne Lux, Karen Dyer, or the church office.

SPIRITUAL RESOURCE FOR ADVENT

Advent Word, a global Advent Calendar, offers daily meditations and images during this holy season beginning today, November 28. In addition to meditations and images, Advent Word invites your personal reflections via social media to share your own Advent journey. Thousands participate each year, responding to the day’s prompt words with photos, written responses, crafts, drawings, poems, found art, and Holy Spirit-filled posts. The website, where you can sign up for daily notifications, is:

<https://adventword.org/en/home/>.

CHRISTMAS OWLS EVENT – DECEMBER 9

Please join us on December 9, 2021, at noon for a festive event that will include a catered lunch, gift exchange game, and a sing-along of favorite Christmas songs. Please bring along a \$10 wrapped gift with your cheery selves for an



afternoon of fun!! **Please RSVP by December 6**, either by calling the office at (818) 991-4797 or emailing Michelle at mponticelli@tcote.org.

REVERSE ADVENT CALENDARS

Thank you to all who took boxes for the Reverse Advent Calendar project.

Please return your box at any Christmas Service or at 10 a.m. on Thursday, December 30, when they will be collected.

DISCERNING YOUR CALL

Epiphany relies on volunteers to fill key roles. If you feel called to help Epiphany's mission to the community, there are opportunities for you to help!

When you are trying to discern what your ministry is, consider where your deep joy and the world's great needs intersect. Once again, this Sunday we will have a Welcome table where you can sign up to serve in various ministries at Epiphany. Thank You!

ACCESSING OUR LIVESTREAM

The easiest way to access our livestream is by going to www.tcote.org/live-stream-service. That page has the service stream for Sunday and most of the week after, and a link to the bulletin. It also has a link to Epiphany's YouTube channel for past services (or the immediate past service if that is no longer available through the website).

You can also get there by going to www.tcote.org and scrolling down to the rectangular box below "Latest Sermons." Click on that box, and you will be on the page described above.

CONFIRMATION CLASS

Live and in-person Confirmation classes are forming! Recommended age is 14 years or over. If you or someone you know is interested, please contact Rev. Jamie.

PRAYERS

Please pray for those on our Parish Prayer List: Kathy

Please pray for those on our Long-Term Parish Prayer list: Maria and the Blackwood Family, Ken, Pam, Donna, Neil, Olivia and Byron, Jan Barnes, Bob, Meg, Stella

Please pray for the repose of the souls of all who have died from COVID-19.

To add yourself, family, or friends to the prayer list, please fill out a prayer card or submit your prayer request online at www.tcote.org/prayer-request/.

Please note: After two weeks on the Parish Prayer List, the names of those for whom we have prayed are moved to the Long-Term Prayer List for two more months, unless stated otherwise.

