# Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost October 29, 2023, 10:00 a.m.



## THE CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY

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

The Rev. Jamie Barnett, Vicar

#### **WELCOME**

**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! Please join us for coffee, donuts, and fellowship in the Bishop's Hall directly after the service.

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.

**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**: 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 *pray ground* is located in the side chapel and has quiet activities for parents and younger children to use while still 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 Tuesday-Thursday from 9 a.m.-3 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.

#### THE CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY

The Episcopal Church in Agoura, Oak Park, and Westlake Village 5450 Churchwood Drive, Oak Park, California 91377 (818) 991-4797 · tcote.org

#### **Connect to the Staff**

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#### THE BISHOP'S COMMITTEE

Bishop's Warden – Steve Stephens People's Warden – Susan Halligan Co-Treasurers – Eileen Hannemann and Shay Hass Clerk – Laura Paden

John Brunson '23 Shay Hass '23 Katie Roberts '23 Susan Halligan '24 Gabriel Rueda '24 Bob Thomson '24

Claudia Dempster '25 Laura Paden '25 Bob Schneider '25

## The Holy Eucharist, Rite II

**PRELUDE** 

Allegretto in G

WALTER G. ALCOCK (1861-1947)

## The Word of God

At the sound of the bell. all stand as able and sing.

#### **ENTRANCE HYMN**

Hymn 381

Thy strong word did cleave the darkness

TON-Y-BOTEL

#### **OPENING ACCLAMATION**

The people standing, the Presider says

Presider Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

People Glory to God for ever and ever.

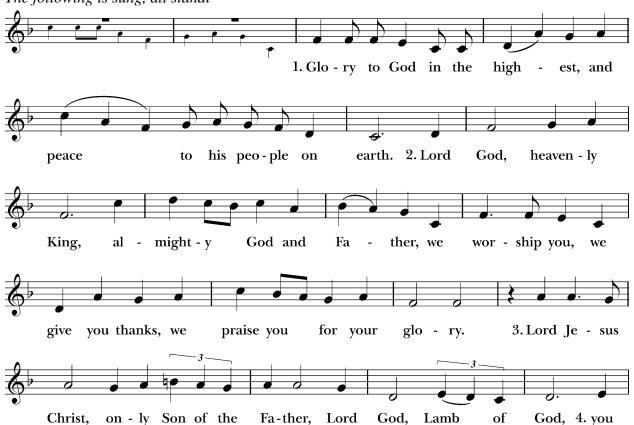
#### **COLLECT FOR PURITY**

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 OR SONG OF PRAISE S 280 Glory to God (Canticle 20) (Powell)

The following is sung, all standi





Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932), rev. Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

#### THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen*.

### The Lessons

FIRST READING: Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18

The people sit.

A Reading from the book of Leviticus.

<sup>1</sup>The LORD spoke to Moses, saying:

<sup>2</sup>Speak to all the congregation of the people of Israel and say to them: You shall be holy, for I the LORD your God am holy.

<sup>15</sup>You shall not render an unjust judgment; you shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great: with justice you shall judge your neighbor. <sup>16</sup>You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not profit by the blood of your neighbor: I am the LORD.

<sup>17</sup>You shall not hate in your heart anyone of your kin; you shall reprove your neighbor, or you will incur guilt yourself. <sup>18</sup>You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against any of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the LORD.

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

Silence may follow.

#### **PSALM: Psalm 1**

Remain seated.



S-411 | © 1979, Robert Knox Kennedy.

- Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the | wicked, \* nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the | scornful!
- Their delight is in the law of the | LORD, \* and they meditate on his law day and | night.
- They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not | wither; \* everything they do shall | prosper.
- 4 It is not so with the | wicked; \* they are like chaff which the wind blows a way.
- 5 Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment | comes, \* nor the sinner in the council of the | righteous.
- For the LORD knows the way of the | righteous, \* but the way of the wicked is | doomed.

#### **SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8**

The people sit.

A Reading from Paul's First letter to the Church in Thessalonika.

<sup>1</sup>You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, <sup>2</sup>but though we had already suffered and been shamefully mistreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you

the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. <sup>3</sup>For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, <sup>4</sup>but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts. <sup>5</sup>As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; <sup>6</sup>nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, <sup>7</sup>though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. <sup>8</sup>So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

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

Silence may follow.

#### **SEQUENCE HYMN**

All stand.

Hymn 680 (verses 1-5) O God, our help in ages past

ST. ANNE

#### GOSPEL: Matthew 22:34-46

All stand.

Presider The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

<sup>34</sup>When the Pharisees heard that [Jesus] had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, <sup>35</sup>and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. <sup>36</sup>"Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" <sup>37</sup>He said to him, ""You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind." <sup>38</sup>This is the greatest and first commandment. <sup>39</sup>And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' <sup>40</sup>On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

<sup>41</sup>Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: <sup>42</sup>"What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?" They said to him, "The son of David." <sup>43</sup>He said to them, "How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying,

<sup>44</sup> The Lord said to my Lord,

"Sit at my right hand,

until I put your enemies under your feet"?

<sup>45</sup>If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?" <sup>46</sup>No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

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

THE SERMON Karen James

#### THE NICENE 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.

Friends, the Lord has been our refuge from one generation to another. Let us pray to our God, saying, "Show your servants your works, O Lord, and be gracious to us."

We pray for the leaders of the Church. Give bishops, priests, deacons, and lay leaders gentle and loving hearts. Empower us to share the gospel and ourselves with those in need.

Silence

Show your servants your works, O Lord,

And be gracious to us.

We pray for all humankind. Prosper the work of our hands. May all those who work earn a fair wage. May those without work find strength and encouragement in your love. Give us hearts to respect the dignity of every human being.

Silence

Show your servants your works, O Lord,

#### And be gracious to us.

We pray for all creation. You brought forth the mountains. You gave birth to the land and the earth. Give us the desire and will to care for all you have made.

Silence

Show your servants your works, O Lord,

And be gracious to us.

We pray for the areas in which we live. O God, we want to obey what you command. Help us to love our neighbors as ourselves.

Silence

Show your servants your works, O Lord,

And be gracious to us.

We pray for the afflicted and the suffering. And we pray for those who weep and mourn. Nurse them back to health as a mother tenderly nurses her children. We pray especially for those on our parish prayer list: Madden, Tom, Anahid, Glenn and family, and all the victims of the violent shooting in Lewiston, Maine. We pray also for those on our long-term parish prayer list and for those who have requested our prayers but who prefer to remain anonymous.

Silence

Show your servants your works, O Lord,

And be gracious to us.

We pray for those who have died. Though we are swept away like a dream in this mortal life, you promise to raise us to life immortal through your Son. May your graciousness, O Lord, be upon us.

Silence

Show your servants your works, O Lord,

And be gracious to us. Amen.

#### **CONFESSION OF SIN**

The Presider says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Presider 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 may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

The Presider says.

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen*.

#### THE PEACE

Presider The peace of Christ be always with you.

People And also with you.

Then the Presider and the People 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**

Where charity and love prevail

(sung by the Parish Choir)

Where charity and love prevail there God is ever found; brought here together by Christ's love, by love are we thus bound.

With grateful joy and holy fear his charity we learn; let us with heart and mind and soul now love him in return.

Forgive we now each other's faults as we our faults confess, and let us love each other well in Christian holiness.

Let strife among us be unknown; let all contention cease; be God's the glory that we seek; be ours his holy peace.

Let us recall that in our midst dwells Christ, his only Son; as members of his Body joined we are in him made one.

For love excludes no race or clan that names the Savior's Name; his family embraces all whose Father is the same.

TEXT: LATIN HYMN, 9<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY, TRANS. J. CLIFFORD EVERS (1916-1997),

ALT.

MUSIC: KENNETH T. KOSCHE (B. 1947)

PRESENTATION HYMN

## The Great Thanksgiving

Remain standing.

Presider The Lord be with you. And also with you. People Presider Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord. People

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. Presider It is right to give God thanks and praise. People

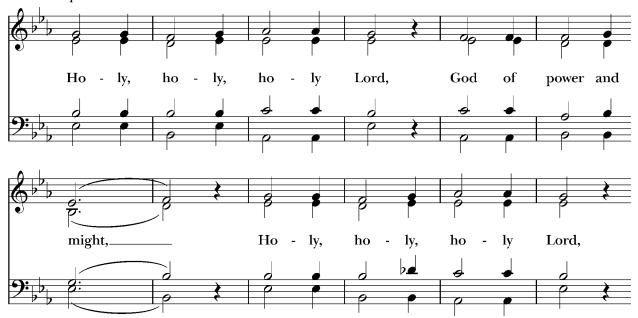
#### Presider

All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things. You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb; You brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind. Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing,

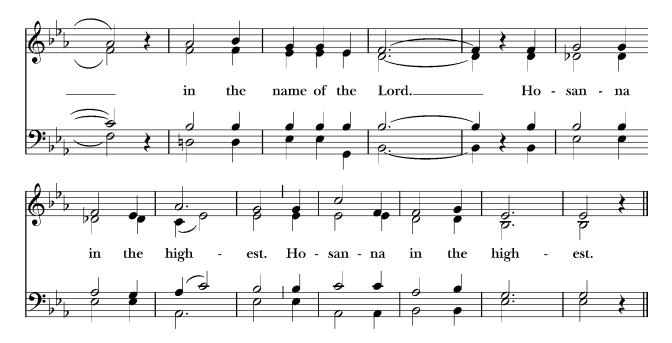
all you create is a sign of hope for our journey; And so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:

#### SANCTUS S 130 Holy, holy, holy (Schubert/Proulx)

Presider and People







The Presider continues

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all,

your Word has never been silent;

you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations,

you delivered them from bondage

and led them to a land of promise.

Of your grace, you gave Jesus

to be human, to share our life,

to proclaim the coming of your holy reign

and give himself for us, a fragrant offering.

Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer,

you have freed us from sin,

brought us into your life,

reconciled us to you,

and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us

Jesus took bread,

and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it,

gave it to his friends and said:

"Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine,

said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said:

"Drink this, all of you:

this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood,

poured out for you and for all

for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me."

And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ's coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

Presider and People

Dying, you destroyed our death. Rising, you restored our life. Christ Jesus, come in glory!

The Presider continues

Send your Holy Spirit upon us
and upon these gifts of bread and wine
that they may be to us
the Body and Blood of your Christ.

Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power,
may be a people of hope, justice and love.

Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ,
and in the fullness of time gather us
with all your people
into the joy of our true eternal home.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ,
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
we worship you our God and Creator
in voices of unending praise.

All Pleased are you now and for ever AMEN

All: Blessed are you now and for ever. AMEN.

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say, in the language of our hearts,

#### *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. Amén.

## The Breaking of the Bread



The Presider says

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

#### **DISTRIBUTION**

The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.

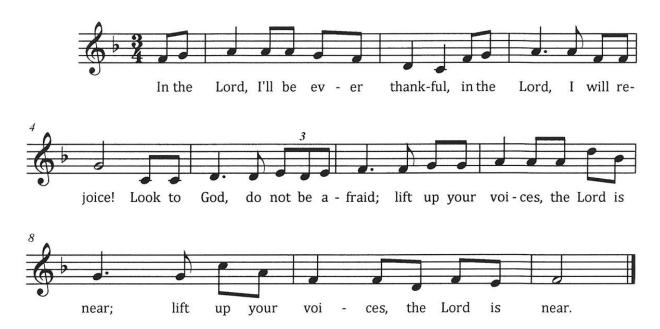
Presider

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.

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 presider. If you would like a gluten-free wafer, please tell the presider when you reach the front.

Put your hands out one on top of the other, and the wafer will be placed in your hand. Leave the wafer in place and move to the chalice bearer, who will then take it, dip it in the wine, and hand it back to you. If you do not wish to receive the wine, simply consume the wafer and then you may place your hands on the base of the chalice and the chalice bearer will say the words of administration.

#### **COMMUNION HYMN**



*After Communion, the Presider says* Let us pray.

Presider and People
God of abundance,
you have fed us
with the bread of life and cup of salvation;
you have united us
with Christ and one another;
and you have made us one
with all your people in heaven and on earth.
Now send us forth
in the power of your Spirit,
that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world

and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

#### THE BLESSING

*The Priest blesses the people.* 

#### **POST-COMMUNION HYMN**

Hymn 551 Rise up, ye saints of God FESTAL SONG

**DISMISSAL** 

Presider Alleluia, alleluia! Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE Festvorspiel Moritz Brosig (1815-1887)

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## **EPIPHANY CONNECTIONS**

www.tcote.org

#### THIS WEEK AT EPIPHANY

10/29 9:45 a.m. Children in church
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist; in-person and
live-streaming: www.tcote.org
11:30 a.m. Epiphany Youth Group
4:00 p.m. EMG Concert Seraphour

## 10/31 Happy Halloween

10/31		itappy itacoween
11/1	12:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	ALL SAINTS DAY Feeding the Spirit Bible Study Lectio Divina
11/2	6:30 p.m. 7:45 p.m.	Schola rehearsal Parish Choir rehearsal
11/5	10:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m.	Children in church Holy Eucharist; in-person and live-streaming: www.tcote.org
	11:30 a.m.	Epiphany Youth Group



Subscribe to our Connections Newsletter at www.tcote.org/newsletter/

#### ROOTED IN ABUNDANCE



Gather us together, O God, that we might share the prayers, intentions, and thanksgivings of our community. May we be generous with our gifts

because we are rooted in abundance.

Our operating budget varies from year to year and is determined by our income. Please look at the budgeting flyer and the ministry opportunities on the back to see how you can share your wealth, work, and wisdom.

You will find a pledge card in the back of the pew in front of you. Please prayerfully consider filling it out and turning it in today. You may also pledge online at <a href="www.tcote.org/stewardship-2024/">www.tcote.org/stewardship-2024/</a> All pledge cards will be blessed on Sunday, November 19.

#### MUSIC GUILD CONCERT



The Epiphany Music Guild presents its second concert of the season **TODAY at 4:00 p.m. Seraphour: Spirit and Light.** The all-female quartet will present music spanning

centuries from the Renaissance to present day. Included will be works by renowned British composer John Taverner and contemporary Korean American composer Sungji Hong. Fanfare Magazine calls Seraphour's music "meltingly beautiful," and the a cappella program promises to offer a sublime window into the eternal and divine.

Seraphour's vocalists are Melissa Birch, Emma Grace Roche, Dana Rouse, and Heidi Vass. Formed in response to the isolation of the Covid pandemic, Seraphour celebrates through music that which is true, beautiful, and good. The quartet is dedicated to the preservation and proliferation of the sacred canon, highlighting unaccompanied classical sacred gems that celebrate the beauty of the female voice. Seraphour's debut album, "Angele Dei," was released in October 2021 and has been featured on classical radio stations and syndicated NPR and PBS programs across the country.

A light reception will follow the performance. Admission is free; donations to the Epiphany Music Guild are graciously accepted.

#### **OUR OFRENDA**



We encourage you to bring pictures and items of ones you have lost and place them on our ofrenda from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. October 31 - November 2.

You may also contribute on the morning of Sunday, November 5. *The service on that Sunday will include a prayer for them.* 

Lo alentamos a traer fotos y artículos de los que ha perdido y colocarlos en nuestra ofrenda. de 9:00 a.m. a 3:00 p.m. del martes 31 de octubre al jueves 2 de noviembre, También puede contribuir en la mañana del domingo 5 de noviembre. *El servicio de ese domingo incluirá una oración por ellos*.

#### ALL SAINTS MEMORIAL CARDS



In preparation for our All Saints' celebration on **November 5**, memorial cards will once again be available for you to fill out and return

in remembrance of family and friends. The cards are placed on the altar and blessed as part of the service. The names will not be read but writing them and remembering is a beautiful spiritual practice that gives us an opportunity to feel close to those whom we no longer see. The cards are in front of the baptismal font.

#### **RDV BOTTLING EVENT**



After bottling **62** cases of wine made from grapes harvested from the church vineyard, members of our Red Door Vineyard enjoyed a wonderful meal with new and old friends.

#### WALK WITH AMAL



Little Amal is the 12-foot puppet of a 10-year-old Syrian refugee girl, who has travelled the world with her message of hope and solidarity for

displaced people everywhere. On **Friday, November 3** at 10:30 a.m. at The Kia Forum Parking Lot, 3900 W Manchester Blvd, Inglewood, choreographer **Debbie Allen** will present Queen of the Monarchs in partnership with Debbie Allen Dance Academy and Jeff Tang. If you would like to join a group "caravan" to the event, please contact Interfaith representative: Aggie Winston at (805) 807-5001 or <a href="mailto:aggiew53@gmail.com">aggiew53@gmail.com</a>.

#### FLOWER GIFTS FOR SUNDAYS



Sponsoring altar flowers on Sunday is a wonderful way to celebrate a special occasion, honor loved ones, or give thanks. If you would like to give, please

fill out the card found in the church pews or visit <a href="https://www.tcote.org/epiphany-flower-guild/">www.tcote.org/epiphany-flower-guild/</a>

#### MINISTRIES – FIND YOUR CONNECTION

For more information on these and other ministries, please visit www.tcote.org



Members of the **Altar Guild** prepare all that is necessary for the celebration of all of the sacraments of the church. Contact: Leigh Wallace <a href="mailto:mizeinla@gmail.com">mizeinla@gmail.com</a>



Want to help on Sundays during the service? If you are interested in being an **usher**, **reader**, **oblationer**, **or LEM**, please contact the church at info@tcote.org



Coffee hour is a tradition of hospitality and fellowship, a time to catch up with friends and acquaint yourself with new people of the congregation.

Interested in being a **Coffee Host**? Contact: info@tcote.org



The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd program is highly childcentered and allows children to enter into a relationship with God in their

own ways, and in their own time. All children are welcome. Contact: Laurie Burns lburns@tcote.org



At Epiphany, we embrace and appreciate the capacity and insight of our teen parishioners. **EYG** is a safe, encouraging space for spiritual exploration and the asking

of important questions. We meet *every Sunday from* 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Contact: Laurie Burns lburns@tcote.org

The Women's Interfaith Network (WIN) has many opportunities to serve those in need in our community. Please check their page at <a href="https://www.tcote.org">www.tcote.org</a>. Contact: Aggie Winston (805) 807-5001.



**PFLAG**'s vision is to create a world where difference is celebrated, and all people are valued inclusive of their sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression. We meet on the *second Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m.* Contact: <a href="mailto:info@tcote.org">info@tcote.org</a>



**Laundry Love** is a nationwide program that assists low-income families and individuals in doing their laundry. We meet on *the last Tuesday of each month from 5:30* -

7:30 p.m. Contact: Karen James kjames@tcote.org



The Lunch Bunch prepares and delivers 70-80 brown bag lunches to Harbor House once a month for low income and homeless families and individuals. Join us! Contact: Yvonne

Lux yvonnelux@gmail.com



**Creation Care** at The Church of the Epiphany is about helping each other to grow in care for God's Creation. Seasonal Sacred Hikes help to create a

personal bond and connection. Contact: Mari Mendenhall mmidsgn@sbcglobal.net



Meeting weekly for one-hour at noon on Wednesdays in Bishop's Hall, **Feeding the Spirit** bible study is focused on upcoming lessons for the week and the themes found within.

Bring a lunch! Upcoming readings will be found in our weekly *Connections* newsletter or lectionarypage.net

**Lectio Divina** is a practice of scriptural reading, meditation, and prayer opening to a deeper communion with God. We meet



via Zoom every Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. Link at www.tcote.org/lectio-divina/ or contact: Barry Burns burnscreative@gmail.com.



A grief shared meets on the fourth Tuesday of every month from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in Ascension Chapel. Wherever and however you are

experiencing grief, we invite you to come and share your story in a safe and supportive space. Contact: Laurie Burns lburns@tcote.org



**Red Door Vineyard's** vision is to be a source of congregational growth, strength and spirituality as we share in the journey of crafting

wine in God's name. In addition to ongoing vineyard activities, we gather monthly for Monday Night Fellowship and Friday Evening Happy Hour and arrange a variety of social and cultural experiences. Contact: Stacey Stephens reddoorvineyard@tcote.org



The Epiphany Music Guild furthers the church's outreach mission to the community by providing a regular EPIPHANY MUSIC GUILD series of musical and other artistic

events, enriching people's lives and giving them opportunities to encounter beauty in a sacred space. www.tcote.org/music/



The **Pastoral Care Team** cares for parishioners who may be sick, recovering from surgery or experiencing other life changes. We make phone calls, visit

hospitals and homes, and help with the unmet needs they may have, such as providing an occasional meal following surgery or illness. If you would like to be a part of this rewarding ministry, contact Sharon Schneider: sschneider@tcote.org

**OWLS** (Older Wiser Laity) strives to create community and fellowship opportunities among the more senior members of our church and the greater area. meeting monthly for lunch and a variety of enriching programs





"Just the noise you make, and the camaraderie...it is the most life-affirming experience, singing in a choir." Sir Elton John The

Music Ministry at The Church of the Epiphany offers a variety of opportunities for participation and welcomes all. You may join the choir at any time. Contact: Jay Wilcox jwilcox@tcote.org

#### **PRAYERS**

Please pray for those on our Parish Prayer List: Madden, Tom, Anahid, Glenn and family, and all the victims of the violent shooting in Lewiston, Maine.

Please pray for those on our Long-Term Parish Prayer list: Boyd, Kay, Neil and Sarah, Tom, Donna, Arturo, Tommy, Judith, Matthew, Kathy, the Rowe family and baby Noah, Curt, Jana, Dave C, Steve, Joe, Rhonda, Catherine, Lynn, Dan, Amanda, Laura, Tabitha, Debbi, Judie, Viola Cleo, Cordelia, the Barsoum family, Georgia, Bishop Michael Curry, Steve, Paul, Carol, and Peter

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/.

To access the bulletin from either your tablet or your cell phone, please scan the QR code:

Be sure to follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/EpiphanyOakpark/ and Instagram at www.instagram.com/tcoteoakpark



Jack Wood is a co-founder of Growing Together Community Gardens, a group of eight sustainable gardens in the Fargo, ND and Moorhead, MN community. The gardens address food insecurity by cultivating volunteers, mentors, and leaders who respect and honor the integrity of one another and the earth. For Wood, the idea of being Rooted in Abundance means, "Being thankful for the gifts that God gives me and being able to share these talents with my family as well as the larger community. When I think about the word rooted, I think about something that is at the core of our existence, the thoughts and actions that are part of our everyday life and that grow from God as the source of life."

From this trust that our lives are deeply rooted in God, Wood believes we can give ourselves fully and abundantly to others without holding back. He sees this in the volunteers who work in the community gardens. Through planting, nurturing, and harvesting, they discover in fresh ways how they are rooted in a source of life that they did not create but that they do share and participate in. This, in turn, makes them generous and giving people throughout their lives.



Talk about a time in your life when working as a volunteer exposed you to new ideas and skills. How did meeting new people within the context of ministry add to your own gifts?

From long-time community residents to new immigrant citizens, Wood says, "I have seen an amazing abundance, gratitude, and generosity in people who, before they came together to garden, didn't know each other but now have grown into a family that cares for one another and shares their life with each other. I think that gratitude and generosity work together to make us better human beings."



More information on Jack Wood and Growing Together Community Gardens is available at www.growingtogetherfm.org