



Church of the Epiphany

The Ninth Sunday *after* Pentecost

Proper 12



Our Mission: *“We welcome all for Christian worship, fellowship, and service,
trusting God to transform our lives and the world.”*

July 26, 2026 ~ 8 & 10 a.m.

WELCOME TO CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY!

“Welcome the stranger as Christ” ~ *St. Benedict*

If you are our guest today, we are especially glad you are here. Please fill out a welcome card on the entrance hall table and give it to an usher so we may add you to our newsletter and stay in touch. Please join us again as we celebrate the Resurrection every Sunday at 10 a.m.

Some notes on worship at Epiphany:

- ❖ We welcome children in our worship. Generally, they are happier and quieter if they sit near the front and can watch the rituals and see faces. If your child needs more “wobble room” please feel free to stand or walk in the back. If they need a break, diaper change or feeding, you may wish to continue worship down the hall in the Parish Hall which is equipped with audio; please return for Communion or as soon as you’re able.
- ❖ Text written in **bold** in this bulletin is to be spoken by all. The ✠, when printed here, indicates an appropriate time to sign yourself with the cross.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST THE ENTRANCE RITE

All stand as the ministers enter.

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Presider Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be God’s kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

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 IN EXCELSIS

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God’s people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,

we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,

you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;

you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,

you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit

in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated for the readings.

FIRST READING: 1 Kings 3:5-12

⁵At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, "Ask what I should give you." ⁶And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today.

⁷And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in.

⁸And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. ⁹Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?" ¹⁰It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. ¹¹God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, ¹²I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL Psalm 119:129-136 *Spoken in unison.*

¹²⁹**Your decrees are wonderful; ***

therefore I obey them with all my heart.

¹³⁰**When your word goes forth it gives light; ***

it gives understanding to the simple.

¹³¹ **I open my mouth and pant; ***
I long for your commandments.
¹³² **Turn to me in mercy, ***
as you always do to those who love your Name.
¹³³ **Steady my footsteps in your word; ***
let no iniquity have dominion over me.
¹³⁴ **Rescue me from those who oppress me, ***
and I will keep your commandments.
¹³⁵ **Let your countenance shine upon your servant ***
and teach me your statutes.
¹³⁶ **My eyes shed streams of tears, ***
because people do not keep your law.

SECOND READING: Romans 8:26-39

²⁶Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. ²⁷And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. ²⁸We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose.

²⁹For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. ³⁰And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

³¹What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? ³²He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? ³³Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies.

³⁴Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. ³⁵Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ³⁶As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered." ³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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

All stand as able for the Holy Gospel.

HOLY GOSPEL: 13:31-33, 44-52

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

³¹ He put before them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; ³²it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.” ³³He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.”

⁴⁴“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. ⁴⁵“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; ⁴⁶on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it. ⁴⁷“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; ⁴⁸when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. ⁴⁹So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁵¹“Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” ⁵²And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

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

HOMILY

The Reverend Vicki Ix

NICENE CREED

All stand as you are able for the 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 sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life ☩ of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

For the Church – may we live the Gospel faithfully and help others find the treasure we have found in Christ. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For peace between Iran and the United States, Ukraine and Russian, Palestine and Israel, and an end to the civil war in South Sudan. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For all elected to public office in federal, state and city government – give them wisdom and understanding to discern what is right. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For all who seek bread, dignified work and a safe place to sleep – may we see Christ in their poverty. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For the safety of the children attending summer camp with East End Theater. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For all who are sick in mind, body or spirit – especially those we name aloud *PAUSE* – may your healing love give them comfort and strength. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray eternal joy for Alice Simnett in whose loving memory a donation was made to Epiphany, and for all our loved ones in glory. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

The Presider adds a concluding Collect.

CONFESSION

Presider Let us confess our sins and the ways we have fallen short of the glory of God.

People **Eternal God, giver of light and grace, we confess we have sinned against you and against our neighbor in thought, word and deed; in what we have done and left undone, through our own ignorance, weakness and deliberate fault. Forgive us when we have not cherished but trampled your creation, when we have not met but missed you in one another, when we have not received but rejected the poor. Hear now our plea for mercy and our desire to amend our lives.**

ABSOLUTION

Presider Almighty God, who is slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love has promised mercy to all those who with heartfelt sorrow and true faith turn unto Him, forgives you all your sins. And may Christ strengthen you in all goodness as you continue to follow Him in holiness of life through the power of the Spirit. **Amen.**

PEACE

Presider The peace of the Risen Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY & PRESENTATION

*We welcome your offering to support the ministry of Epiphany in service to our community.
Thank you for your generosity.
All stand as able when the gifts are brought forward.*

Presider All things come of thee O Lord,
People **And of thine own have we given thee.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

EOW Eucharistic Prayer 3

Presider The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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 AND BENEDICTUS

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

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. 63We 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:

Dying, you destroyed our death.

Rising, you restored our life.

Christ Jesus, come in glory!

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. **Blessed are you now and for ever. AMEN.**

LORD'S PRAYER

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

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

A period of silence is kept.

Presider

Alleluia! Behold what you are – the Body of Christ.

People

May we become what we receive. Alleluia!

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Presider The gifts of God for the people of God.

All baptized Christians, regardless of denomination, are invited to receive Communion.

It is our custom to receive the bread in your hands. If you wish to receive the wine also, remain at the rail and wait for the Eucharistic minister to come to you, then carefully dip your bread in the wine avoiding touching it. Gluten free wafers are available; please let the priest know of your need.

If it is difficult for you to walk, please notify an usher, and we will bring Communion to you.

If you do not wish to receive Communion, we invite you to come forward for a blessing from the priest indicated by crossing your arms over your shoulders.

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Presider Let us pray.

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.

BLESSING

Presider

Live without fear: your Creator has made you holy, has always protected you, and loves you as a mother. Go in peace to follow the good road and may God's blessing - the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit - be with you always. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Presider

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

People

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

This week our community is praying for:

Dottie, Mary, Bethany, Adam, Mary, Dawn, George, Sonya, Michael, Deb, Jessica, Phil, Jim, Jo-Ann, Edward, Linda, Jill, Susan, Gretchen, Geri, Kay, Dennis & Virginia.

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If you have a particular need for which you'd like to request prayers from the Healing Prayer Team, please email *Carol* [marslarich@gmail.com](mailto:marslarich@gmail.com) or *Denise* [dmessier14@gmail.com](mailto:dmessier14@gmail.com)

# Midweek Eucharist

Wednesdays  
~Noon~



July Donation Requests  
**TUNA**

## This week we Celebrate... ... & the July Birthdays of:

**29-** Lola Rosario  
**30-** Arlene Cockayne (95!)  
*176 Woodward Ave  
Seekonk, MA 02771*

& the July Anniversary of:  
**31-** Pam Harrop & Marilyn Weigner



### **Liturgical Ministers:**

#### **8 a.m. Holy Eucharist**

**Greeter** - Carl Mayse

**Usher** - Carl Mayse

**Eucharistic Minister** - John Eastwood

**Lector** - Janice Johnson

**Communion Bread**- Dawn Campbell

**Healing Prayer Team**- Janice Johnson

**Coffee Hour Hosts** -

#### **10 a.m. Holy Eucharist**

**Greeter** - Sharon & Mike Hicks

**Ushers** - Mike Hicks & Mark Brown

**Eucharistic Minister** - Rhoda Bucci

**Acolytes** -

**1st Reading** - Richard Marsland

**2nd Reading & PoP** - Carol Marsland

**Communion Bread**- Dawn Campbell

**Healing Prayer Team** - Beverly Fairhurst & Linda Vaughan-Dubois

**Coffee Hour Hosts** - Jo & Pat Cinq-Mars, Marilyn Fuller & Judy Phillips

**eNews Contributor** - David Wamsley (7/24)

**Mowing Team** - Mark Brown & John Gauvin (7/25)

**Counters** - Fran Motroni & Kevin Kelley (7/28)

A donation was made in loving memory of **Alice Simnett**.



## **East End Summer Camps at Epiphany this Summer!**

East End Theatre has begun their summer camp program at Epiphany. This is the last week they will be offering theatre arts camp, Monday – Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. So, if you stop by the church, we recommend using the Narthex door and ringing the bell for entrance. We are grateful to have our facilities enjoyed by a range of families from around the area!

### **Vestry Leadership**

*Senior Warden* Bill Dench *Junior Warden* Jaime Davin

*Treasurer* Kyle Guglielmo *Clerk* Fran Motroni

*Members* Leo Fernandes, Suellen Franze, Janice Johnson,  
Steve McGrath, Erin McNeill, Lisa Pucino

### **Staff**

*Interim Parish Administrator*, Beth Dench, [admin@epiphanyep.org](mailto:admin@epiphanyep.org)

*Finance Assistant* Karl Provost, [finance@epiphanyep.org](mailto:finance@epiphanyep.org)

*Music Director* Mary Therese Martinez, [marytherese@epiphanyep.org](mailto:marytherese@epiphanyep.org)

*Rector* The Rev'd Vicki Ix, [rector@epiphanyep.org](mailto:rector@epiphanyep.org)



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### **Ministers**

The People of Epiphany